

1 THE CHURCH AND ITS NAME

The Church means members of the charitable unincorporated association governed by this constitution and known as Ozzy Road Church (official name Osmaston Road Baptist Church).

2 PURPOSE

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian Faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

3 BELIEFS

As a Member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union's Declaration of Principle:

“That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each church has the liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who ‘died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day’

That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world”

4 ACTIVITIES

4.1 In fulfilling the Purpose the Church will engage in a range of Activities either on its own or with others that will vary from time to time with Activities being initiated, expanded, or closed, as appropriate.

4.2 The Activities may include but are not restricted to:

- regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and, teaching
- baptism, as defined in the Union's Declaration of Principle
- the Communion of the Lord's Supper which shall normally be observed at least once a month
- evangelism and mission, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally
- the teaching, encouragement, welcome and inclusion of young people
- nurture and growth of Christian disciples
- education and training for Christian and community service
- giving and encouraging pastoral support
- supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad
- encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians

4.3 Notwithstanding the appointment of persons to accept responsibility for any of the Activities all individuals, organisations, groups and committees operating within the life of the Church, and their leaders, shall be accountable to the Managing Trustees and also through any specific direction of the Church Members' Meeting

5 AFFILIATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

5.1 The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (Baptist Union) and East Midlands Baptist Association (Association)

5.2 The Church will normally promote, encourage, support and advance the work of the Baptist Union, the Association and BMS World Mission through prayer, through financial contributions and where appropriate, by making personnel available from the membership of the Church. When it is able the Church will also support local Baptist and ecumenical gatherings

6 BELONGING TO THE CHURCH

6.1 The responsibilities of membership normally include:

- attending worship and participating in Church Activities
- personal prayer and Bible study
- participation at the Communion of the Lord's Supper as a privilege and a priority
- helping the Church whenever possible by using gifts and abilities to advance the Purpose of the church through its Activities
- attending and participating in Church Members' Meetings
- giving regular financial support to the Church in proportion to personal resources and circumstances
- upholding Christian values

6.2 If there are differences that lead to difficulties between members of the Church (and it is recognised that these will sometimes arise) each member should try to resolve the situation with gentleness and humility following Christian and Biblical principles. Matthew 18:15-22 provides helpful advice about resolving an issue where somebody has sinned against you as well as the importance of forgiving each other. The passage speaks of approaching the person alone, then if they will not listen taking one or two people with you, and finally approaching the church if they still will not listen.

7 JOINING AND BECOMING A CHURCH MEMBER

7.1 Those in regular attendance shall be encouraged to become members of the Church

7.2 The church shall apply the following Baptismal qualification for Church Membership:

Open membership so that persons seeking membership who have not been baptised in the manner described in the Union's Declaration of Principle may at the discretion of the Church Members' Meeting be accepted for full membership based on their own public profession of faith. Persons seeking membership on this basis shall be encouraged to make a study of New Testament teaching and the practice of Believers Baptism by immersion.

7.3 Church membership is open to those who:

- accept the Beliefs of the Church
- meet the Church's qualification on Baptism
- commit themselves to serving Christ within the Church and beyond
- abide by the decisions of the Church Members' Meeting
- acknowledge their responsibilities as Church Members
- have their membership application accepted by the Church Members' Meeting

7.4 A person wishing to become a Church Member shall apply in a manner determined by the Church Members' Meeting

7.5 The Church Members' Meeting will consider and vote on the application for membership and if accepted the new member will normally be welcomed publically at the next communion service.

8 THE MEMBERSHIP LIST

8.1 A list of the current Church Members shall be maintained by the Managing Trustees incorporating routine changes because of additions or deletions arising through death, transfer to another church, resignation or a resolution by Church Members' Meeting

8.2 Routine changes to the membership list shall be reported at the next convenient Church Members' Meeting

8.3 In order to keep the membership list up to date the membership list shall be reviewed at least once every three years when the Church Members' Meeting may resolve to make appropriate deletions

