

**The Church of Scotland  
World Mission Council  
Final Minute  
14-15 June 2016  
Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB**

**Present:**

**Members:** Iain Cunningham (Convener), Susan Brown (Vice-Convener), Val Brown (Vice-Convener), Anikó Schuetz Bradwell (Ecumenical Relations – 15 only), Tom Burnham, Pete Chirnside, Alistair Donald, David Frame, Aftab Gohar, Pamela Gordon, Maureen Jack, Ian Macaulay (15 only), Valerie Macniven, John McCulloch, Graham McGeoch (15 only), Janet Mathieson, Alan Miller, Miller Milloy, Charles Munn, Peter Murdoch, Roy Nelson, Jim Sharp (Presbytery of International Charges), Gordon Strang, Barbara Ann Sweetin, Lorna Tunstall

**Staff:** Ian Alexander (Council Secretary), John Chalmers (Principal Clerk – item 31.3.3 only), Jennie Chinembiri (Africa and Caribbean Secretary), Marjorie Clark (HIV Programme Joint Co-ordinator), Carol Finlay (Twinning & Local Development Secretary), Sheilagh Kesting (Ecumenical Relations – 14 only), Dorothy McMonagle (Minute-taker), Sarah-Jayne McVeigh (HR – 14 only), Angela Ocak (HR – 14 only), Cati Ramsay (15 only), Malcolm Ramsay (Mission Partner – 15 only), Kenny Roger (Middle East Secretary), Catriona Scrimgeour, (Finance Manager), Sandy Sneddon (Asia Secretary), Nicola Whyte (Congregational Learning Development Worker – item 31.5 only), Mirella Yandoli (Interfaith Programme Officer – 14 only)

**Attending:** Catherine MacMillan (Reformation 500 Ambassador), Ling Zaw (Moderator, Presbyterian Church of Myanmar – 14 only)

**Apologies:** Alison Burnside, Tina Kemp, Margaret Lance, Gillian MacPherson, Mukami McCrum, Francis Murphy, Fay Platt (The Guild), Douglas Short

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Convener welcomed those present and extended a warm welcome to the six newly appointed Council members and to Rev Catherine MacMillan and Rev. Ling Zaw.

**Constitution**

The Convener led the Council in worship and the meeting was constituted with prayer.

**Declaration of Interest:** None.

**WM/16/25 Deaths**

The Council **noted** the following death and gave thanks in prayer:  
Miss Margaret Liddell    Zambia 1964-1981    Died 15 May 2016

**WM/16/26 Approval of Minutes**

**WM/16/26.1 Minute of Previous Meeting (19 April 2016)**

The Minute of the meeting held on 19 April 2016 was **approved**.

**WM/16/27 Interfaith Update – Mirella Yandoli, Interfaith Programme Officer**

Mirella Yandoli gave an overview of the work being undertaken in reviewing the role and responsibilities for an Interfaith Officer. A report was to be presented to the 2017 General Assembly, with areas being addressed:

- Individual relationships and dialogue with the Jewish community and Muslim community.
- Looking at areas of conflict.
- Joint advocacy on social issues such as uniting with the local community.
- Mapping the context of interfaith priority areas across Scotland and looking at deepening understanding of the demographic makeup of different parishes.
- Looking at ways to inform ministers about other faiths to address perceived areas of ignorance and share tools for better understanding those in their parishes as well as answering questions within congregations.

There followed further discussion on Mirella's interfaith work and the connections this has with WMC. In March 2017 she will be attending a South Asia Ecumenical Partners meeting with Sandy Sneddon in Bradford.

**WM/16/28 500 years Reformation Jubilee**

The Convener welcomed Catherine MacMillan, Reformation 500 Ambassador and Minister of the Reformed Church of Zurich, to the meeting and invited her to speak to the Council. Catherine thanked the Council for the invitation and gave an informative presentation on the history of Swiss reformation, originating with Ulrich

Zwingli, and of the many events taking place around Europe to celebrate the Jubilee, with particular focus on the main activities being held in Zurich. Catherine also hoped there would be opportunities of partnership between congregations in Scotland and Zurich. It was **noted** that should Council members wish to receive further information on any aspect of the Jubilee then they contact Carol Finlay who would pass on enquiries to Catherine. The Convener expressed his thanks to Catherine for her presentation.

