

Christians in Library and Information Services Constitution

1. Name

The name of the association is "Christians in Library and Information Services".

2. The Purposes of the Association are:

- to make Jesus known within the profession
- to provide a Christian network for the support and development of members
- to promote Christian values and to be a Christian voice within the profession
- to provide a forum for discussion of professional issues within a context of Christian belief
- to provide associated, professional services to Christian organisations both in the UK and abroad.

3. Statement of Faith

The work of the association shall be carried out on an interdenominational basis and members are encouraged to play an active part in their local churches.

The association's statement of faith shall be the fundamental truths of Christianity as revealed in the Bible, including:

- a) The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, these three being one God.
- b) The sovereignty of God in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgement.
- c) The incarnation, death, resurrection, ascension and future return of Jesus Christ, the Divine Son of God.
- d) The sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the fall, and the necessity for repentance towards God, and faith in Jesus Christ.
- e) The forgiveness of sins through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on our behalf.
- f) The work of the Holy Spirit in granting repentance and faith, and also in indwelling and sanctifying the individual sinner.
- g) The one Holy Catholic Church in heaven and earth, which is the Body of Christ and to which all true believers belong.
- h) The divine inspiration and complete trustworthiness of Holy Scripture as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

The statement of faith may only be amended by a referendum of the whole membership, in which more than 40% of the total number of members vote expressing agreement with the changes.

4. Statement of Values

Prayer underpins all activities carried out by the association.

5. Executive Committee

The activities of the association shall be managed by an Executive Committee of members who are appointed by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the association. Any member may stand for election to the Executive Committee as long as they are in agreement with the association's statement of faith.

The Executive Committee shall consist as a minimum of a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Membership Secretary. Additional members should be appointed, as deemed necessary and appropriate, to take responsibility for a range of roles and activities such as recruitment, publications,

public relations, events, web and social media, prayer co-ordination. Regional representatives may also be appointed as appropriate. Members of the Executive Committee will serve initially for a term of two years, but may be re-elected. The maximum number of members in any year shall be no more than 20.

6. President and Vice-Presidents

The President of the Association shall be elected from among prominent Christians in the book and/or library world and should be in sympathy with the purposes of the association and in agreement with the statement of faith.

Vice-Presidents may be appointed from time to time by the AGM and may be appointed for life or for a specific term of office. Vice-Presidents may be appointed in recognition of services done for the association or for a particular purpose. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall undertake the duties normally fulfilled by the President.

7. Carrying out the Purposes

In order to carry out the purposes of the association, the members of the Executive Committee have the power to:

- raise funds, receive grants and donations
- apply funds to carry out the work of the association
- co-operate with and support other associations with similar purposes
- do anything which is lawful and necessary to achieve the purposes.

8. Membership

Membership of the association is open to Christians who:

- work or have worked in a library or information service or a related profession
- are studying to take up such a position or are interested in library and information services
- wish to support and promote the work of the association
- are in sympathy with the aims, objectives and ethos of the association.

9. Annual General Meeting

- The AGM must be held before the end of April every year, with 14 days notice given to all members telling them what is on the agenda. Minutes of the AGM must be kept. At least 5% of the membership must be present at the AGM to pass any motions. The President, or in his or her absence, a Vice-President will take the chair at the AGM.
- Every member has one vote.
- The Executive Committee shall present the annual report and accounts.
- Members will be elected (or re-elected) to the Executive Committee for a term of two years. A secret ballot should be held if more than one nomination for a position is received.

10. Meetings of the Executive Committee

- The Executive Committee must hold at least three meetings each year. Committee members may act by majority decision.
- At least three members must be present at the meeting to be able to take decisions. Minutes shall be kept for every meeting.

- Committee members may appoint additional members to the Executive Committee during the year as appropriate. They will then either step down or stand for election at the next AGM.

11. Money and Property

- Money and property must only be used for the purposes of the association or organisations with similar purposes.
- The Treasurer must keep accounts. The most recent accounts should be available to members on request.
- Members of the Executive Committee cannot receive any money or property from the association, except to refund reasonable out of pocket expenses.
- Money must be held in the association's bank account(s). All cheques must be signed by two members of the Executive Committee.

12. General Meetings

If the Executive Committee considers it is necessary to change the constitution or wind up the association, they must call a General Meeting so that the membership can make the decision. Committee members must also call a General Meeting if they receive a written request from at least ten members. All members must be given 14 days notice and told the reason for the meeting. All decisions require a two thirds majority. Minutes must be kept.

Winding Up – any money or property remaining after payment of debts must be given to an organisation with similar purposes.

Changes to the Constitution – can be made at AGMS or General Meetings.

General Meeting – called on written request from at least ten members. The Executive Committee may also call a General Meeting to consult the membership.

This constitution was adopted on Saturday 20 April 2013.