8.4 At any time, in exceptional circumstances where the conduct of a Member is considered to be contrary to the Purpose and Beliefs of the Church and/or disruptive to the relationships between Members then the Elders may recommend to a Church Members' Meeting that the membership of that person be reviewed. The Church Members may, after considering the situation terminate the membership of that person. The Church Member shall be allowed to hear what is said at the Church Members' Meeting, to correct any errors of fact and offer any explanation of the circumstances or reasons for their actions before withdrawing from the meeting so that the Church Members' Meeting may prayerfully and carefully consider whether they should remove that person's name from the list of Members

9 CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETINGS

9.1 Church Members shall meet together in a Church Members' Meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and under the Lordship of Christ to discern the mind of God in the affairs of the Church

9.2 The Church Members' Meeting shall have reserved authority in the appointment and removal of a Minister, the appointment and removal of Managing Trustees, decisions related to church property including (without limitation) any purchase, sale, lease, mortgage or development of property, the administration of the membership list, and the closure of the Church

9.3 Any decisions taken under 9.2 in relation to property must comply with the requirements of statute law and any specific property trusts under which the land and buildings are used and occupied by the church.

10 ORDINARY AND SPECIAL CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETINGS

10.1 There are two types of formal Church Members' Meetings, Ordinary Church Members' Meetings and Special Church Members' Meetings

10.2 Ordinary Church Members' Meetings shall be held at regular intervals on not less than four occasions in any calendar year and shall be an opportunity to consider and review routine matters associated with the life of the church including issues relating to church membership, the appointment and dismissal of the Managing Trustees, the approval of the budget, with opportunities for considering proposals from the Managing Trustees or other Church Members for the development of the Church and the advancement of its purpose through its activities

10.3 One Ordinary Church Members' Meeting each year shall include the Annual Church Members' Meeting for the Church members to receive annual accounts and reports, to appoint Auditors or Independent Examiners and to consider proposals for the strategy and vision of the church in the coming year, with other appropriate matters

10.4 A Special Church Members' Meeting shall be convened when necessary to consider the appointment or dismissal of a minister, matters relating to the purchase, sale, lease, mortgage or redevelopment of church property, the closure of the church, or matters considered by the Managing Trustees to be of sufficient importance to require the calling of a Special Members' Meeting

11 CALLING CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETINGS

11.1 Church Members' Meetings shall be convened by the Managing Trustees so as to be convenient for as many Church Members as is reasonable

11.2 An Ordinary Church Members' Meeting shall be properly convened if as a minimum requirement the date, time and place for the meeting are publicised at the worship service on the previous Sunday (or other regular weekly meeting time when the Church gathers together) with an indication (if possible) of the matters to be considered

11.3 A Special Church Members' Meeting shall be properly convened if as a minimum requirement the date, time and place for the meeting are publicised, with as full an indication of the matters to be considered as possible, at the public worship service on the two previous Sundays (or other regular weekly meeting time when the Church gathers together)

11.4 Additional meetings whether Special or Ordinary shall be convened by the Managing Trustees as necessary but they shall have specific responsibility to convene a Special Church Members' Meeting as soon as possible upon receipt of a written request for a meeting signed by at least one tenth of the church membership or twelve Church Members, whichever is less

11.5 Members, invited guests and, if publicly invited, those who normally attend church events may attend a Church Members' Meeting but only Members may vote

12 THE CONDUCT OF CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETINGS

12.1 Worship including prayer and the reading of Scripture shall be a key feature of the Church Members' Meeting. The discussion of any matters affecting the life and activities of the Church shall be set in this context with the intention that, so far as possible, practical issues are not perceived as being separate from the spiritual aspects of the church

12.2 A quorum of 25% of the total number of Church Members shall apply to Church Members' Meetings

12.3 A management Trustee shall chair the Church Members' Meeting

13 VOTING

13.1 Members shall, so far as possible, seek consensus on all matters considered at the Church Members' Meeting

13.2 For matters requiring a decision a vote shall be taken and the outcome of the vote recorded as the resolution of the Members

13.3 Each member shall have one vote which they may use at the Church Members' Meeting after hearing about the issues and any comments or questions raised by other Members in advance of the vote

