

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday, the 29th of April 2018,
at Mehfil-e-Abbas (A.S.) 17 Clifton Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, B12 8SX at
10:30AM.**

1.1	The meeting commenced at 10.40AM. Adjourned due to lack of quorum. Recommenced at 10.55AM.
1.2	There were 216 members present, whose names and signatures have been recorded in the register.
1.3	The president thanked attendees who were prompt. Meeting commenced with recitation from the Holy Quran by Brother Ali Mehdi Moti.
1.4	<p>The President reminded the floor of the etiquette to be followed during the meeting. When speaking, the speaker to state his/her name and to address the chair.</p> <p>Imtiaz Dahya (ID): In a previous meeting, suggestion was made for the chair to be independent of the EC.</p> <p>Gulamraza Dato (GD) Reiterated that he was abiding by what is stated in the Constitution with regards to due process.</p> <p>The president addressed the second item on the agenda – adoption and confirmation of minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EGM – 3rd March 2017 regarding CIO constitution Proposer: Murtaza Master Secunder: Mehboob Kassamali and Dr Hadi • AGM – 29th April 2017 Adjourned and recommenced 11.06.2017 Proposer: Haider Hudda Secunder: Imtiaz Dahya & Brother Taimoor • EGM – 10th Sept 2017 Proposer: Ali Mehdi Moti Secunder: Sultan Mehrali & Brother Taimoor
Matters Arising	
GD	<p>EGM – 3rd March 2017 regarding CIO constitution</p> <p>Error was noted at top of the page – It should be EGM instead of AGM.</p> <p>CIO</p> <p>Context was explained regarding the process. Initial aim was to have the CIO in place by 01/01/2018; however, due to the existing loan with Barclays and some issues in 2016, this could not be achieved. Paperwork is now being finalized and the new EC will oversee the transfer including the transfer of the debt over to the CIO.</p>
GD	<p>AGM – 29th April 2017 Adjourned and recommenced 11.06.2017</p> <p>Any matters arising page by page? (called out pages)</p>
M Jaffer Kassam (MJK)	Notes available for perusal?

GD	Sent to all members 20/04/18 via secretariat email (AGM minutes also displayed on screen for the floor)
ID	Suggested for the minutes to be sent earlier than at present.
GD	Office staff now in place and this would be achievable.
GD	Matters arising (Pages called out)
ID	Update on Gift Aid (GA) please
GD	Issue now settled with HMRC without further implications on the charity. HMRC have given us a clean report.
Mohammed Bharwani (MB)	Thanked the chair and inquired if further discussion on this could be done now or when accounts are discussed.
GD	To discuss now.
MB	Informed that the issue resulted in implications for those whose names were given to HMRC which were not pleasant. Wanted to know the entire history of the issue and what measures can be implemented to prevent this from happening again.
GD	Informed that there was an intense discussion with HMRC (with our top professionals representing us), following which they came and audited our claim submitted. Few discrepancies were noted. Settlement was made at approx. 30K
MB	What was the total cost to charity?
GD	Informed of measures implemented being that GA is now claimed on receipt with thorough checking of all claims. Shaukat Najafi (SN) inputs these. GD & Riaz Ladak (RL) check these on QuickBooks with due process. Spot checking is done on signatures on consent forms including internal checks being carried out every quarter to ensure process is followed. Regarding costs – 30K for all professional costs; 58K in total.
MB	In the letter it was said that we did not claim GA for that period?
GD	At the time of the HMRC audit, claiming GA was suspended during this period. HMRC had been informed we would back claim accordingly.
MB	Queried if back claims are done.
GD	Back claims complete; now processing Oct-Dec 2017 claims.
MB	Why was it not stated that the cost incurred was due to the charity's fault? There had been some names of persons implied who had not done anything wrong and no apology was forwarded by GD for this. The reputations of certain professionals and youths of the Jamaat were at stake had this issue not been settled. This would result in implications that would jeopardize their careers. This was most distressing to MB. Could assurances be given that this would not happen again or potentially create a board of inquiry following which a full report could be issued. MB also recalled that GD had visited him at his house where he informed GD that a gentleman in London had said that there would

	<p>not be a need to pay any amount to HMRC as the evidence was circumstantial.</p> <p>In view of the above, why was it then reported which resulted in the Jamaat spending a lot of money.</p>
GD	Understood and appreciated the concerns raised. It was reported at the general and the course of action advised accordingly. Assurance was given that if due process is followed, this will not happen again.
MB	Queried about the other people who were wrongly accused.
Rizwan Alidina (RA)	The decision was made by the general to report.
MB	It was agreed to report at the meeting on the basis that if not reported by us, the auditors would do this.
Mohamed Riyaz Sachedina (MRS)	Asked for clarity as to what was required from GD today. He pointed out that they had several conversations regarding this and GD had done his best to settle this matter.
GD	Reiterated and gave his assurance that in the next 2 years, he will put in place processes to avoid this from happening again in his term. He hoped that the next EC would follow due process and not become complacent.
MB	Not satisfied with the explanation and asked for justification for paying 28K to HMRC.
GD	Riaz Ladak would answer that question
Riaz Ladak (RL)	<p>38K GA claimed for which discrepancies were picked up in the method of claiming it.</p> <p>This amount was then deducted until the complaint resolved. Discrepancies and duplications also noted on receipt and bank which totalled to 23K.</p> <p>Interest element of 5K payable to HMRC which was the alternative to the Jamaat being taken to the revenue's commissioner/for the judge to decide.</p>
MB	Queried regarding the figure of 125K as provision.
RL	<p>Made reference to the Walji report which stated that after taking all related factors in to consideration, based on cash and cheques, the amount would come up to 123K.</p> <p>When they (including Hasanain Jaffer) checked all details, it was noted that this amount was based on cash and cheques not being banked.</p> <p>Inland Revenue did not find anything barring the discrepancies totalling to 23K.</p>
GD	Added that it was also the figure of those who wrote to Jamaat saying that they did not want gift aid - they took their consent back and withdrew their claims.
MB	Requested to be noted that none of the money (refunded to HMRC) was related to the people implicated?
GD	He could not provide a statement as thorough investigation would be required to see their involvement. It was explained again that the amount paid was in lieu of the anomalies found in the last claim.

	When letters were written to individuals few of them came back saying not to claim GA on their amounts and those were the bulk of the 23K.
MB	Queried that those 25 people out of 28 or so had nothing to do with this incident and they would be exonerated?
GD	Queried as to which 25 people were being referred to. HMRC was informed that these were the individuals who had said yes to GA.
MB	Initially it was informed to HMRC that there were about 28 people; out of these, 3 people withdrew their claims. Was that correct?
Qarar Somji (QS)	Provided further clarification. Walji & Co report was not disclosed to HMRC (which was subject to some privilege). Provision of 125K was made and Jamaat then self-referred to HMRC, informing them to expect some anomalies for these individuals. Following this, HMRC made their investigations and came up with the figure of 28K. As such, there are no pending issues against these individuals or any implications noted. A statement to this effect should be made.
MB	Agreed with what QS stated.
GD	Action – To obtain full figures from Hasanain Jaffer (HJ) who was dealing with this & to then update.
QS	Advised that if not recorded in the minutes, a letter to be issued to these individuals informing them of the outcome of the investigation and that no further action is warranted from them, unless they are contacted by HMRC.
MB	Felt that GD's letter was not sufficient and could have been written better to support the individuals. Offered to discuss this further with GD at a later stage if he would be serving a further term and to advise him regarding procedures that could be put in place to prevent this issue from happening again. MB also stated that no response was provided by administration to a previous letter sent requesting clarification and wanted assurances this would be improved upon.
GD	Stated all letters if addressed to him have been answered and will be answered; but if addressed to him as third party, these will not be acknowledged.
MRS	Asked MB to acknowledge the work GD, HJ & RL have done which has resulted in closure of this matter. This was duly acknowledged by MB.
Dr Hadi	Advised GD & team to develop a procedure covering 15 years (instead of 2 years).
ID	Identified two actions (to be prioritized by the incoming President) to bring this matter to a formal closure: Letter to HMRC to clear/withdraw the names of the individuals mentioned in the original letter. Letter to be issued to these individuals clearly stating the matter has now been brought to a closure.
Abid Bata (AB)	Raised a query. Since these individuals had not been implicated in any way by the Jamaat or HMRC, was there any need to contact them again?