Sheilagh Kesting was then invited to speak to the Council on the Reformation celebrations taking place in Scotland. Sheilagh spoke of the Reformation in Scotland taking a different shape from the Continent, though heavily influenced by the thinking of the Reformers, and provided information about the ways in which the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation was being marked in Scotland, noting that the CofS congregations in London were joining in ecumenical events in the city. The Convener thanked Sheilagh for all her work, participation and contribution she had given to the Council and wished her well on her forthcoming retirement.

**WM/16/29 Rev. Ling Zaw, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar (PCM)**

The Convener welcomed the Rev. Ling Zaw to the meeting. Janet Mathieson introduced Rev. Ling, who was the General Secretary of the PCM, and invited him to speak to the Council. Rev. Ling thanked the Council for the invitation and gave a brief outline on the country of Myanmar and of the work undertaken by the PCM. Rev. Ling highlighted that at the PCM General Assembly this year it was agreed to ordain women into its ministry for the first time. He was also grateful to the CofS for financial support towards their theological education and General Assembly office. The Convener thanked Rev. Ling and Janet Mathieson.

**WM/16/30 Country Focus: Nepal**

**WM/16/30.1 Malcolm and Cati Ramsay**

Sandy Sneddon gave a brief historical summary on the connections with the CofS and Nepal and the United Mission to Nepal (UMN). Sandy invited Malcolm and Cati Ramsay to speak about their time with the UMN.

Malcolm gave a brief introduction on Nepal and spoke on his work with UMN. The UMN was founded in 1954. It is a Christian development agency. At one time it had around 600 expats; today there are around 50 who are all Christians. Malcolm and Cati's work was to provide pastoral care and support. Cati spoke on the devastating effects of the earthquake in April 2015 - approximately 9,000 people killed, over 21,000 injured, and two million left homeless. The UMN had been supporting people who have been left homeless from the earthquakes and the numerous aftershocks which destroyed their houses. However, the Government are refusing to give permission for those who lost their houses to rebuild as they are looking to provide standards on building safer houses but at present this has not been done. The UMN are extremely appreciative of the CofS Let Us Build a House Project and the funding being raised by churches in Scotland. Malcolm thanked WMC for funding a two week holiday following the earthquake as additional leave. The Ramsays felt this was extremely helpful to their wellbeing and recuperation following the stresses of the earthquakes and suggested WMC remember this if staff are involved in similar situations in future.

Malcolm highlighted that their time in Nepal has changed them but the four years spent working with the UMN was very much worthwhile and he and Cati have come back to the UK with their trust in God and hope that the Council's interest with UMN continues. The Convener thanked Malcolm and Cati for their presentation and wished them well.

**WM/16/30.2 Let Us Build a House**

Carol reported on the great support for the Let Us Build a House Project, with the current total being £165,000. Carol asked Council members to take back to their Presbyteries the thanks of the WMC.

**WM/16/31 Committees/Groups**

**WM/16/31.1 Local Development Committee**

**31.1.1 Draft Minute of 5 May 2016**

The Draft Minute of the Local Development Committee meeting held on 5 May 2016 was **noted**.

Barbara Ann Sweetin highlighted the following points:

- The WM gathering for former staff and friends held on 28 April 2016 had been well attended and enjoyed by all. It would be held again next year.
- Heart and Soul went well and thanks were given to all the area Committees for their input.
- The WMC Report would be available as a more accessible format in due course.
- Thanks to the LD Team and everyone else in the WMC who had helped during the GA.
- A Climate Change Consultation with WMC, the Guild, Church and Society and Christian Aid would take place in Edinburgh from 29-30 September 2016 followed by a Care for Creation Conference held in Bridge of Allan on 1 October 2016.
- Places were still available to attend the ECCB Camp from 6-13 August 2016; the ECCB International Youth Camp from 30 July to 6 August 2016 and the visit to Budapest to participate in the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary

of the Scottish Mission from 16-22 September 2016.

