

Newcastle upon Tyne Unitarian Fellowship

The Annual Meeting of the Fellowship will be held on Sunday 27 April 2025 at 12.45 pm via Zoom and in person at the Large Spiritual Commons Room, Northumbria Student Central, Newcastle upon Tyne

Agenda

1. Opening Act of Worship – Chalice Lighting and “The Flame of Truth Is Kindled” (SYF 158)
2. Chairperson’s Opening Remarks
3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 28 April 2024
4. Matters Arising
5. Annual Report of the Management Committee for 2024-2025 including Pulpit Supply Report and the General Assembly (GA) Report
6. Treasurer’s Annual Report and an update on our investments, from Geoffrey Clarke.
7. Northern Unitarian Association Report
8. Election of Church Officers and Committee members
 - The following nominations have been received:
 - For **Treasurer**: David Venus
 - For **Secretary**: Louise Reeve
 - For **membership** of the Management Committee:
 - Appointment of a representative to the **NUA**
 - Appointment of **Safeguarding** Lead
9. Proposed Change to our Constitution (the ‘Church Rules’) – see attached – to vote upon.
10. Social Action – Northern Pride 2025
11. Discussion – Looking To The Future – with Rev. Mark Hutchinson.
12. Benediction

For notes see over

Proposal to change the wording of our constitution (the Church Rules')

Current Rule 4:

Rule 4. The Management Committee shall consist of not less than 3 nor more than 7 elected members, including a Treasurer and Secretary, who shall be members of the Church. The elected members of the Management Committee shall be the Trustees of the Charity. A trustee may not appoint anyone to act on his or her behalf at a meeting of the trustees. No one may be appointed a trustee if he or she would be disqualified from acting as a trustee under the provisions of Rule 6. Application to be a member of the Management Committee constitutes a statement on behalf of the applicant that they are not disqualified under these provisions.

Proposed New Rules 4 and 5:

Rule 4. The Management Committee shall consist of not less than 3 nor more than 7 elected members, including a Treasurer and Secretary, and a majority of its members must always be members of the Church (see Rule 5). The elected members of the Management Committee shall be the Trustees of the Charity. A trustee may not appoint anyone to act on his or her behalf at a meeting of the trustees. No one may be appointed a trustee if he or she would be disqualified from acting as a trustee under the provisions of Rule 6. Application to be a member of the Management Committee constitutes a statement on behalf of the applicant that they are not disqualified under these provisions. To be eligible for membership of the Management Committee, a candidate must be:

- a. A Member of the Church, as set out in Rule 1.
- b. If there are not sufficient candidates who are members of Newcastle upon Tyne Unitarians for the management committee to be quorate (not less than 3 trustees) a current or retired member of another Unitarian congregation or fellowship, or a current or retired Unitarian Minister or Lay Worship Leader, shall be eligible to become a Management Committee Member.

Rule 5. If a circumstance arises in which it is not possible for the majority of the Management Committee members to be members of the Church, the Management Committee shall consider if it is appropriate to dissolve the charity under the arrangements set out in rule 32.

The proposal is:

“We propose to revise the wording of Rules 4 and 5 as set out with this AGM Agenda, and thus adopt the revised Constitution, known as the Church Rules, from the date of the Annual Congregational Meeting held on 27 April 2025.”