	As no further action/concern was raised, to now begin the whole process again did not make any sense. Furthermore, AB also queried the rationale in discussing this matter here at present.
GD	Recalled the series of events which have led to the discussion today and stated that the incoming President will require to do the needful.
GD	Any other matters arising page by page (pages called out)
Murtaza Ibrahim (MI)	<p>Query regarding page 23: Repeat Alims & Sh. Nuru's attendance as being not 100% (also mentioned in the hustings). Made reference to the contract which is believed to include 3 aspects: Jamaat Salah Jumeraat Programs Deaths</p> <p>Above areas were perceived as lacking and queried if this has been addressed. Whilst acknowledging the fact that Sheikh has performed very well in other activities, however, the basics needed to be prioritized as according to him, these are important and where the presence of a scholar is deemed as necessary. It was queried as to why Sheikh was undertaking personal matters during Jamaat time.</p>
GD	<p>Was in the process of speaking with Sheikh about this & also would be an action for the incoming President to follow up; but GD reiterated that the present contract (when drafted) was meant to be holistic.</p> <p>Also pointed out that when Sheikh is part of other activities, he is representing Jamaat (not personal matters) and would not be able to lead salah. This needed to be kept in context. It was brought to attention that Sheikh represents the Jamaat in various interfaith forums, not forgetting SACRE.</p>
MB	Appreciated comments by GD but asked for reassurance that a replacement would be duly arranged in such situations and there would not be a need to source out for maulanas to lead Salah.
GD	Assured that they will do their best.
Baqir Hemraj (BH)	<p>It was the belief that ONLY the resident Alim can lead Salah. However, the criteria for leading Salah is minimal and this could be advised by the resident Alim to identify those individuals who could then lead Salah, resulting in releasing time for the Alim to concentrate/prepare for other matters where his presence would be deemed as necessary.</p> <p>Interfaith – Considered as important as we are educating the wider society about Islam (similar to what our Holy Prophet (pbuh did). Above comments were appreciated by GD.</p>
TJ	Informed that a list of individuals (identified by Sheikh) was already in place who are deemed as eligible to lead Salah. Vote of thanks was given to Mehboob bhai Kassamali (MK) for his services in this matter.

	However, it was also pointed out that it was not always possible for these individuals to perform this duty and it was recommended for the incoming team to try and improve on this.
ID	Raised query if the mezzanine floor was insured. Some issues noted: An area where the plasterboard was loose. Central heating had come off the wall and was hanging. Lower hall – persistent damp noted due the outer side not being repaired. Had the contractor been contacted to resolve the above?
GD	Damp to be scheduled to be dealt with in summer. Action: Office to look in to these issues.
Shabbir Hirji (SH)	Queried as to whose duty it was to go around and check.
GD	No person allocated for this or any process in place. Action is taken only if issues are reported by the public. Office to look in to setting/introducing a process?
MB	Informed of a video circulated a few weeks ago of a marriage registration where there were women without hijab noted in the background. Requested if these ceremonies could be performed in another room where religious etiquette could not be compromised.
TJ	Advised that all due guidelines for events (incl marriages) have been circulated to members. However, to ensure that these are adhered to can be challenging. Particular attention is paid to ensure that hijab is maintained at all times. This is clearly mentioned in the paperwork. Although the photos should not have been made available in the public domain, these ceremonies cannot be held elsewhere as only the gents Imambara building is registered for civil marriage.
GD	For paper copies of the minutes, it was requested that these should be notified to the office a week in advance. All members to check that correct email addresses were registered with the office to ensure that all members received correspondence.
GD	EGM – 10th Sept 2017 Matters arising - pages called out
BH	Asked if he could speak about AIC at this stage. Concern related to the project whereby it was felt that spending £7 to £10 million on a project to create a land of less than an acre was not viable and did not make sense. This had not been minuted last time?
GD	Informed that if this was not regarding the minutes, it would be addressed under reports.
ID	Page 12-13 there are two resolutions stated that authority was given to proceed on the centre based on the plans submitted at the AGM/EGM with costings at that time. Based on what he understood now with the £8.4 million, the plan is deferred slightly – And so would these 2 resolutions fall away?
GD	Queried as to how the plan was felt as deferred.
ID	The plan was based on multi storey carpark and the current vision is having flat surfaced car park.

GD	Resolution had approved the whole project including multi-storey with a full figure. The general had been informed of all details with a complete presentation to explain the process.
Jaweedali Mirza (JM)	Queried regarding planning permissions. One condition was that on Runcorn road, a letter from the leaseholder should be sought allowing us between 25-30 car parking spaces. This agreement needed to be made with leaseholder prior to the work commencing.
GD	To be addressed in the AIC report.
GD	<p>Next agenda item:</p> <p>The Presidents report - circulated with the email of the minutes.</p> <p>GD Thanked all volunteers for their valuable contribution and dedication in serving the Jamaat.</p> <p>Thanked Sheikh Nur for his presence and recognized the progress being made in the community with his presence and support.</p> <p>Activities have increased and there is vibrancy in our community resulting in other jamaats citing our example.</p> <p>The activities carried out are benefiting not only us, but the wider community in general.</p> <p>Surah Fateha was requested for all volunteers including for both our elders and youths from the past who are no longer with us and their efforts were appreciated.</p> <p>The past two years had been hard as the committee had pledged to deliver their manifesto, however with the assistance of the EC, office staff, caretaker, kitchen, car park staff and all other volunteers, good progress had been made.</p> <p>There were also some legal issues which were dealt with in a smooth manner.</p> <p>Although there were many achievements, further work would still be required for improvement.</p> <p>GD mentioned the new office staff being: Shabnum Hudda – Office Manager Fatima Mussadiq Raza – Assistant Office Administrator who has joined in the last month.</p> <p>Zehra bai Premji – who has been working in the office and had been serving the community for a long time now.</p> <p>Murtaza bhai (caretaker) - who was currently on leave with Alamdaar bhai as our temporary cover.</p> <p>Ali Jaffer and Mehdi Khaki who also provide their assistance in this matter.</p> <p>Vote of thanks was also given to all those volunteers not mentioned by name and their efforts were appreciated.</p> <p>Request for forgiveness for any shortcomings (intentional or unintentional) was made to all members present and it was reiterated that all actions by the EC were done to serve the best interest of the community.</p> <p>Members missing in the new EC noted as: Tawfiq Jivraj</p>