### 31.1.2 Visit Reports

- Malawi (Barbara Ann Sweetin and Carol Finlay): 2-14 April 2016 – Report for information previously circulated and **noted**.
- Czech Republic (Carol Finlay): 19-26 April 2016 – Report for information previously circulated and **noted**.

## WM/16/31.2 Business Committee

### 31.2.1 Draft Minute of 31 May 2016

The Draft Minute of the Business Committee meeting held on 31 May 2016 was **noted**.

The Council Secretary highlighted the following points:

- Depending on the decision by the Council of Assembly to produce a different strategic framework for the overall work of the Church this may mean a change to the WMC Strategic Plan.

## WM/16/31.3 Africa and Caribbean Committee

### 31.3.1 Update on Meeting of 6 June 2016

Valerie Macniven highlighted the following points:

- Wished to thank the A&C Committee, LD team and the HIV Programme team for their assistance at the A&C evening with the overseas delegates during the GA. There had been good discussion with the partners, with some interested in partnering between themselves.
- Jennie Chinembiri, John Chalmers and John Sturrock undertook a visit to Cairo from 28 April to 1 May 2016 to meet with representatives from the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) and the South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) to discuss the programme for mediation training in South Sudan. It was felt that, for security reasons, training would likely take place in Kenya rather than in Juba.
- Work continues with the partnership between the CofS, Igreja Evangélica de Cristo em Moçambique (IECM) and the Synod of Blantyre. Worthwhile meetings had taken place during the GA with the General Secretary of the IECM, Rev. Orlando Fazenda. The Committee continued to fund Rev. Daniel Gunya from the Synod of Blantyre who was working as Capacity Building Co-ordinator with the IECM and Mr Henry Ndeule, General Treasurer of the Synod of Blantyre, will undertake a visit to Mozambique to work with the IECM on their financial frameworks. Rev. Leslie Milton will also be undertaking a visit to Mozambique in July 2016 to conduct a ministerial training event for the IECM. It was hoped that Valerie and Jennie would visit Mozambique in September 2016.
- Applications had been received for refugee funding.
- Concerns relating to the financial structures of the Synod of Livingstonia has resulted in the Committee putting a hold on sending future funding until suitable audited accounts were put in place.
- Jennie would be meeting with some twinning visitors from the Synod of Livingstonia who were in Scotland at present.
- The General Secretary of the United Church of Zambia (UCZ), Rev. Dr. Peggy Mulambya-Kabonde, had been re-elected. A new Synod Bishop had also been elected.

### 31.3.2 School Fees: Mubita Waddell

Application for assistance for payment of school fees in 2016 for Mubita Waddell was received and a grant of £3,000 was **agreed**.

### 31.3.3 South Sudan: Update from the Very Rev. John Chalmers

John Chalmers spoke on his Moderatorial visit to South Sudan in January 2015 during which time his visit was restricted to the Juba area due to the conflict situation at that time. During the visit he had led a workshop on Conflict Resolution in which around 60 people from the PCOSS had participated. After his visit it was felt that further support should be given to the PCOSS in training mediators to undertake future work on conflict resolution which would involve selecting men and women from the church leadership to bring to the UK to spend some time training so that they could then go back and become trainers themselves within the local church. At the end of April 2016 a two-day meeting in Cairo took place in which John, along with Jennie Chinembiri and John Sturrock met with delegates from the PCOSS and the SSCC to discuss further the programme for training. At that meeting the PCOSS requested that the training take place within South Sudan rather than in the UK but it was felt that for safety reasons the training be held in Nairobi. At present Jennie is working with the PCOSS on scheduling the training for mid-October 2016.

### 31.3.4 Visit Reports

- Egypt (Jennie Chinembiri, John Chalmers, John Sturrock, PCOSS delegates): 28 April-1 May 2016 – Report for information previously circulated and **noted**.