13.4 No proxy votes shall be allowed and no postal votes shall be valid save that the Church Members' Meeting may authorise postal voting for the election of individuals to roles and responsibilities within the church (except for decisions relating to a Minister) where the names of those nominated are known in advance of the meeting. The process for collecting and counting postal votes shall be determined by the Church Members' Meeting

13.5 If any matter requires a decision affecting or involving individuals and any embarrassment might arise by a public vote then a secret ballot shall be held if requested and agreed by the Church Members' Meeting

13.6 If a secret ballot is to be held two persons will be appointed as scrutineers to the ballot to count the votes. The person chairing the Church Members' Meeting shall announce the outcome without revealing the number of votes, unless previously agreed by the Church Members' Meeting

13.7 Except for the Appointment of Management Trustees referred to in clause 15.12 a resolution at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting shall be carried if supported by at least two thirds of the Members present, entitled to vote and voting

13.8 If there is an equality of votes on any matter at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting the resolution will be considered rejected and the matter shall be referred back to the submitter for review and if appropriate resubmission to a subsequent meeting for consideration

13.9 A resolution at a Special Church Members' Meeting shall be carried if supported by at least two thirds of the Members present, entitled to vote and voting

13.10 The Church Members' Meeting or Managing Trustees may want a higher measure of support for a particular resolution but a higher proportion of votes for a resolution shall not override the arrangements in clauses 13.7 or 13.9 unless, before the vote is taken, the Church Members' Meeting passes a further or enabling resolution referring to that particular resolution and specifying the proportion of votes necessary to pass it

13.11 Although Members of any age may attend and participate in a Church Members' Meeting the minimum age for voting will be 16 years old

14 MINUTES

14.1 The business conducted at Church Members' Meetings and, in particular, any decisions of the Members shall be recorded in the Minutes for future reference

14.2 The minutes shall be written or printed and filed in a book or binder set aside for this purpose using material of sufficient quality to ensure that they survive for many years and shall be kept in a safe place

14.3 Each set of minutes shall be approved by the Church Members attending the next Church Members' Meeting. They shall have the opportunity to review the Minutes and to correct any errors of fact before a formal vote on the approval of the Minutes is taken. If the Minutes are approved the person chairing the Church Members' Meeting shall confirm the Members' acceptance of the Minutes by signing and dating them as a correct record of the preceding meeting

14.4 The signed minutes shall be conclusive evidence of the decisions taken at the Church Members' Meeting to which they relate

15 THE APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF MANAGING TRUSTEES

15.1 On the occasion of the Church becoming a charity in its own right, The statutory definition of Charity Trustee in Section 97(1) of the Charities Act 1993 is "persons having the general control and management of the administration of the Charity"

15.2 The Church Members' Meeting shall appoint Managing Trustees to be responsible for the governance of the Church and where there is a Minister that person is a Managing Trustee because of their role and responsibilities. Subject to any specific or general directions of the Church Members' Meeting and the provisions of 9.2 the control management and administration of the Church shall be by the Managing Trustees, save that the Managing Trustees are not required to do anything that would cause them to be in breach of this Constitution or any trustee duty placed upon them as a result of this role

15.3 No person may serve as a Managing Trustee if they are disqualified

15.4 Managing Trustees shall with the possible exception of any newly appointed Minister be chosen from among the Church members with the maximum number of Managing Trustees being agreed from time to time by the Church Members' Meeting

15.5 In this church the managing trustees shall be those holding the position of:

Minister

Elder

Deacon

Officer

15.6 The roles of Secretary and Treasurer (Officers) will be appointed by the Church Members Meeting

15.7 At all times a majority of the Managing Trustees shall be persons (who are not disqualified by statute) who have been baptised in the manner described in the Declaration of Principle in clause 3.