	<p>Sajeda Canani-Sajan Riaz Ladak Mahmood Walji Hasnain Jaffer Shabbir bhai (resigned earlier) Mehboob Punjani Kazim Sajan</p> <p>A vote of thanks was given to the above for their support as outgoing EC.</p>
Dr Hadi	<p>Informed all that Shenaz bai Sajan (Chair of Interfaith) was not well and requested Dua to be made for her recovery.</p> <p>GD had met her yesterday evening and conveyed best wishes and also thanked her for her good work.</p>
MI	<p>Gave vote of thanks to all and especially to TJ for his support for Azadaari.</p>
<u>Departmental Reports</u> (Annual achievements video was played)	
MRS	<p>Commented on the good work done in the last two years which was shown on the video and at the same time appreciated the energy and passion Sheikh had brought to the community. Salawat was requested for Sheikh for his notable efforts.</p>
GD	<p><u>Department for Economic Development</u></p> <p>Department comprises of two subcommittees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Economic Upliftment Committee (EUC) 2. Welfare Committee <p>Chair: Sadiq Muraj EC Leads: Mahmud Walji, Mohamed Riyaz Sachedina, Riaz Ladak & Shenaz Najafi</p>
Sadiq Muraj (SM)	<p>In the last two years, assistance had been provided by EUC to many people to get on to the job ladder and to create their own businesses.</p> <p>A website has now been created whereby members can put their details of what they do as their job/business and start networking. Two goals have been identified for the year ahead:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Build a cooperative society 2- Help first time buyers for property. <p>SM requested all community members to offer ideas which would assist in making the above plans achievable resulting in a sustainable and prosperous community.</p>
MRS	<p>Welfare – objectives of the committee stated as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Provide confidential advice and services to members of community who are in difficulties • Visiting the Elderly at home • Visiting the sick at home and in hospital • Arranging transport during the months of Muharram and Ramadhan for those elderly members who need to be ferried to and from our Centre. • Helping the elderly and the disabled members of our community with their household chores such as shopping, cleaning and gardening.

	<p>One of the key achievements of the Welfare Sub Committee this year (as per previous year), has been to provide the community members with free advice in respect of social and welfare issues through the Khidmat Centre (advice surgery within our Centre). There have also been separate free sessions held with a solicitor to help members with legal queries and assistance.</p> <p>The Welfare Sub Committee is in the process of finding a suitable candidate for a community social worker.</p> <p>There was a seminar organised with the assistance of Naushad bhai Merali together with Sheikh Mohamed Rashid on formulation of an Islamic will. A solicitor, sister Zahra Kanani, from south London, delivered this seminar. It was very well attended and very informative for several members of the community. Many took advantage and have had their Wills compiled.</p> <p>With the help of BAYN and professionals, the Welfare Sub Committee is looking to take forward the subject of mental health following a recent seminar which was well received.</p>
BH	<p>Khums Money – Queried as to how it is processed/utilized.</p> <p>If collected in the UK, then it should be used for the benefit of the people of the UK and for the poor sadaat within that area.</p> <p>His suggestion was that if we collect the money, it should be put it in a bank account (KSIMC or WF).</p> <p>If community members are in need of a loan (for education, marriage, etc), funds could be provided to them at a reasonable interest rate.</p> <p>Recalled the difficulties faced by those who had left Uganda, Tanzania in the past to come and settle in the UK; no assistance had been provided to them.</p> <p>If there are loans available within the community for our members, it will be a source of upliftment and in return, these people will give back to the community.</p> <p>Concerned about the lack of accountability for Khums money as no report had been submitted so far.</p> <p>For AIC, once Khums is collected, it is sent to the Marja, but where is it then utilized?</p>
GD	<p>Concurred that scrutiny was required but also stated that how the Marja handled the Khums money was not something that we could question.</p> <p>Ijaza of WF is followed in the collection of Khums which has rulings that should be strictly adhered to. For further clarity, it was suggested that we could approach religious experts for the specific issues raised and revert.</p> <p>However, providing loans as mentioned above could be an aspect the EUC can look into further.</p>
Murtaza Master (MM)	<p>Suggested to create a scheme where we can assist people with some degree of loans.</p> <p>Informed that he had been approached by GD to look in to helping youngsters with loans to get on to the property ladder.</p>

	<p>Six months ago, this was followed up and a deal with Barclays was made under their Springboard Products, where as a community, we are able to put money to assist our youths to buy houses.</p> <p>A few meetings have also taken place with Al-Rehan Bank and we are aiming to create a product that will assist on a community basis.</p> <p>At this stage, contracts are being drawn up by lawyers.</p>
BH	<p>Thanked MM but asked for clarification as to the source of this money. He recalled his experience where he had taken a loan from our Jamaat for his studies, which he had to pay after one year as he was chased.</p> <p>He then had a further loan from WF for which he was constantly chased for repayment without them being aware of his situation which he found disappointing. He further stated that when he initially came from Tanzania to settle here, there was no one to assist him.</p>
GD	<p>Thanked BH for sharing his experiences and concurred that support should be provided to the community where possible.</p>
GD	<p><u>Department of Islamic Education and Spirituality</u></p> <p>EC Leads: Mohamed Riyaz Sachedina (Head), Sajeda Canani-Sajan, Shenaz Najafi, Tawfiq Jivraj</p>
MRS	<p>Emphasized this department as being one of the key ones for the community as per Sheikh Nur in his Jumu'ah Khutbas with regards to increasing spirituality.</p> <p>This department aims to facilitate spiritual growth and religious education by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organising relevant events and courses. Selecting speakers and topics. Communicating with members about these and any other means at their disposal. <p>There are various subcommittees under this department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult Islamic Education AHSN The Book Cave Childrens Tabligh Committee (CTC) Reverts Support Group Madrasah Tableegh <p>CTC was created due to the need for catering specifically for children and they recently celebrated their 1st year anniversary.</p> <p>Adult Islamic Education is looking to organize moderated events on specific contemporary topics facilitated by an Alim. One event every month or every other month.</p>

	<p>The Book Cave – The old library was closed a few years ago and people were invited to come forward with ideas and proposals with regards to that. We need to ensure that we have a community that reads.</p> <p>The book cave's idea is to start creating interest in reading from a young age. The creative events that have been organized were appreciated.</p>
TJ	Informed that fathers have recently started doing story time and encouraged grandparents to do the same.
MI	<p>Pointed out that no activities had been carried out for Azadari. Requested Surah Fateha for marhum Aqeel Lalji and informed that a class had been started with TJ to teach children to recite with the marhum. However, nothing further had been undertaken since then apart from the Ambassador speeches.</p> <p>It was felt that Azadari was not paid attention to, and our youths and people are attending Hussainiya for this. Queried if an EC member be allocated this responsibility and if the next president could look in to this.</p>
MRS	Suggested for Irfan Janmohamed (CTC) to look in to this.
MI	Could assist if required.
Mahmood Ladak (ML)	<p>Has had discussions with TJ and has noted a decline in attendance due to the speakers/lecturers on big nights. Pointed out that Hussainiyah has notable speakers and are paid well. Good speakers/lecturers are required and this requires urgent attention; otherwise the decline in attendance may continue.</p> <p>Furthermore, if attendance is at a decline, then does it justify for a £9.4 million project to go ahead when the buildings/resources may not be utilized to their full extent? Although youth activities are going well, we could further utilize our resources.</p>
Ali Naqi Kurji (ANK)	<p>During the hustings, he thought that people had totally misconstrued what was said. He stated that Sheikh Nur is a good friend of his and wanted to clarify what was said. Suggested that we look at the maulana concept in detail. The Jamaat has grown and two alims are required to cater for our needs.</p> <p>Suggested that Sheikh could focus on our youths who are our future, whilst the other Alim could cater for the other requirements. Believed that cost would not be an issue provided the appropriate scholars were sourced. The cost could be supported by philanthropists.</p>
GD	Appreciated the last comment and would be willing to discuss this further. Recalled when Shafik Haji was the president, somebody had proposed to support the cost of the resident Alim, but this was then not followed. However, he would consider this if elected, but wanted assurances that he then would not be left alone.
ML	Queried as to why other Jamaats could afford good Alims and were willing to pay. Noted that we were a wealthy community but tended to focus more on assets rather than good speakers.
GD	Assured that the above was not accurate as we have a very high calibre resident Alim at present. It was felt that an alternative for