**WM/16/31.4 Middle East Committee****31.4.1 Update on Meeting of 1 June 2016**

Maureen Jack highlighted the following points:

- The Committee had agreed to give financial support to a student from North Sudan who was completing a course at the Evangelical Theological Seminary, Cairo (ETSC). Following that, Kenny Roger received an appreciative note from the ETSC, which also said how glad they were to have Colin Johnston there.
- Kenny Roger would be returning to Scotland to be based in the department from mid-August 2016. Prior to his return Kenny would undertake meetings with Rev. Páraic Reamonn in Jerusalem and Rev. Kate Reynolds in Tiberias who will be picking up responsibility for linking with partners in I/OPT.
- Things had been very difficult for hotels and guesthouses in Jerusalem. Each incident in the city led to cancellations but the Guesthouse staff were working hard to maximise income.
- There were rumours about the Greek Orthodox Church planning to build a hotel on the plot of land they owned by the guesthouse. Kenny was making further investigations.
- The Committee was encouraged to receive a very positive report from the Principal at Tabeetha School, Margaret MacDonald.
- In September 2015 Tabeetha had joined other Christian schools in Israel in a strike. The strike had been resolved after an agreement by the Ministry of Education to carry out a review and also give 50 million shekels to be shared amongst the Christian schools to compensate for previous cuts in funding. The date for this payment had passed and no payment had been made. Some other Christian schools were facing closure on financial grounds. If Tabeetha were forced to join the Israeli schools system there would be significant implications for the school. Kenny was engaging with the issues.
- A WM tour to I/OPT was being planned for November 2016. Accommodation would be provided in the Guesthouse, Hotel and also the Lutheran Guesthouse in Bethlehem. Information would be available soon.

**31.4.2 Update on Scots Hotel Business Plan**

The Council **noted** that no further update was available on the Business Plan as advice on various issues was still to be received.

**31.4.3 Renovation of St. Andrew's Church, Tiberias**

The Council **noted** the proposal and costs put forward by the MEC for the renovation work needing to be carried out at St. Andrew's Church, Tiberias. Approval was required by the WMC to allow the MEC to move ahead with preparing a full plan and costings which would be presented to the Church of Scotland Trust and the Council of Assembly for approval. The Council **agreed** that the preparatory work should be completed for the refurbishment of the building.

**WM/16/31.5 Asia Committee****31.5.1 Minute of 15 April 2016**

The Minute of the Asia Committee meeting held on 15 April 2016 was **noted**.

**31.5.2 Peace Conference, Korea**

Nicola Whyte gave an overview on her visit to Korea to attend the NCKK Peace Treaty Workshop in May 2016. The event had been attended by delegates from around the world and Nicola had been privileged to get an insight into the history of Korea as well as visit a number of places such as the DMZ, the Border Peace School, and churches in Seoul. There were many in-depth discussions on the Peace Treaty campaign and Nicola hoped that the WMC would support this campaign and encouraged members to add their name to the petition. Those who attended the event hoped to produce stories on what they had learned during their time in Korea. Nicola was immensely grateful to have undertaken this visit and was thanked by the Convener for her report.

**31.5.3 Visit Reports**

- Sumba, Indonesia (Sandy Sneddon): 27 April-2 May 2016 – Report for information previously circulated and **noted**.

**WM/16/31.6 Europe & Americas Committee****31.6.1 Minute of 19 April 2016**

The Minute of the Europe Committee meeting held on 19 April 2016 was **noted**.

**31.6.2 Update on Meeting of 13 June 2016**

Susan Brown highlighted the following points:

- The newly formed Europe and Americas Committee had met for the first time.
- A key task had been to explore what it was the Council might want to hear and learn from those partners in the Americas. A starting point for exploration would be to follow the theme the Council had set for GA 2017, looking at women's roles in the world church, as well as theologies of liberation.

- Czech Republic: Scotland ministry candidate – Rev. Petr Peňaz from 2016-17; ECCB Ministers Conference in Prague, January 2017; Rev. Ondřej Macek was concluding his language studies and Crossreach visits in Scotland; ECCB International Youth Camp in Herlikovice, 30 July – 6 August 2016; Joint International Family Camp in Běleč, 8-14 August 2016.
- Germany: Visitors from the Evangelical Church of Westphalia (EKvW) would be coming to Scotland from 9-10 August 2016; Report on visit to WeiteWirkt.
- Hungary: Celebrations to mark 175 years of the Scottish Mission in which the Committee agreed to provide a small grant to the HRC towards the costs; the CofS St. Columba's Budapest has been fully adopted as a congregation of the HRC.
- France: Catherine Messem from Scotland would attend the Big Youth Assembly.

