# District Leadership Team

**Summary of meeting held on 22 July 2021**

**Present:**

Leslie Newton, Chair of District

Neville Simpson, Deputy Chair of District

Beverley Duffy, Lay Stationing Representative

Andrew Brown, District Property Secretary

Alister McClure, Methodist Council Representative

Malcolm Lucas, District Treasurer

Siân Henderson, District Administrator

Amy Shephard, Youth Representative

**In attendance:**

Adele Borrowman, Circuit Support Team Grant Fundraiser (part-meeting)

Victoria Etherington, District Youth Enabler (part-meeting)

Naomi Prince, Youth Representative Designate

**Apologies:**

Steve Barlow, Circuit Support Team Leader

Nic Bentley, District Grants Officer

Emma Crippen, Synod Secretary

* **Unconscious Bias Training**

Information on the short training packages developed for circuit invitation teams and circuit meetings was provided.

* **Synod**

A proposal to be recommended to synod on circuit synod representation was agreed. The new proposal follows a consistent formula where the number of representatives is related to the circuit membership. This will resolve the ‘temporary’ inequality in representation that followed circuit reorganisation in 2012.

* **Lay Employment**
* Persian Ministry – an appointment has been made for an immediate start, jointly funded by the Sheffield and Yorkshire North and East Districts, along with the Hull (Centre & West) Circuit.
* The possibility of employing a government-funded Kickstart worker was discussed and further investigations will take place.
* Elliot Crippen will become a full-time district employee from September
* Adele Borrowman will be re-appointed to her fundraising role for a further two years at the end of her current contract.
* Naomi Prince has been appointed to a one year position as part of the One Graduate programme.
* Various circuit lay appointments were considered and approved.
* **New Places for New People/Kairos Circuit**

The Connexional initiative for New Places…is being developed and might involve a change in how funds to district and from district are allocated for these pioneering projects. The Kairos Circuit will be formally in place from 1 September, with Revd Andy Lindley as its superintendent.

* **Conference Updates**

The meeting received updates on

* God In Love Unites Us
* Theology of Safeguarding
* Justice, Dignity and Solidarity strategy
* Connexional finances
* **Grant Fundraising**

Adele Borrowman gave an overview of her fundraising successes over the past year and plans for the future.

* **Net Zero Carbon Project**

The meeting heard about the successful grant application from several churches in the north-west of the district that enabled fully-funded feasibility studies into carbon reduction to take place. The churches are now considering the implementation of the options presented to them. A group of churches in the south of the district is in the process of making a similar grant bid.

* **Youth Work**

Victoria Etherington reported on the youth, children’s and families’ activities that have been taking place over the last year and the team’s plans for the coming year.

* **Central Methodist, York**

A property report which looked at ambitious options for the future of this listed building was received and discussed.

* **Cessation of Worship**

Permission to cease worship at Kilham, Bridlington Circuit will be recommended to synod.

* **Next meeting**

30 September