15.8 A close family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling) of a serving Managing Trustee shall be eligible for appointment as a Managing Trustee

15.9 Managing Trustees shall serve so long as they have the support of the Church Members' Meeting and (except for those in ministerial office) shall be actively appointed and reappointed after the following periods of time:

Elders: 5 years

Deacons: 3 years

Officers: 4 years

15.10 Sabbaticals during periods of appointment shall be taken with the agreement of the Church Members Meeting at the recommendation of the Managing Trustees

15.11 The appointment of Managing Trustees shall be undertaken by processes that are public, clear and open so that all Church Members are enabled to consider prayerfully who should be appointed as Managing Trustees. The process shall ensure that notice is given of any forthcoming election so that Church Members may freely nominate prospective Managing Trustees whose names shall be submitted (after they have indicated a willingness to be appointed) for decision to the Church Members with the intention of ensuring that those appointed have a sufficient level of support from them

15.12 In this church:

15.12.1 Nominations for the role of Managing Trustee other than a Minister shall be made to the Church Secretary not later than three Sundays before the Ordinary Church Members' Meeting at which the election is to be held. Nominations must be submitted in writing with the supporting signature of two other Church Members and the consent of the candidate. No person may nominate more candidates than there are places vacant. Requests for nominations shall be made at all services on the two Sundays immediately before that Sunday when nominations must cease.

15.12.2 Voting shall be by secret ballot at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting. Church Members shall be asked to vote for those nominated candidates who they believe would serve the church well as Managing Trustees. Each member may vote for as many nominees as they believe meet this criteria (the number of candidates being not more than the number of vacancies). Those receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected provided each candidate shall have received votes from at least 80% of those members voting. Abstentions are not counted in the vote.

15.12.3 In cases of unavoidable absence Church Members may exercise a postal vote where this is permitted under clause 13.4 provided that votes are returned before the commencement of the Church Members' Meeting at which the election is to be held

15.13 A technical defect in the appointment of a Managing Trustee of which the Managing Trustees were unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken by the Managing Trustees

15.14 A Special Church Members' Meeting may rescind the appointment of any Managing Trustee (except for those in ministerial office) at any time

15.15 Where a Special Church Members' Meeting is considering the dismissal of a Managing Trustee (except for those in Ministerial office) the Managing Trustee shall be allowed to hear what is said to the Church Members' Meeting and to correct any errors of fact and offer any explanation of the circumstances or reasons for their actions before withdrawing so that the Church Members' Meeting may prayerfully and carefully consider whether the appointment should be terminated

16 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGING TRUSTEES

16.1 The Managing Trustees shall be responsible for the governance of the Church and the fulfilment of the Purpose through its Activities acting according to the will of God as discerned by the Church Members' Meeting and subject to any specific or general directions of the Church Members' Meeting in relation to the matters set out in clause 9.2

16.2 The Managing Trustees should keep in an appropriate state of repair and insure to their full value against fire and other usual risks all the buildings of the Charity (except those where the responsibility is of a third party where they shall use reasonable endeavours to ensure that the third party does so). They must ensure that suitable public liability and employer's liability insurance is in place.

17 PROCEEDINGS OF MANAGING TRUSTEES

17.1 Worship including prayer and the reading of Scripture shall be key features of any meeting of the Managing Trustees whose leadership and administration of the church shall be characterised as much by mutual accountability, service and pastoral care, as strategic thinking and effective management

17.2 The Managing Trustees shall determine when and how frequently they shall meet provided that they shall convene meetings of the whole group not less than once every two months

17.3 The Managing Trustees shall determine a quorum for their full meetings that shall not be less than two persons or half of their number whichever is the greater number

17.4 Notwithstanding the joint and several responsibilities of all the Managing Trustees and in addition to regular meetings of the whole group they may meet in such sub-groups as are necessary and convenient. Where necessary reports of such subgroup meetings may be made to the next full Managing Trustee Meeting

17.5 For matters requiring a decision the Managing Trustees shall, so far as possible, seek consensus on all matters considered at their meetings but where this is not possible a vote shall be taken and the outcome recorded as the resolution of the Managing Trustees

17.6 Each Managing Trustee shall have one vote to be exercised at the meeting

17.7 Every issue may be determined by a simple majority of votes cast at a meeting of the Managing Trustees but if there is an equality of votes on any matter the resolution will be considered rejected and the matter shall be referred back to the submitter for review and if appropriate resubmission to a consequent meeting for consideration

17.8 The Managing Trustees shall always act in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the general law

17.9 Subject to clause 9.3 the Managing Trustees shall act in accordance with the specific directions of the Church Members' Meeting in relation to matters relating to church property including any purchase, sale, lease, mortgage or redevelopment of church property