	Urdu listeners was required and not for English. Jamaat has the finances and donations are usually requested; however, it was thought that when presenting our accounts, we are questioned as to why so much money is being spent.
BH	Pointed out that attendance should not be based on the speaker as there may be instances where the speaker has oratory capabilities, but no substance. Furthermore, if it was just about speakers, then lectures could be watched online/YouTube. Attendance is vital. Quality is what should be aimed for, not quantity. Our aim should be to learn from our Imams and to reflect their lessons in our lives as a community.
MRS	Recalled a debate had been organized on this aspect and we had a good discussion on this.
MM	Pleased that ANK had clarified his comments regarding Sheikh and that they were not meant to be in any way derogatory to Sheikh. Stated that it was easy to blame the Alim, Executive and the community if our children are not attending mosque, rather than looking inwardly at ourselves as to why this is the case. Requested that we all respect Sheikh as he is doing a great job; he has motivated our community more than anyone. Reiterated that ANK had not meant his comments to be derogatory and was pleased that this had been clarified.
Nasim Pirmohammad (NP)	Introduced herself to the audience; she has served many roles in the Jamaat including volunteering as and where required. Concurred with MM's comments. In response to the lack of attendance, it would be prudent to first question ourselves rather than blame the chairman and the community. We have a problem in our own souls. By paying more to leaders and spiritual guides, it was felt that disservice had been done, where they have now become celebrities and they have been using the pulpit in commercializing the whole essence of Islam and the mazhab of Ahlulbayt (as). Felt that this was an issue and was worried about our children. NP was saddened when it was considered to pay more to spiritual leaders and felt that this was encouraging a mind set for people to demand £1000 for one lecture. It was felt that the community was biased towards a male speaker as it was felt that they deserve more. There are women out there serving communities who do not have any financial support and when it came to their burial and funeral rites, who would support them? NP felt that we were missing the point completely and this warranted further scrutiny. The aim should be to serve Allah SWT in the matters of service before we blame our community and our leaders.
GD	Thanked NP for her comments and assured that the new team will look into female speaker hadya.
Jamil Kassam (JK)	Regarding paying for speakers, agreed that as a community we should not be held hostage for extortionate amounts of money; but at the same time, we needed to recognise that lecturing is their only source of income especially if they are still studying full time in the

	hawza system. We have to be mindful of that and give them a fair amount when they come. We have had suggestions of contributions.
Meeting adjourned for salah	
GD	Continuation of discussion on <u>Department of Islamic Education and Spirituality</u>
Brother Taimoor	Was proud of being part of the Jamaat for nearly forty years and has seen the Jamaat progress/develop. The leadership elected should be for the benefit of the community. It was felt that awareness of current affairs was lacking in the community and that this should be improved upon. Support for the Marajeh was essential for the good work being done and for their guidance worldwide to protect muslims including the Shuhada.
Kazim Sajan (KS)	In response to the above, BAYN team have organised a series of talks which focuses on conflicts around the world. One of them was on Palestine. The next team can look at other countries like Syria, Lebanon etc. Also commented on the content and length of programs; appreciated it was difficult to find a balance; however, the last two khushalis were very long. Requested that the next committee could try and review contents of program and find the optimal length.
MB	Disagreed with NP's comments. Felt that whatever the lecturer charges, if Jamaat can afford to pay, then this should not pose an issue. Felt there was no need to rely on donations as Jamaat was in a position to pay with current income streams.
MI	Voiced his appreciation for Gujrati classes and as a further step in the right direction, suggested Urdu classes for youths.
NP	Clarified her points above further and stated balance and critical thinking is required with regards to paying the speakers. Raised questions to GD and committee: Any plans at present to build a school as there are no Shia schools which is important to have in current times? NP stated that it was important for children to be in a school where they can be taught in a safe environment conforming to our school of thought. Was there any senior participation in the EC? Any mature people who have seen life and have experience and perhaps have a balance of female/male and seniors and youth participation to have a holistic approach. Was there any female participation in the MAP project & committee?
GD	With regards to schooling, in the last two years it was announced that a task force would be created to look in to the need for our own school. A Survey was carried out in the nursery of how many parents would send their children to a Shia school. We could apply for a free school. It is £20 - 25K fee to apply to the Department of Education. When the new committee comes in to office, it will have to decide whether to spend that money.

	<p>It was felt that majority would not send their children to a paid school, hence, a free school project was considered.</p> <p>Regarding second point of elderly and seniors, even if they are not in the committee, GD has always sought their views/opinions.</p> <p>For this time, we are privileged to have Mohammad Uncle Kassamali who is joining our team should GD be elected as president.</p> <p>Regarding the question for the AIC, this would be addressed when coming to that section.</p>
MRS	<p>(Continuing department update) - The main highlight this year from the Book Cave was for three to six year olds, being the Interactive Storytelling of "Pip, The Monster who Lost His Heart" which involved the children reconstructing the Arba'een walk to Imam Hussain, helping people along the way until they found their hearts in Kabala.</p> <p>Recommended all to read this report to find out more details.</p> <p>Madrasah - Feedback received has been overall positive especially with regards to the Ambassadors Project where the purpose is for young children to come to the front and talk on the topics they are passionate about or the relevant khushali.</p> <p>There was interaction between parents and children too whilst preparing.</p> <p>Requested Faiza Mawji if she would like to update all on the syllabus work that has been done.</p>
Faiza Mawji (FM)	<p>Informed that an update for parents is due in the next two days. Conversations are currently being held with WF and MCE with regards to adopting the Tarbiyah syllabus for Muhammadi Madrasah.</p> <p>The process for that will be communicated to the parents. FM stated that good progress had been made in a few elements of Madrasah.</p> <p>Salah had been made as a subject of its own merit - this has raised the standard of salah of children in the madrasah.</p> <p>The Madrasah Board was also formed this year.</p>
MRS	<p>CTC - The Children's Tabligh Committee was formed in April 2017 and since then has held a steady stream of events throughout the year.</p> <p>The aim of this committee was to streamline the children's events taking place at KSIMC Birmingham and have one central committee that oversees these.</p> <p>As a result, the CTC has produced events such as Imam e Zamana (as) Day, the Children's Majlis and also the Children's Milad. Sheikh has been a key part of these events.</p>
MRS	<p>Reverts Support Group - Over the last year the Reverts Support Group has welcomed new members to the group and integrated them into the community.</p> <p>The group members have engaged and participated in many activities within our mosque as well as with the wider community with various projects. They appreciate the help and support they have received.</p>

