# District Leadership Team

## Minutes of meeting held on 9th May 2024

**Present:** Leslie Newton (Chair), Naomi Prince, Malcolm Lucas, Bridget Bennett, Andrew Brown, Ann Fox, Nic Bentley

**Attending:** Ruth Gilson-Webb, Andy Lindley

**Apologies:** Emma Crippen, Ben Clowes, Julia Branson

1. Welcome, apologies, and opening devotions

Leslie welcomed all to the meeting and then led opening devotions

1. Minutes of meeting of 14th March 2024

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved

1. Matters arising and carried forward items
   1. LT overtime hours
   2. Circulation of DLT minutes

DLT agreed that when minutes are approved, they will then be summarised and circulated to superintendents and put on the website.

1. Noting of decisions made by email since last meeting

No decisions made since the last meeting

1. Chairs Update

The meeting received the paper which included updates on

* Health
* Ministers in Probation
* Stationing
* Reconciliation and Mediation
* University of York Chaplaincy
* New Places for New People
* YNE Bridge Circuit

1. Assistant Chair

The DLT received an update paper and verbal report from RGW, summarising areas of work that she is undertaking. These included:

* Safeguarding
* Net-Zero and Grant funding
* Selby Street Mission
* Circuit/Church development
* Circuit Support

A paper was also received from TO.

1. Future Shaping of Chair role

RGW introduced a paper which was written following a meeting of the Assistant Chairs, Deputy Chair, District Chair and District Admin exploring the workload and role of District Chair and where the focus of the role should be.

It was thought that the question of ‘how does the District respond to crises’ could benefit from further reflection. It was also noted that other Districts may be having these conversations that there could be some benefit in sharing insights. The Meeting agreed for further reflection on these issues.

1. HIH updates

BB’s involvement in HIH has been reduced since the last meeting due to the more settled nature of the house, and a verbal update was received.

The meeting was also informed that a costed financial plan is being created which will provide the DLT with information on how HIH will be financial stable and not reliant on funding from the DLT.

1. District Event Support

The DLT agreed its support of a proposal to increase NP’s hours by 7.5 per week for the 24/25 connexional year in order to provide support in events management around the District. The DLT agreed that this be funded through a DAF grant of approximately £6240. Where appropriate, payment will be sought as a contribution towards this service, along the lines presented in the paper.

1. Digital Pioneer and Ministry Role

The meeting received the paper, and appreciated the reassurances it gave that existing work could be satisfactorily covered.

The recent connexional grant to support digital pioneering work was noted, and it was agreed that further reflection on where this role sits, between Kairos and the District could be helpful.

1. Trusteeship

The DLT received a proposed job role for those who are members of DLT which was accepted following a small amendment. The DLT agreed to a term of office of 6 years with the potential for a renewal of up to 3 years.

The Skills audit was agreed and will be sent to DLT members before the next meeting.

The DLT recognised that the constitution of the DLT will need to be changed after August, further discussion on this will take place at the next meeting.

1. Finance

Due to unavoidable delays, the accounts have not been received yet from the auditors and will instead be approved over email.

Following a verbal report from ML and some discussion, the following proposals were made and agreed:

1. Funding from DAF to subsidise the 2023/24 District assessment be increased by £20,000 from £12,000 to £32,000.

2. District assessment for 2024/25 be subsidised by £30,000.

3. A DAF grant be made of £10,500 to fund an increase in the District Administrator’s weekly hours from 25 hours per week to 37.5 hours per week for 2024/25.

4. The unallocated balance of the 2024/25 assessment arising after the “cap and collar” adjustment, amounts to £41,400. In order to ensure no circuit has an overall increase which exceeds 10%, this amount will be funded by DAF.

1. Darrington Manse

The DLT accepted a proposal that AB could approach an architect to look at the adjustments needed at the Darrington Manse.

1. Wellbeing role

TMCP have confirmed a £12,000 second grant towards the wellbeing role. It was highlighted that there would need to be consideration for the next connexional year of how this role might continue, but the meeting agreed to the extension of the role to 31st August 2025.

1. Other business

* Permission to Cease – West Tanfield

The DLT support this request.

* Action for Hope Connexional Grant

The DLT delegate the work needed to secure this grant to the Net Zero Programme Board

* Confirmation of Dates for next connexional year
  + 19th September (Thurs)
  + 19th November (Tues)
  + 23rd January (Thurs)
  + 27th March (Thurs)
  + 13th May (Tues)
  + 8th July (Tues)
* Grant request from Open Doors

1. Leslie closed the meeting in prayer.