### 31.6.3 Visit Reports

- Halle, Germany (Susan Brown: 6-8 May 2016 – Report for information previously circulated and **noted**).

### WM/16/31.7 HIV Programme Committee

#### 31.7.1 Draft Note of 12 May 2016

The Draft Note of the HIV Programme Committee meeting held on 12 May 2016 was **noted**.

Marjorie Clark highlighted the following points:

- The meeting on 12 May 2016 had been the final meeting of the HIV Programme Committee.
- The Committee was supporting six people to attend the International AIDS Conference in Durban in July.
- The Photo-voice Exhibition would be shown at the Just Festival in August 2016.
- The Heart and Soul Swing Band were going from strength to strength and thanks were expressed to them.
- WMC area Committees would now be responsible for relating to partners on HIV Programme work. Funding would still be available from the HIV funds.
- The LD Committee would develop resources for the HIV Programme.

Marjorie thanked the Council for their support in the work of the HIV Programme. The Convener expressed thanks to Marjorie for her work over the years and wished her well on her forthcoming retirement.

### WM/16/31.8 Budget and Finance

#### 31.8.1 Draft Minute of 31 May 2016

The Draft Minute of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting held on 31 May 2016 was **noted**.

Charles Munn reported that the WMC Management Accounts were in excellent order.

#### 31.8.2 Management Accounts to 30 April 2016

The Management accounts were **noted**.

Catriona Scrimgeour highlighted the following points:

- Under the Middle East Budget, there would be a reconciliation regarding the costs relating to the Head Teacher. The shortfall in Lease Income from Israeli Institutions resulted from the decision to forgive the year's rental income from the Guesthouse because of the financial pressures arising from the difficult security situation in Jerusalem. This reduction in revenue was for 2015, but had not been recorded in the accounts.

#### 31.8.3 Oikocredit:AGM and CofS Involvement

The Council **noted** the report received from Charles Munn and Catriona Scrimgeour on their attendance at the Oikocredit AGM in June 2016. Charles spoke briefly to the Council on the AGM in which both he and Catriona came away impressed and found Oikocredit to be well run. A challenge for the CofS is to decide whether to continue investing money in Oikocredit. Charles proposed that the UK organiser of Oikocredit be invited to meet with the Council. Questions were raised as to whether Oikocredit provided loans to organisation in Zambia and the interest rates they charged. Charles indicated that at present Oikocredit did not work in Zambia but were expanding. Regarding their interest rates, his impression was that these need to be commercial rates as they were not a charity. The Council **agreed** that an invitation be extended to the UK organiser of Oikocredit.

#### 31.8.4 Mission Partner Annual Salary Review

The Council **noted** the paper on the review of Mission Partner salaries for those overseas. It was noted that Child benefit rates remained unchanged, but that the personal tax allowance had increased by £400 giving an increase in salary of £80 per person before UN rate adjustment, once the UN rates were applied for each country the total impact of this change was an increase of £721. It was also noted that the UN cost of living index would mean certain mission partners receiving a reduction in salary – a total reduction of £5,375.

Concern was raised about implementing the reduction of salaries for the particular mission partners. It was **agreed** that the changes proposed in the review on salaries be implemented, as this was the policy which had

been agreed (and there had been no questions about implementing the policy in 2015 when there had been a significant increase for the same mission partners), but that a review of the UN cost of living index be undertaken.

### 31.8.5 Restricted Funds

Catriona Scrimgeour reported that a paper regarding the restricted reserves had been presented to the Budget and Finance Committee on 31 May 2016. The reserves had been split into four distinct groups:

- No change required where the funds were being fully used for their correct purposes.
- Funds to be transferred and closed – either to general funds or to the relevant partner church.
- Funds where the income needs to be transferred each year to partners.
- Funds where change is required – these are funds which are unable to be used as the purpose is no longer viable and would be discussed further at a future Business Committee meeting.