	A key message from them is that "We look forward to a time when Muslim reverts might be fully accepted in the community Insha'Allah". The community needs to reflect on this so that we are more welcoming.
BH	Queried as to how many hours our children spend in Madrasah per week.
GD	3 hours
BH	Noted context regarding the hours spent in school per week (40) as compared to Madrasah and what were our expectations from the children. Has spoken to youths both at our mosque and those at AMI. It was felt that the youths learn more regarding our religion at AMI and should be encouraged to join AMI and then help in our Madrasah.
Gulamabbas Khaki (GK)	Sunday Madrasah should be looked in to and members should be given priority for admissions rather than send them to Saturday Madrasah. Many children are on the waiting list for four to five years.
Rizwan Hameer (RH)	Addressed GD & MRS – Regarding the building project, requested to keep affairs in perspective in relation to the money spent (to concentrate more on the activities carried out rather than the building itself). Over the next fifty years, £500 a day was estimated to run the centre, how much was spent on the activities? Congratulated the current EC on having Sheikh Nuru as he is considered to be one of the most outstanding speakers in the world currently – this is a widely held belief. Requested for all efforts to be made to try and have Sheikh Nuru with us for longer. In the event where this may not be possible, then a succession plan should be in place to then have someone of equal calibre to replace him.
Haji Harji (HH)	Appreciated NP's comments regarding the need for a Shia school, but requested GD to prioritize the building of the masjid first.
ID	Regarding Madrasah and adoption of MCE syllabus. The understanding was that Saturday Madrasah is a division of the main Madrasah and therefore they must operate under the same syllabus etc. The free school was mentioned, but it was spoken of in terms of the spiritual side of it. In relation to Madrasah, ID requested that we need to be mindful of other users when using the room. He had received complaints that tables had paint on them in the lab room. Asked for this to be looked in to.
GD	Office to liase with Madrasah regarding this.
Nazir Rumani (NR)	Whilst noting the Madrasah (Baquir) accounts, it showed the fees had increased. Was this reflecting an increase in the number of Madrasah children?
GD	Numbers remain the same. When accounts were presented in 2016, figures were down by 5K; in 2017, figures were up by 10K which was inclusive of the 5K from 2016.

	Hence, Madrasah fee was actually 19K, but shows a higher figure of 24K.
GD	<u>Department of Operational Excellence.</u> TJ and Sajeda Canani- Sajan (SCS) requested to present.
TJ	<p>This department ensures the effective running of all our Programmes and day-to-day services. There are various Jamaat services and subcommittees that fall under this department.</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burial committee Director of Programmes Health and Safety IT Ladies Safai Majlis committee Secretariat Treasury Volunteers Zareeh committee <p>EC Leads: Tawfiq Jivraj (Head), Mehboob Punjani, Mumtaz Ismail, Riaz Ladak, Sajeda Canani-Sajan, Shenaz Najafi</p> <p>TJ Thanked Allah (SWT) for the opportunity to serve the community as SG and as head of Operational Excellence.</p> <p>Gave vote of thanks to the following for their assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shabnum Hudda Zehra bai Premji Fatima Mussadiq Raza (New recruit) Sajjad Pradhan (Mukhi) Ali Railey (DOP) Murtaza bhai (Caretaker) <p>Regarding the office, an office manager and administrator is now in place.</p> <p>TJ apologized to the community for any shortcomings and opened the floor for queries/questions regarding operational excellence.</p>
ID	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Health & Safety - To increase the regular patrols of building in terms of H&S- specially around the SZ Building where the nursery, madrasah and schools are operating. 2- Boilers and fire extinguishers to be checked regularly. 3- IT- We had a recent malware attack that disabled all our systems. Muhammad Mawji (MM) was able to retrieve some of those documents but it has posed a strain over our departments. Recovering and recreating some of the documents will be a costly exercise. Were there sufficient protections in place? 4- Regular maintenance and cleaning of our sites required. 5- Car park – Although we are looking to build on this site, however, there is a need to spend money and fix the pot holes. For the sake of 5-10k saving, we are risking H&S of our people.
Ali Mehdi Moti (AMM)	Regarding the program timings. Certain weeks in the year namaz times are quite different and so the program is quite delayed. It is

	not actually the duration of the program which is long. It is actually the maghrib time which changes through the year.
Hasnain Panjwani (HP)	Suggestion for the new committee: To have 8 strands within the Jamaat and if we could have 8 events in the year and discuss the ideas and engage and move forward, it would be more beneficial rather than discussing these at an AGM.
JK	Queried regarding emails sent to the Secretary of the Jamaat, who does it go to? Whoever reads it, it was their duty to reply to it. He had written some letters twice to the Secretary with no response at all.
Nawshad Kanani (NK)	Looking at the statistics, it was noted that there had been 7 divorces in the year. These were concerning statistics. Queried as to what was being done in order to alleviate these divorces?
TJ	<p>With regards to H & S, a significant report was completed working with H & S officer Haji Premji and Sajeda Canani-Sajan (SCS) and it was submitted to the EC. There were a number of issues pertaining to this and these were also brought up at the last AGM also by members of the community.</p> <p>Significant work had been done to try and alleviate some challenges that were faced.</p> <p>The usage of the premises of this community is very high, and the community relied on volunteers who are hard to come by, resulting in everything left on the office bearers (OBs) to action.</p> <p>It was noted that some people had put their names forward for this; however, H & S is the responsibility of every member of this community and not just the OBs.</p> <p>TJ Requested that all those who are passionate about this aspect to come forward and work together.</p> <p>With regards to IT malware we had a significant virus hit our servers. There is at present a good anti-virus hardware in place, however this virus penetrated our systems and it was caught 3 days later. Informed that efforts are currently being made to try and recover what was lost. Mohammed Mawji (MM) had recovered everything for us.</p> <p>We are moving to a new and secure server soon and will restore all the docs there.</p> <p>If there were any specific documents required as urgent, members were advised to contact secretariat who would then do their best to recover these.</p>
ID	Queried timescale for migration. Put himself forward for H & S for SZ building.
TJ	<p>Would confer with the IT team on this and revert. Office to note that ID has volunteered to help.</p> <p>With regards to program timings, he agreed with AMM to try to limit it to 1.5 hrs. Noted that namaz times change between March and May and this is a challenge.</p> <p>Informed that efforts were being made to limit the number of speeches & announcements. However, it was noted that majority of the people who want to speak want to do it at a major programme due to attendance.</p>

