



Bethlehem Church Life Centre  
Cefn Cribwr.  
1st October 2020

Dear Partners

Re: Resignation of the current Trustees of BCLC

Following long consideration and much deliberation. We are writing to provide notice that we are all resigning from our positions as Trustees with effect from the 31st October 2020.

As Trustees we now find that we are unable to continue in our positions as we have experienced;

- Challenge to our desire to continue to work within the Guiding Principles that were voted on by the partners of the church (on 2 previous occasions) and continued resistance to a suggested framework that would support an orderly consultation on suggested change.
- That a vote has been taken outside of those guiding principles and the resulting selection of elders, has been made without the outcome (although outside of an agreed framework) being shared formally, so that it can be recorded as a part of the charity's leadership framework.
- That we continue to meet challenge with regards to running the Centre and trying to maintain a 'COVID Secure' environment, which has the potential for legal fines to be imposed upon us personally and for which we as the Trustees would be liable.

- That we continue to be informed of personal comments that have been made about us as individuals, both verbally and on at least 2 occasions in both email and on a social media platform.

It is with consideration of these challenges that we have decided that BCLC deserves a fresh start and that the personal cost to us as individuals is now too high.

Below we have listed suggested actions that we believe will assist in moving the charity back on to a stable footing in terms of our departure and also to assist the elders in acting as guardians of the process, until such time that the partners have selected new Trustees.

- A) An AGM is held at the earliest possible juncture to conduct the annual review of the BCLC organisation and to facilitate the nomination and selection of new Trustees.
- B) That prior to the AGM, sufficient notice be given to the partners to allow both virtual and hard copy communication to be shared, with all existing partners to allow a full consideration of Trustees with the right skill mix to support the Charity at this time.
- C) That the continued responsibilities of managing the Centre, the employment of any staff, Health & Safety, Facilities Management and the guardianship of the Charity be overseen by the Elders, who we understand are already securing information surrounding the operations on the Charity, until such time that the Trustees take their place in leading the Charitable arm of BCLC.
- D) All financial decisions are currently administered by the BCLC Treasurer, Gail Thomas with external assurance and review from an independent accountant and so this will continue in consultation with the elders when required, until such time that the Trustees are in place to provide overview surrounding expenditure guided by the operational needs of the Centre.
- E) We will use the remaining weeks of October to ensure that there is a comprehensive hand over of all operational context and that any Centre users are advised of this period of transition with the assistance of the Operational Centre Team.
- F) That we will also ensure that the Charity Commission is aware of our resignation and the reason for it and that that BCLC is going through this period of transition, including the selection of new Trustees.

We are also advising that our individual partnerships with BCLC will also cease with effect from the 31st October 2020 and that we will work towards a full handover of all documentation virtual and hard copy in line with our exit from the organisation.

We wish you every success with your future decisions and of course protection and Blessings during this unprecedented and challenging time.

Yours Sincerely

BCLC Trustees

Jane Williams  
Debbie Merridew  
Merlyn Ipinson-Fleming