### 31.8.6 Cash Reserves – investments

The Council **noted** that advice was awaited from the Budget and Finance Committee on transferring cash reserves to investments.

## WM/16/32 Ecumenical Relations

### WM/16/32.1 Update

Anikó Schuetz Bradwell highlighted the following points:

- A meeting between Ecumenical Relations and the Scottish Episcopal Church was held in May 2016 to discuss inter-church relations.
- Positive reception to the joint report on the partnership between the CofE and CofS as set out in the Columba declaration during the GA.
- Sheilagh Kesting, Ecumenical Secretary, would be retiring in September 2016. HR were now working on appointing an interim Secretary while the review of Ecumenical Relations was taking place.

## WM/16/33 Joint Working Group on Israel and occupied Palestine (WM/C&S)

### WM/16/33.1 Update on work so far and timetable for future

The Council **noted** the paper detailing the work to be undertaken by the Working Group in producing a report to be submitted to the 2017 GA. Val Brown outlined the issues being looked at, for example, the Balfour Declaration, one state/two state solution, BDS and also spoke on the visit recently undertaken to I/OPT in May 2016 in which the Working Group met with various individuals and organisations throughout the Land to hear their thoughts on some of the issues. Further discussion took place on how congregations could engage with the report once presented to the GA and what consequences would be faced by the CofS with regard to BDS. It was **agreed** that an updated draft report be submitted to the WMC meeting in September 2016 after which a fuller draft of the report would be discussed at the joint WMC/C&S meeting in November 2016.

## WM/16/34 WM Council Group Visits/Pilgrimages

### WM/16/34.1 Budapest – September 2016

Places were still available for this visit and those interested were asked to contact Carol Finlay.

### WM/16/34.2 Palestine and Israel Pilgrimage 2016

It was hoped that this tour would go ahead in November and Kenny Roger was progressing with the programme.

### WM/16/34.3 Great War commemoration and Partner Visit – Palestine and Israel – November 2017

The Council Secretary reported that the WMC were working with members of The Society of Friends of St. Andrew's, Jerusalem on this visit. It was also hoped that an event to mark the commemoration take place in Scotland and this would be investigated further.

## WM/16/35 Representation on other bodies

The list of WMC representatives on other bodies for 2016-2017 was **noted**. There were several groups which still required a representative and the following Council members agreed to fill the vacancies:

- Aftab Gohar – Friends of Tabeetha
- Barbara Ann Sweetin – Mission Forum
- Fay Platt – Together for a Change
- Priority Areas Forum – could be different each time, Carol would ask for a volunteer for each event.

A representative was still required for the Safeguarding Committee.

**WM/16/36 HR Update**

The paper submitted by HR was **noted**.

**WM/16/36.1 Short term Mission Partners**

Sarah-Jayne reported that the comments taken from the Council meeting in April 2016 had been investigated with Healthlink360 and Safeguarding and highlighted the following points:

- Pre and Post Medical checks – Healthlink360 would produce a document which would allow the Area Secretary and HR to tailor requirements to the individual needs of the short term Mission Partner. The Council **agreed** that any person going out for a year or more should undertake the same medical checks as Long Term Mission Partners.
- PVG membership – Under Section 67 of the PVG (Scot) Act 2007, it is unlawful for an organisation to request a PVG Scheme Record unless the applicant is doing, or is being asked to do, regulated work. Safeguarding has agreed to offer a tailored briefing to any new Mission Partner as part of their induction. The Council **agreed** that it would need to be made clear to any Mission Partner going overseas not covered by a PVG, that if circumstances changed, HR should be notified.
- Air costs – Family could be added to the terms and conditions for Short Term Mission Partners. **Agreed**.
- Schooling costs for Short Term Mission Partners – As per terms and conditions. **Agreed**.

**WM/16/36.2 Joel Hafvenstein – new Job Description**

The new job description and person specification for the post of Executive Director at the United Mission to Nepal (UMN) for Joel Hafvenstein was **noted**. Angela Ocak indicated that as Joel had now changed posts this new job description would need to be approved by the Council. The Council **approved** the job description and wished Joel well in his new post.