TJ	<p>Appreciated the 8 strands idea and hoped that it would be taken up as an action point for the incoming EC.</p> <p>However, the commitment has to come from the general and the EC cannot be the sole driver of this idea. It was the collective responsibility of the community to assist.</p>
TJ	<p>Regarding emails, he informed that secretariat emails are seen by the office staff and the SG and DSG have access to those emails.</p> <p>It is the duty of the office staff to respond.</p> <p>Apologized for the lack of response as secretariat was facing office staffing issues. However, as staff levels have increased now, this issue would be eliminated.</p> <p>It was also noted that all emails though could not be responded to on the same day as 50-70 emails are received in a day.</p> <p>With regards to the divorce statistics he agreed that it was high. Sheikh Nuru and Me2We team work significantly hard to try and come and help couples who are going through difficult times.</p>
Husna Khimji (HK)	<p>Informed that the figures stated included those of non-members too.</p> <p>Other issue was that these cases were signposted to them when it was already too late to save these marriages.</p> <p>Requested all members to be caring/vigilant and if they became aware of any such marriages which required help, then they should be signposted to the committee.</p> <p>The committee has professionals who would be able to assist.</p> <p>In the last 2 months, 3 marriages had been saved.</p>
NP	<p>Stated that it was important as a community to deal with issues at the right time.</p> <p>In the last 5 years, it had been an evolutionary process and the committee had been able to save a lot of marriages with Sheikh's guidance and help from the professionals.</p> <p>There were also couples who presented themselves to the committee where they had decided that they wanted to go through with the Islamic talaq. This was a challenge.</p> <p>This committee was already in place. It was up to us as a community to empower ourselves and signpost couples who are going through difficult times.</p> <p>Confidentiality and data protection was in place. Informed that yesterday there was a ground-breaking event in the community where boys and girls of marriageable age attended an event to search for their prospective future spouse under the guidance of Sheikh Nuru and Syed Naqvi.</p> <p>The committee facilitated a most challenging and extraordinary event that no other Jamaat had undertaken due to its nature which could be considered as taboo.</p> <p>Over a hundred participants registered and feedback received was excellent.</p>
BH	<p>Point on IT - Queried if there was a backup for these files.</p>

MI	ID raised the query regarding carpet cleaning. Informed that this had been done twice by him at TJ's request. He & ML volunteer to have the carpet cleaned once a year.
GD & TJ	Added further to NP's account regarding the event held yesterday. Noted that it was the first time that an event of this nature had been organized by a Khoja jamaat. Furthermore, it was an oversubscribed event and not all applicants could be accommodated. Thanked the Me2WE committee and the spiritual guides for their collective efforts. TJ noted that both the Matchmaking and Me2WE committees worked very hard to organize/facilitate this event.
MB	Queried if it was confined to people from Birmingham.
TJ	Initially it was started with Birmingham Jamaat alone and was then extended to other Shia centres in Birmingham. Following that, it was extended to all Khoja Jamaats in the UK. There were over 130 registrations, but only 100 could be accommodated; 30 were on the waiting list. Good feedback had been received yesterday including from parents as well. Informed that a mother had presented herself who came from a very remote area and she had 2 daughters. The daughters themselves had gone away with potential matches and their feedback was very positive.
Minhal Master (MIM)	He contacted the EC with regards to this event and received a reply which was not what he had expected. Queried as to why the event was limited to people with British passport only. Felt that this was alienating a lot of people in our community and was not happy with this.
TJ	This was an aspect that could be looked in to for the future to make the event more encompassing to all nationalities without creating any unwanted issues. However, the reason why this was done was to protect the charity itself from any unwanted issues with the Home Office. Informed that the event was open to anybody with ILR, EU or UK citizenship.
TJ	Burial committee Report Correction to the report. Although 16 deaths had occurred, total number of graves utilized was 11 as only 11 out of the 16 who passed away were members.
GD	Requested QS to conduct the next section of the meeting. To announce the incoming President, to be followed with the other election portfolios. After that, to resume with the department reports.
<u>Presidential Elections Results + EC & CT Positions Nominations</u>	
QS	Voting was stopped at 2.30pm today. 300 votes cast with only 1 spoilt ballot noted. Gulamraza Datoo – 182 votes Abid Bata – 117 votes

	<p>Votes were verified by 2 individuals from within his (QS) team and 1 observer each from both candidates' teams.</p> <p>Regarding the spoilt ballot paper, comment written on the ballot paper was noted to be "none of the above".</p> <p>QS suggested that we could have a debate on this as to whether there should be a third option on the ballot paper to reflect the same if it was what the general wanted and give us better candidates.</p>
<p>GD</p>	<p>Requested Abid Bata to come in the front for the results and then addressed the general:</p> <p>"My elders, brothers and sisters. Salaamun Alaykum WRWB.</p> <p>First of all, I would like to thank Allah SWT for giving me this opportunity again to serve him and the Imam (AJTF) of our time. I pray to Him to give me the strength and patience to help take this community forward. You must have noticed that being a volunteer or a president of Jamaat takes away a lot of your family time. Once again, I am grateful to my mother, my wife Fatema and my children for their blessings to allow me to stand again, without whom it would not have been possible.</p> <p>I have made a team of males and females of various ages to give them a chance to serve the community. I still need your support, feedback and Duas to continue working for the next two years".</p>
<p>QS</p>	<p><u>Positions for Elections</u></p> <p>Proposed to take all the nominations once so that we could go to the ballot once.</p> <p><u>Nominations for Vice President</u></p> <p>1. Abid Bata Proposer Muslim Dharamshi Seconder Muslim Khoja</p> <p>2. Mohamed Riyaz Sachedina Proposer Rizwan Hameer Seconder Tawfiq Jivraj</p> <p>Abid Bata did not accept nomination. No show of hands for any further nomination. By virtue of only one nomination that was accepted, declared Mohamed Riyaz Sachedina as Vice President for the term 2018 - 2020.</p> <p>As the Secretary General is nominated by the president. GD has asked Ismat Ramji who has agreed to take up this position for the next two years.</p> <p><u>Nominations for Deputy Secretary General</u></p> <p>1. Hasnain Bandali Proposer Gulamabbas Peera Seconder Mehboob Kassam</p> <p>2. Tawfiq Jivraj Proposer Murtaza Ibrahim Seconder Dr. Hadi</p> <p>Tawfiq Jivraj did not accept nomination. No show of hands for any further nomination.</p>