17.10 Minutes shall be prepared of the proceedings at the meetings of the Managing Trustees including any appointments, the names of those present, the decisions taken, and where appropriate the reasons for the decisions and the Managing Trustees shall decide from time to time whether all or part of these minutes shall be treated as confidential

17.11 Managing Trustees shall respect the confidentiality of their meeting

18 POWERS OF MANAGING TRUSTEES

18.1 The Managing Trustees shall have specific power subject to any general or specific directions of the Church Members' Meeting to apply for and accept grants and to provide security in respect of obligations under grant agreement

18.2 For the avoidance of doubt the Managing Trustees shall have power to borrow money, receive grants, give guarantees and or security for loans, and to make grants or loans of money towards the advancement of Purpose. In the event of a change over land and/or buildings being required this must be consistent with provisions in the trusts for the land and with statute law

18.3 For the avoidance of doubt the Managing Trustees shall have power to make grants to other charities working elsewhere in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world

19 APPLICATION OF INCOME AND CAPITAL

The Managing Trustees must use the income and may use the capital where trusts permit it to be spent to promote the Purpose provided that the Managing Trustees may apply an appropriate reserves policy in accordance with the general law

20 RENUMERATION OF MANAGING TRUSTEES

20.1 With the exception only of a Minister or Ministers as authorised by clause 23, or a remuneration permitted under clause 20.2 no Managing Trustee (or any person, firm or company connected with the Managing Trustee) may be paid or receive any other direct or indirect benefit for being a Managing Trustee except the reimbursement of reasonable and proper expenses and other payments permitted by statute or specifically authorised by the Charity Commission.

20.2 Where it is proposed that a Managing Trustee (or person, firm or company connected with the Managing Trustee) is to be employed or receive remuneration or sell goods or services or any interest

in land to the Church and where this gains the approval of the Church Members' Meeting then this shall be permitted only if:

- the Managing Trustee or any person connected with the trustee who may benefit directly or indirectly from the proposed remuneration declares an interest in the proposal before discussion on the matter begins
- absents himself or herself (or in case of any connected persons themselves) from any part of any meeting at which the proposal is discussed and takes no part in any discussion of it and is not counted in determining whether any such meeting is quorate
- does not vote on the proposal
- the remaining Managing Trustees who do not stand to receive the proposed benefit are satisfied that it is in the interests of the Church to contract with or employ that Managing Trustee (or connected person) rather than another independent person and must record the reason for their decision in the minutes
- in reaching the decision the Managing Trustees must balance the advantage of contracting with or employing a Trustee against the disadvantage of doing so (especially the loss of the Trustee's services as a result of dealing with the Trustee's conflict of interests)
- the Managing Trustees authorising the proposed transaction comprise a majority of the Managing Trustees body and have not received any such benefit

21 MINISTER

21.1 The church may have a Minister or more than one Minister or no Minister. Where a Minister is appointed it is expected that they will become a Member of the Church

21.2 A Minister of this Church shall accept the Beliefs being the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle

21.3 Where the Church has a Minister she or he shall usually be in relationship with the Baptist Union and the Association normally expressed by being on the Baptist Union's register of Covenanted Persons Accredited for Ministry

21.4 The Minister, whether or not they are on the Register of Persons Accredited for Ministry shall be supportive of the Church's relationship with other Baptist Churches, the Association, the Baptist Union and other churches in the City.

21.5 The tasks fulfilled by the Ministers will vary depending on individual ability and gifting but a Minister is normally expected to be involved in the Activities of the Church with an emphasis on the leading of worship and prayer, the teaching of the Christian faith and the pastoral care of individuals. The Minister shall work with the Church towards achieving its Purpose through its Activities

21.6 Notwithstanding any legal status afforded to a Minister by statute the Church recognises that the Minister and the Church are in a Covenant relationship based on Christian love and trust and mutual accountability. A Minister shall be in a relationship of mutual accountability with the other Managing Trustees and also with the Church Members

