

UK GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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The 9th Term of 13th UKGA Board Meeting Minutes

(20/09/2013)

Date: 26th to 27th August, 2013

Time: 13:30 to 22:30 on 26th, 08:30 to 12:30 on 27th

Venue: True Jesus Church in Sunderland

Present: Silas Chan Chung-Pok Chan Ling-Tao Shek Michael Hsu John Ho
 James Tang Thomas Chan Isaac Chan Simon Ho Kwok Wing Ho
 Luke Chan Michael Cheung Vincent Yeung Kenneth Zhou Kon Fah Chong

Absent with apologies:

Present by invitation: Joseph Shek Michael CW Chan Johnny Liu FF Chong TK Chin
 Steven Shek Raymond Leacock

Chairman: Silas Chan

Recorder: James Lin

(I) The meeting began in the name of the Lord Jesus

(II) Hymn 244 , Prayer

(III) Chairman Opening Speech:

We thank God that workers of the YTTC have come to attend this meeting immediately after the end of the training course. The main task of this UKGA meeting is to discuss the divine work for the year 2014 and to review the work done during this year. The Bible says: "Prepare your outside work. Make it fit for yourself in the field; And afterward build your house." (Prov. 24:27) A steadfast and courageous heart is from the Lord, but, in order to build a house, one needs to plan and prepare the building materials first. Only when one has all the necessary materials, which are ready for use , can one put in his best efforts to complete the task. By the same token, the work of UKGA must not only have a plan, it also needs to include the training and preparation of faithful workers. May all the UKGA Board members work harmoniously and diligently for the house of our Lord !

(IV) Review & Reports from each Department:

1. Reviewing action list of the previous meeting.

a). To date, only three UK churches have placed their orders for the Chinese and English versions of the hymn book of 469 hymns.

- b). According to the IA guidelines for e -Library Sermon Uploading, the DLM of UKGA is asking every local church to provide suitable sermon recordings and convert them into AVI or MP3 and MP4 formats before uploading them for DLM.

2. Reviewing the reception work for the IYF activities in UK in June.

There were 113 participants who joined the IYF of 2013 in Newcastle, UK; 54 youths came from UK and 58 from overseas. They travelled from Australia, Canada, Malaysia, Indonesia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan and USA. Thank God, both the meetings and tours went smoothly, thanks to the warm hospitality of the local churches and the assistance of our youths.

3. Departmental Reports

A). Chairman:

- a). "The Trustee Deeds" , one of the legal documents required for the application of Charity Organization, has been passed by the Board members already. This document will be presented to the upcoming Church Delegates Conference this November.
- b). Each local church board should discuss the proposal "UK Preacher to become a UKGA Board member" prior to the coming Church Delegates Conference. Any queries or questions should be given to the UKGA chairperson or the RA department for a reply. Bro. Kenneth Zhou will be responsible to pass on such information to the Forest Hill Church and the Cardiff House of Prayer.
- c). If everything goes well, the purchase by the Cardiff House of Prayer of the premises at: 21, West Bute Street, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF10 5EP U.K. will go through on 02/09/2013. The purchase price is: £245,000.00. This four storey building is located near the seaside, and adjacent to a commercial office block at the other end. The condition of the building is not bad, therefore the cost of refurbishment is expected to be low. The location of the premises is ideal for worship gathering.

B). RA Department :

- a). The gathering place in Dublin currently has about seventy members; approximately 30 to 50 people attend Sabbath services every week. The members are looking for a premises for worship, and targeted price is €250,000.00. However, they only have €150,000.00 in hand presently, and are, therefore, asking UKGA for advice.
(They can forward their request to UK Churches and IA)
- b). The YTTC training course has ended smoothly. There were 8 students who graduated this year, after attending a 4 year course. We are grateful for the assistance of the host churches: Leicester and London.
- c). Regarding the participation of any work not arranged by UKGA, the travelling expenses can be paid by the local church or the worker himself.

C). GA Department :

- a). Investigating the printing costs for the UKGA Members Guidelines : £604.00 for 500 copies ; £680.00 for 1,000 copies.
Resolution: UKGA will try to print 60 hard copies before distributing to each UK church 3 copies for reference, and at the same time, upload the file in the UKGA webpage for members .
- b). Regarding the "UK Members' Telephone Directory" , the General Affairs department will give a new deadline date to all local churches, and after the deadline, the telephone directory will be printed with the original information already at hand.

D). FA Department:

- a). The 2013 IYF Fellowship activities, total financial incomes received:

International Youths Registration fee:	£22,515.00	
UK special offerings received:	£2,461.35	Total Income: £24,976.35
		Total Expenditure:£21,104.65

Balance: £3,871.70 will be reimbursed to the host churches in proportion.

- b). The name of the UKGA "Preaching Fund" has been changed to "UKGA Evangelical Fund", the FA department will notify each Financial Officer of the local church

accordingly.

E). RE Department :

- a). The 2013 Student Spiritual Convocation was held at Elgin, Edinburgh and Gifford Park Churches, as planned.
- b). Starting from September, the “RE Teachers Training Seminar” and the “ RE Counseling Seminar” will be held in each region of UK.

F). Literary Ministry Department:

- a). The “DLM English Workshop” was held in May at Sunderland Church. Dn. K.C. Tsai of IA also came from Canada as an instructor.
- b). IA invites each GA to contribute to the content and functions of the IA Webpage.
- c). The local church news or articles provided by UK Churches for the “UKGA Newsletter” always arrive too late. Hopefully, UKGA Board members can encourage their local church to submit their news or articles on time.

(V) Deliberation of Proposals

1). To recruit an additional Full-time Preacher in 2014 (Proposed by RA Dept.)

(Refer to the written proposal from RA department).