	<p>By virtue of only one nomination that was accepted, declared Hasnain Bandali as DSG for the term 2018 - 2020</p> <p><u>Nominations for Head of finance</u></p> <p>1. Haider Hudda Proposer Rizwan Alidina Secunder Nasir Hussain</p> <p>2. Nawshad Kanani Proposer Baqir Hemraj Secunder Haji Premji</p>
MB	<p>Had a concern and requested clarification for the following: Would there not be a conflict of interest as the Office Manager is Shabnum Hudda, the wife of Haider Hudda who is nominated to be the Head of Finance (HOF). HOF is directly related to the Office Manager. Would this pose an issue?</p>
QS	<p>From a constitutional perspective, there are by laws that can be made by EC themselves. There is nothing wrong in this position. He was inclined to declare Haider Hudda as HOF.</p>
GD	<p>Thanked MB for his comment. Stated that conflict of interest arises every day, even now between MB and himself as his uncle as they work together.</p> <p>As Trustees of Jamaat, they have all signed conflict of interest declarations and HH would need to sign the same should he be elected.</p> <p>When a decision comes, for example for wage increment, Haider Hudda (HH) will not be able to participate in those discussions; in that, he will not be able to vote on them.</p> <p>All decisions come to president or the EC and not just HH himself. The EC collectively makes all the decisions.</p>
QS	<p>Nawshad Kanani did not accept nomination. No show of hands for any further nomination. By virtue of only one nomination that was accepted, declared Haider Hudda as HOF for the term 2018 - 2020.</p> <p><u>Nominations for Treasurer</u></p> <p>1. Mohamed Arif Railey Proposer Nawshad Kanani Secunder Mehboob Punjani & Haji Premji</p> <p>No show of hands for any further nomination. By virtue of only one nomination that was accepted, he declared Mohamed Arif Railey as Treasurer for the term 2018 - 2020.</p> <p><u>Nominations for Head of Education Board</u></p> <p>1. Shamim Zaidi Proposer Dr Hadi Secunder Gulamraza Datoo</p> <p>No show of hands for any further nomination. By virtue of only one nomination that was accepted, he declared Shamim Zaidi as HOEB for the term 2018 - 2020.</p> <p><u>EC Nominations (All Proposed and seconded)</u></p> <p>1. Mohammed Kassamali</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Fatema Damji 3. Rizwan Alidina 4. Shabbir Hirji 5. Tausif Bhanji 6. Ali Mehdi Moti 7. Abbas Esmail
MB	Addressed the Electoral Commissioner. Wanted assurance and confirmation that written consent was received from the two persons (Mohammad Kassamali & Fatema Damji) who were not present either by way of text or written consent.
QS	Stated that he had a paper copy of the letter of consent from Mohammad Kassamali and a text message from Fatema Damji.
MB	Queried if text messages were normally accepted.
QS	Confirmed it was acceptable. Also stated that there was no method of communication stipulated in the Constitution, it would then fall to his discretion (as Electoral Commissioner) to use a means which he could provide to a third party.
Shahida Dharamshi (SD)	Stated that with reference to the letter of Imam Ali (AS) to Malik e Ashtar, Imam (as) advised that any kind of decisions should be taken from elders also. These were all young people. Asked some elders also to stand like Muslim Fazel and ANK.
QS	<p>Agreed that Shahida bai's comment was valid. Stated that the nomination was opened to all.</p> <p>Asked if there were any further nominations based on that intervention?</p> <p>No further nominations for EC</p>
QS	<p><u>Nominations for Custodian Trustees (All Proposed and seconded)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mussadiq Master 2. Asghar Hemraj 3. Mehboob Hassam 4. Mustafa Sumar 5. Mushtaq Ismail 6. Rizvan Ramji 7. Haji Premji
<p>No further nominations.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned for voting 4.15pm</p> <p>Meeting recommenced 4.50 pm (Ballot was still open)</p>	
GD	<p><u>Department of Finance & Investments</u></p> <p>There are two subcommittees under this department: Abbasi Islamic Centre Asset Management and Expansion</p> <p>EC Leads: Gulamraza Dato (Head) Mehboob Punjani Riaz Ladak Shaheed Fazal Tawfiq Jivraj</p>
SF	Abbasi Islamic Centre (AIC)

A lot had been discussed about AIC and he was pleased to note that today it included other matters apart from the BC. Reference was made to the comments made earlier that what we put inside the building was also very important.

With the results of the election concluded, he hoped that those endeavours could be focussed upon too.

Since last year good progress has been made with the AIC, although there had been complications such as the multipurpose hall and the phases being switched around.

The design sub team had been doing a lot of work including many consultations which have led to the change in layouts.

For example, to clarify the window in the kitchen. When Sajjad Gulamhusein (SG) consulted with the Kitchen Committee and looked at their requirements, the architects then reviewed and allowed for a window.

Feedback was taken from everybody and was inclusive of the community, if they had a good point of view and was expressed in a constructive manner.

Stated that they were now focusing on the details of the building such as wall colours, carpets etc. Requested anyone interested to give feedback or assistance to contact Sajjad Gulamhusein (SG).

They are almost at the final design stage and finalizing details of the design and will be going out to tender very soon.

Due to the size of the project, they will be looking at a six weeks' tender period for contractors to analyse and understand our requirements and then a further six weeks for them in order to analyse the results and negotiate further with the contractors

SF stated that as a community, we must pull together to raise the funds needed. When we approach donors the first thing, they ask us is how our local fundraising is progressing.

It was good that standing orders had grown by about 200% in the last three to four months, but we are nowhere near yet.

Requested all those who had not signed a standing order yet, to get a form or to go to abbasi.org.uk and donate whatever amount was possible.

Requested all to be mindful of the language we use and show unity towards the project.

2 million dollars was pledged from Africa when GD went there.

There was international support. People worldwide are tremendously supportive of the project. And to cap it off, ours is the only major project at the moment which is beneficial.

Stanmore is delisting their building, so they can do construction and they move quite fast. Anyone interested in joining the local fundraising team was requested to contact the team; Rizvan Ramjee was the lead.

SF then proceeded to provide clarification/context with regards to some of the comments made recently, especially at the hustings.

First, regarding the gathering at Lahori. The team had gone to the EXCO at Stanmore. As soon as they got there, Dr Akbar approached them and stated that Mohammed Jaffer and Sajjad Rashid wanted to attend and mediate between the well-wishers and the committee.

People who then attended were the Office bearers of WF, CoEJ and Africa Federation.

SF informed that it was an informal meeting. The way that WF, CoEJ and AF make their decisions is via their counsel. They said the project that we have ijaza for, is the project that is currently on the table and so by implication they were saying that if we make any significant changes to the project and we wished to obtain an Ijaza from the WF, then we would need to go through their capital gains projects process.

For this process, we had to submit a 138-page project plan subject to extreme scrutiny all of which SF had mentioned before. Nevertheless, we complied with the process.

For the outcome of the meeting, there had been a lot of interpretations circulated. The main one was that we should continue with our eight million pounds' project and continue to look for a larger piece of land. It seemed to some people that there was a dichotomy between these two statements.

SF stated that on scrutinizing that meeting, the people who attended were very smart, high profile people from all over the world. If they have advised us to continue, then it was obvious that staying at Clifton Road is not a temporary option.

Secondly, as clarified by Dr Akbar's speech at the khushali where he said that as a Jamaat, we should be considering where we will be staying in the longterm.

As a community, we should be thinking about the socio-economic environment in the country and what our longterm aspirations are. Examples such as housing and school had been mentioned. Hence, we had to chart out a course for that.

SF stated that at present, the state of our centre is dire where at peak times we are struggling for space. The state of the kitchen during a big niyaz, moving around inside the kitchen for the volunteers was very difficult. Our ghusl area is very small and generally there is a lack of facilities for the disabled.

As the community had been consulted, we have found that our interpretation of the need of facilities as a committee varied with how much actually was required.

For example, in the referendum, the ghusl khana was noted to be as part of the Imambara facilities. Later, volunteers who gave ghusl were consulted, following which we carried out a physical exercise with the trolley, string and mapped each room based on their feedback. As a result, we realized that probably the ghusl khana needed to be as big as the front space of the gents' hall. Hence this would need to be separate to the main Imambara.

SF noted that we have a great community with diverse needs. And so, we need to be cognisant of this and realise that we needed to take action.

To use just some parts of the Lahori discussion and mention what four peoples' own viewpoints were, was not right. The outcome was to continue and get it done but monetary support from the community was essential.

SF stated that they as a committee had not forcefully asked people to give money. It was inaccurate to say that we cannot afford it. There are plenty of wealthy people in this community, many of whom are already supporting the project and further support from other wealthy donors would be greatly appreciated.

When they met with Sheikh Nuru last week, he made a very valid point and said whether you do something here or anywhere else, there would always be a challenge in God's work; we need to check our sincerity and strength and to overcome the challenges.

