**THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE**

MINUTES of Annual General Meeting for 2023

Saturday 13th May 2023

Kings Cross Baptist Church, Vernon Rise, London WC1X 9EP

Council members present: Rev R. H. Allaway (Chairman)

Rev J. D. Buxton

Dr A. P. Kerry (Hon. Secretary and Acting Treasurer)

Mrs J. Mead

Dr D. Watkis

Dr D. Instone-Brewer

13 individuals attended the May 2023 Symposium in person, and nine online via Zoom.

11 members in total remained for the AGM

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| **OPENING** | Rev. R Allaway welcomed members to the meeting and opened the meeting in prayer. |
| **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** | Copies of the minutes of the 2022 AGM were available on the website. These were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman. |
| **ELECTION** | The meeting was informed that Sir Colin Humphreys has stepped down as President and ill-health has meant Prof. Kenneth Kitchen is no longer able to fulfil his role as Vice-President. The meeting agreed to the re-election of:   1. **President** (Vacant) 2. **Vice-Presidents** (Prof. Malcolm A. Jeeves, Prof. Alan Millard, Prof. J. W. Montgomery) 3. **Acting Honorary Treasurer** (Dr Alan Kerry has taken on this role from Rev. John Buxton 4. **Council** Rev. Bob Allaway, Rev. John Buxton, Dr Alan Kerry, Mrs Joanne Mead, Rev. Dr Sally Nelson, Dr David Instone-Brewer and Dr David E. Watkis as Council members for a further three years. Dr Todd Kantchev is an ex-officio council member as the Reviews Editor for Science and Christian Belief, it was agreed that there was no need to add him to the list of trustees in this ex-officio capacity. |
| **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS** | The completed 2022 annual accounts were presented.  The year-end deficit is £1031.28, the end of year cash balance is £8,538.82 and share valuations totalled £114,434.  The accounts have been independently examined and were approved by the meeting.  The current financial situation is satisfactory, with balances of £10,854 (bank account) and £115,437 (investments)  A budget for 2023 has been prepared which anticipates a deficit of £195  Margaret Pratt was again approved as independent examiner for the accounts |
| **DISCUSSION CONCERNING INVESTMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS** | Investments – these include shares worth ~£7500 in Shell. The ethical considerations of investing in historically fossil-fuel based businesses should be considered. It was agreed to invite the fund manager from our stock-brokers to attend a Council meeting to discuss the ethicality of our investment portfolio.  Subscriptions – the new flat-rate of £15 per year for individuals was accepted. It was agreed to charge libraries and institutions £25 per year for access, and to review this amount annually. From October 2023 ‘Faith & Thought’ journal will include the printed version of book reviews from Science and Christian Belief. |
| **PLANS FOR 2024** | The 2024 Symposium is being planned on the theme ‘Implications of A.I.’ |
| **CLOSE** | The Chairman closed the meeting in prayer. |