**WM/16/37 General Assembly 2016****WM/16/37.1 Feedback**

The Council Convener's speech had been well received at the GA, and there had been good interaction with the overseas delegates in the WMC report and in the GA generally. The display boards of pictures used at Heart and Soul were available for any events if needed by Council members.

**WM/16/37.2 Deliverance**

The Council **noted** the Deliverances relating to WMC. It was also **noted** that the Africa and Caribbean Committee would begin work on Deliverance No. 12.

**WM/16/38 WM Council****WM/16/38.1 Vice-Convener 2017-20**

As Val Brown's term as Vice-Convener would end in May 2017 a copy of the process for selecting a Vice-Convener and the main duties and person specification was circulated and **noted**. Council members were asked to submit nominations to the Council Secretary.

**WM/16/39 Staff Update****WM/16/39.1 Development Officer: Katie Bradley**

The Council **noted** that Katie Bradley would be undertaking a one year secondment from 20 June 2016 as Training Officer with Ministries Council. An interim Development Officer for WMC would be sought.

**WM/16/39.2 Local Development Officer: Karen Gillon**

The Council **noted** that Karen Gillon had been appointed Associate Secretary for the Guild. Karen would commence this appointment at the end of her contract with WMC in September 2016.

**WM/16/39.3 Outreach Officer**

The Council **noted** that discussions were taking place with HR on advertising the post of Outreach Officer.

**WM/16/39.4 HIV Programme: Marjorie Clark and Elena Sarra**

The Council **noted** that Marjorie Clark would retire on 5 September 2016. Elena Sarra was on sick leave at present and undergoing treatment for leukaemia and would appreciate the support and prayers of the WMC. Council members who wished to visit Elena should contact Carol Finlay in the first instance.

**WM/16/39.5 Executive Assistant**

The Council **noted** that the closing date for applications for the post of Executive Assistant had just passed. These would be shortlisted and interviews held in due course.

**WM/16/39.6 Administration Team**

With the absence of an Administration Manager over the last year, the Council Secretary expressed his sincere

thanks and appreciation to Audrey Grahame, Mary McGinley, Dorothy McMonagle and Nikki Skinner who had given generously of their time and talents to ensure that the administration work ran smoothly. The Council Convener and members added their thanks also.

**WM/16/40 Tartan**

There had previously been discussion about creating a tartan for World Mission, with a preference expressed that it would be better to get broader agreement for a Church of Scotland tartan. Quotes had been received from Lochcarron of Scotland and the Tartan Ambassador Ltd. It was suggested that Kinloch Tartan, Anta and House of Tartan might also be possible suppliers. It was suggested that an approach be made to the Moderator for a competition to design the tartan. The Council **agreed** that the Convener, Vice-Conveners and Secretary take this forward.

**WM/16/41 Travel Plan: July 2016-June 2017**

The Council **noted** the travel plan, with the following additions:

- 11-15 July: Mukami McCrum attending Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa GA in South Africa.
- 19-23 July: Peter Murdoch and Iain Whyte attending pan African Men's Conference in Kenya.

**WM/16/42 Council Meetings**

**WM/16/42.1 Dates and Venues agreed for 2016**

The Council **noted** the following dates and venues:

| Meeting Date   | Venue   |
|----------------|---|
| 7 September    | 121 George Street, Edinburgh                            |
| 15/16 November | Gillis Centre, Edinburgh<br>16 – Joint meeting with C&S |

**WM/16/42.2 Dates and Venues agreed for 2017**

The Council **noted** the following dates and venues:

| Meeting Date   | Venue                        |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| 8 February     | 121 George Street, Edinburgh |
| 19 April       | 121 George Street, Edinburgh |
| 13/14 June     | Venue tbc                    |
| 6 September    | 121 George Street, Edinburgh |
| 14/15 November | Venue tbc                    |

Possible venue suggestions: Carnegie Conference Centre in Dunfermline.

**Close of Meeting:** The meeting closed with the blessing.

**Rev. Iain Cunningham**  
Convener

**Rev. Ian Alexander**  
Council Secretary

**Date:**