Resolution: Unanimously passed. This proposal will be presented to the coming CDC. The recruitment letter should have a deadline date.

2). To discuss whether to recruit a UKGA office worker to replace the present one who has reached retirement age or to extend his employment.

Resolution: Current personnel will work up to 31/12/2014 or thereafter , until a suitable worker is hired.

The General Affairs department will prepare an application form with job specifications, requirements of applicants, fringe benefits, recruitment post etc., for the next meeting.

3). Should Elder(s) become member(s)of the Church Board?

An elder is an overseer who should lead and guide the divine work of the church. He acts as a shepherd to care for all the flock of the Lord: -- His church (Acts 20:28).

Resolution: Carry out according to current UKGA by-laws & the “Electoral Rules for Churches in the UK”

4). Should a retired Preacher be a member of the Church Board or a Church Delegate ?

(Proposed by Edinburgh Church)

After working in the church for so many years, a retired Preacher with such rich experience shall guide or lead the church board and other church workers to work for the Lord.

Resolution: Carry out according to current UKGA by-laws & the “Electoral Rules for Churches in the UK”

(VI) Matters of Discussion

1). To decide on the Training content for the Church Board Candidates Training Seminar.

- a). The RA department has received the training materials from IA: 100 copies in Chinese and 50 copies in English. UKGA will distribute 10 Chinese copies and 15 English copies to each local church. Once the local church has chosen the Training topics from the handouts, the members can download from the internet themselves.
- b). Once the local church has decided on the Training topics and the number of hours for the seminar, Elder Tsai should also be informed.

2). The 2014 Work Plan of RA Department and the Budget (including: Contract Workers & Voluntary Workers / IA workers)

- Discussion:* 1). During 2014, UKGA will need IA workers to assist in: a). The Adult Theological Training Seminar & the Spiritual Convocations of UK Churches. b). YTTC c). Preachers Spiritual Cultivation Retreat & the Church Board Candidates Training Seminar.
 2). To amend the 2014 UKGA Divine Work Schedule as well as assign workers and request IA to assist with the tasks of the Europe Continent.
 3). The schedule of YTTC Instructors : Each Instructor, whether coming from abroad or inland, will be arranged to have all his/her lessons on consecutive days, so that their time and labour may be used more economically and effectively.

4). The Assignment Table For 2014 UK Preachers And Responsible Regions :

Preacher	Responsible Areas	Remarks
Steven Shek	Elgin; Edinburgh; Gifford Park; Aberdeen ; Glasgow	North Region
FookFah Chong	Elgin; Edinburgh; Gifford Park; Aberdeen ; Glasgow (Assist in London Area)	In charge of North Region
Johnny Liu	Newcastle; Sunderland; Manchester; Liverpool; Leeds; (Assist in Leicester)	In charge of Midlands Region
Joseph Shek	Newcastle; Sunderland; Manchester; Liverpool; Leeds;	Work to end of 2014. In May 2014 UKGA will discuss employment of following year.
Thien-Kiew Chin	London; Forest Hill; Cardiff; Portsmouth; Cambridge	South Region
Michael Chan	London; Forest Hill; Cardiff; Portsmouth; Leicester; Cambridge; Birmingham	In charge of South Region
R. Leacock (Theological Student)	Practical Training will be in North; Midland and South Regions. Each region for 3 months (From January to end August)	Practical training will be reviewed in May 2014, as well as ordination arrangements by the UKGA Board. (Practical Training period will end on 31/08/2014)
Luke Chan (Contact worker)	He will in U.K. during March; June; September and December 2014.	Tasks will be arranged by the UKGA Religious Affairs Department
Workers will be assigned	Belfast; Dublin; Holland; Belgium	Responsible workers will be arranged by the new UKGA Board

Resolution : Above arrangements for next year's work are passed after some adjustments.

3). Issues related to printing English / Chinese 469 Hymn Books in UK.

Discussion: Quite a few of the hymns have lyrics related to our Basic Beliefs; Regarding issues of the Holy Spirit and/or church ceremonies, the English lyrics do not match the Chinese ones.

Resolution : Bro. Vincent Yeung of DLM will lead a group of workers to translate some of the Lyrics and give a feasibility report at the next UKGA Board meeting.

4). Starting from 2014, the Work in Moscow, Russia, will be taken care of by IA.

Therefore, the RMC under UKGA will be dismissed.

Discussion: Notice from WHEC in-charge : starting from next year, the work of Moscow, Russia, will be handled by IA, the RMC under UKGA will therefore be dismissed.

5). A follow-up report on the matter of Bro. YM Yang whose post was terminated as an IA Preacher.

Resolution : UKGA will present a few suggestions by letter as follows:

- a). In order to prevent the continued expression of erroneous opinions on the internet (caused by Brother Yang and a few others), which have led astray some of our members, the International Assembly could either create a column on the IA website, or create another new webpage, to ask one or a few workers to write some articles in accordance with the Biblical Truth. This would be a formal response from the church, and it would give the church's view point based on Biblical teachings to all the

internet readers.

- b). Since Bro. Yu-Ming Yang has continued to preach his assertions in contradiction to the church, the International Assembly should take further steps to put a stop to these erroneous opinions, which are adversely affecting the church and her members.

(VII) Special Motion << None >>

(VIII) Other Matters

- 1). Letters from International Assembly (EG13-039)
Resolution : The RA department will arrange workers and reply to IA.
- 2). A letter from Elgin Church to UKGA has been well received.
- 3). Next UKGA Board Members Meeting will be on 13th and 14th October 2013 at Gifford Park Church. (Meeting will start at 16:00 on 13/10/2013)

(IX) Prayer

(X) Conclusion of Meeting (at 12:30)

UKGA Chairman



Dn. Silas Chan