22 THE APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF MINISTERS

22.1 When the Church is seeking to appoint a Minister it will normally consult with the appropriate staff within the Association before commencing any appointment process and follow, so far as practicable, the Baptist Union's procedures and recommended terms for the settlement of Ministers

22.2 A Minister will be appointed or removed by a resolution of the Church Members at a Special Church Members' Meeting at any time

22.3 Where a Special Church Members' Meeting is considering the dismissal of a Minister the Minister shall be allowed to hear what is said to the Church Members' Meeting and to correct any errors of fact and offer any explanation of the circumstances or reasons for their actions before withdrawing so that the Church Members' Meeting may prayerfully consider whether the appointment should be terminated

22.4 The Church and the Minister shall normally agree 'terms and conditions of appointment' including termination procedures based on the standard terms of appointment published by the Baptist Union of Great Britain

23 REMUNERATION OF MINISTERS

Notwithstanding the fact that any Minister or Ministers appointed by the Church are Managing Trustees they will be entitled to be paid an agreed and reasonable remuneration or stipend out of the funds of the Church

24 PASTORAL VACANCIES AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A MODERATOR

When there is no appointed Minister the Church Members' Meeting may appoint a person who is a Church Member or a member of another Baptist Church to be the moderator (but if they do not do so then the Association may make an appointment of a suitable person) who will hold this office until a new Minister is appointed or until they resign or are released or dismissed by the Church Members' Meeting

25 FINANCE

25.1 The Managing Trustees are jointly and severally responsible for the financial administration of the Church

25.2 Once in each year the Managing Trustees shall present a budget of subsequent years' projected income and expenditure at a convenient Church Members' Meeting

26 RECORD KEEPING

26.1 The Church's annual financial year will run from January 1st to December 31st

26.2 Financial statements of all Church organisations that form part of the Activities shall be presented to the Managing Trustees and incorporated into the Church's financial statements

26.3 A statement of the Church accounts (audited or independently examined as required by law) shall be received by a Church Members' Meeting

26.4 Financial records, annual reports and statements of account relating to the Church for the previous six years must be available for inspection by any Managing Trustee

26.5 On the occasion of the Church becoming a charity in its own right, the law requires Charity Trustees to make the annual report and accounts available to any person who requests these. The Charity Trustees may make a reasonable charge to cover the administration costs of meeting this request

27 CONSTITUTION

27.1 A copy of this Constitution will be made available to Church Members and to every applicant for membership with the intention that every Member shall be informed about the organisation of the Church and be enabled to participate in the life of the Church and in Church Members' Meetings

27.2 No amendment may be made to this Constitution that would have the effect of making the Charity cease to be a charity at law

27.3 Subject to clauses 27.4 and 27.5 this Constitution may be altered only by a resolution of a Special Church Members' Meeting

27.4 No amendment may be made to clause 20.2 or 28.2 without the prior written permission of the Charity Commission

27.5 Notwithstanding the provisions 27.3 and 27.4 a resolution of a Special Church Members' Meeting altering clauses 2,3,5,7.5, 8.1, 9.1, 9.2, 15.2, 15.11, 27.3 or 28.1 shall have no legal effect unless:

(a) at least 6 months before the Special Church Members' Meeting at which the resolution is considered, or such shorter period as may be agreed in writing by each of the bodies referred to in clause 5.1, the Church shall have given to those bodies written notice of the wording of the resolution and

(b) the Church has afforded to those bodies reasonable opportunities of those bodies so require, for enabling representatives of those bodies to meet representatives of the Church, to make representations to the Church Members' Meeting, and to consider with the Church whether the proposed resolution might be withdrawn, amended or replaced by a different resolution

28 CLOSURE

28.1 If the Church resolves to close it shall notify the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the East Midlands Baptist Association

28.2 If the Church shall resolve to close or shall cease to meet for worship for at least six months the assets of the Church, after the satisfaction of debts and liabilities (not being property assets subject to separate trusts) shall be applied for Christian charitable purposes as decided by a Special Church Members' Meeting or, failing decision in that way, as decided by the Association and notified to the Union

28.3 The Charity Trustees of Churches that are registered charities shall notify the Charity Commission of any closure or dissolution

28.4 The property assets shall be dealt with by the holding trustees in accordance with the property trusts