

Proposal to nominate Advocates to act on behalf of the Methodist Church in the Isle of Man.

To date there has been no Advocates' practice nominated to act on behalf of our Church, but it is felt that this situation should be reviewed. You will be aware that our Church requires us to follow Connexional Guidance and it is essential that our advisors, including Advocates are fully aware of the regulations.

During the last 12 months we have used Corlett, Bolton of Finch Road, Douglas to undertake the sale of Kerrowkeil and they are also assisting Port Erin with their property matters. Before then they have acted for us in the purchase of the new manse at Peel and other property matters. They have been professional and have asked for, and been given, a copy of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church to ensure that they fully understand the guidelines which constrain us. It was them who alerted us to the request that Connexion had made that the new Peel Manse be bought in the name of the Trustees for Manx Methodist Church Purposes. With their help we are now trying to get the correct procedures and agreements in place. This has proved somewhat time consuming for your Circuit Stewards and Chair of District. The matter is still unresolved.

Messrs Corlett, Bolton have developed expertise and understand our requirements. If we were to use other practices on an ad hoc basis, then we would be paying for them to get up to speed and the new treasurer would have to walk them through the regulations.

It is appreciated that Churches may be content dealing with a local Advocate, but it is felt that the benefit of nominating a specific firm to act on our behalf will be beneficial. Should the proposal to register the title of our Churches in the Land Registry be approved the Advocates could work through the titles on a gradual basis.

Recommended

W E TEARE

Treasurer and Circuit Steward.

29th, November, 2021.