SF informed that there was no need to go back to the drawing board as we needed action now at this opportunity. Our planning permission is valid for three years only with the expiration in February 2019. Hence, action was required otherwise all efforts made so far will be of no avail.

Another aspect that was being mentioned was about the costs and whether professional fee had been included. It had always been included from the start. The documentations produced included various elements in the cost plan; such as build costs, overheads and preliminaries, professional fees (covers architects, structural engineers, electrical and mechanical engineer, planning consultant, transport consultant etc).

Inflation was a key point. SF noted that years ago, costs were low due to the scope of facilities being small but also due to inflation. The construction industry was impacted by global prices of steel, availability of labour and now majority of the contractors are busy with the HS2 in Birmingham.

A geotechnical survey was required with Prospect Place. Our structural engineer went out to tender and he was informed that people were very busy with HS2. The construction activity in Birmingham was currently high and this then also was a factor in play.

Inflation is a factor that is included in construction cost. There are figures available and on hand such as RPI and CPI for inflation. The government keeps shifting the definition of inflation to make it appear lower than what it actually was.

(Ballot closed at 17.11pm)

Another point that had been raised was the need for building a masjid. As a committee they were emphatically clear on why they are building a masjid.

It is to seat more people comfortably. As a community which was growing, this aspect needed to be addressed.

It was important to bear in mind that the number of people attending the major eleven occasions in a year was more than 700 people. 1100 - 1200 people attend in Ashura or Ramadhan. Calculations had been done based on fateha counts from the Jamaat office.

SF stated that by adding the extra level to the sports hall had been beneficial for Madrasah. Sometimes, it was better to have smaller facilities that are used more; it would be prudent to not overbuild.

	<p>In the planning permission submitted, there is a provision to build a third story. But this will not be actioned at the moment as the masjid is planned in a way to accommodate the overflow.</p> <p>The new masjid will accommodate 250 people instead of just 88 people. Moreover, ladies should have a dedicated area in the masjid rather than just a partitioned area.</p> <p>The ethos of daily prayers needed to be encouraged. We can cater for increased attendance by having a larger masjid as at times, we need to recite Dua Tawassul in the Imambara and perhaps this could be held in the new masjid.</p> <p>The floor was then opened for questions.</p>
<p>Abid Bata (AB)</p>	<p>Stated that the relevant details for him was the decision made. The key words being "once you find the land, you can dispose this by selling it at a higher price". It was there and recorded.</p> <p>Secondly, it was mentioned that "this is a site which for the longterm projection, you may need another site somewhere; hence buy a land". It was not mentioned to use it for car park.</p> <p>AB informed that one of the people said that "I am shocked that in Birmingham the situation is reversed that it is the older generation who want to move out and younger people who want to stay in". Had there been a misrepresentation of what had been said?</p> <p>They said "for you to be able to build here, it will cost you 8 million, there is nothing more you can do here than that". Based on information provided, they said to go for 8 million as prices were going high, we could then sell the land for a higher price. They mentioned that Salam centre in London had already spent 9 million and had then run out of money; but because of high prices they can achieve 11 million by selling it.</p> <p>Costing for the caretaker's flat was £300,000 Costing for the ghusl kafan was £500,000. This was changed to £500,000 for both later.</p> <p>A question was raised if something could be done with the Imambara. It was suggested that all in Birmingham could collectively see what could be done to decrease costs as we would be disposing it anyway.</p> <p>With regards to population projections, it was about standard amount of space. The legitimate sitting space for an 8 million project is 1150.</p> <p>At the moment normal sitting is 500 people in both halls. In the new project which is £8 million plus, altogether it will be 1400. This was an issue. WF have advised for all of us to work together and make it cheaper if possible. AB said that the word 'interim' was used for this project and that 100% information had not been made available to the community.</p> <p>Question 1: Why is the interpretation one sided? Why are we misrepresenting what they said?</p> <p>Question 2: Design – As late as 2018 January, AB had identified that the kitchen was too small. How was the design excellent when it took him to identify this?</p>

	<p>Assurances had been given that the design on this project was perfect.</p> <p>It is an atrocious project. For example, the building that is proposed now, would mean that the whole of SZ will be closed off by the new Imambara. No consultation has taken place with the community. A consultation had been promised by the team.</p>
MI	<p>Queried if the BC had been given the go ahead in the last AGM and if yes, then why was this still being discussed.</p> <p>MI raised a few queries.</p> <p>The name Abbasi reflected the Abbasids in Urdu. Queried as to how the name was brought forth and why no consultation had taken place at any point with regards to the change in name of the Imambara.</p> <p>Secondly, when the project goes ahead, would there be a chance to have an Alam put outside as this was also part of the identity of a Shia Imambara; Stanmore has also done this.</p>
Shiraz Alloo (SA)	<p>Questioned SF whether any consultations had been done with our senior citizens regarding their requirements and also with the disabled members of the community. He also queried whether a disability specialist had been engaged to look at our requirements for the project.</p>
SF	<p>Regarding the outcome of the Lahori gathering and AB's feeling that the committee had omitted some part of the conversation, SF had sent the CoEJ president the factsheet, checked with OB from WF and shared with them and they have verified this to be a true representation of what was said.</p> <p>SF thought that some of the statements that were made that AB alluded to were made by certain councilors notably the ones from Mombasa as they had experience of refurbishing their facilities into something else.</p> <p>SF disagreed and he had documented proof of what they have stated, and this was also reflected in the speech he gave on Wiladat.</p>
AB	<p>Stated that the audio he had mentioned/referred, was to complete the project and when land is sourced, to then dispose this project. The project was temporary.</p>
GD	<p>The word temporary was not used. Interim was used which means medium term.</p>
MRS	<p>Informed that this was a gathering of a few people who came to unite a few people. Various things were said during the course of the meeting. It was a gathering. Based on their viewpoint, recommendations were made.</p> <p>Anything formal as a decision was not part of that. As far as they were concerned, they have confirmed that currently and according to them, it is this project which is on the table for capital project.</p>
MM	<p>Queried if a summary could be obtained from WF & COEJ for that meeting.</p>
NK	<p>Queried with due respect to the EC, well-wishers & WF as to why this meeting was held at Lahori and why were members not involved in this meeting.</p>

Zulfiqar Khimji (ZK)	Suggested to have the project here and also purchase all the land next door.
GD	Thanked ZK and informed that negotiations with the council for another piece of land was already in progress.
RH	Noted that although WF & COEJ may have the experience and finances, they did not live here; hence, it was up to us to decide as to where to have a centre, and this had already been decided.
MB	<p>Did not agree with RH. He thought that this was the time to discuss, irrespective of how long it would take and if need be, have a further meeting if time was an issue.</p> <p>MB added further that if we had other pieces of land, then we should purchase these and make it part of this project if we did not want to move.</p>
GD	<p>Reminded MB with due respect that various AGMs and EGMs had been held to discuss this issue.</p> <p>It was time to move forward and we cannot go back to the drawing board each time. There was a need for constructive suggestions.</p> <p>When the meeting was held with MB, GD stated that MB walked away. If a discussion was required, then there was no need to walk away from the meetings.</p>
MB	<p>Queried as to why SF had the need to elaborate on the Lahori meeting which he brought up. He suggested to get the audio recording and then circulate it. The meeting was primarily to see how reconciliation could be achieved.</p> <p>MB admitted that he walked away and it was a mistake on his part because the initial reaction after receiving the terms of references, it was felt that it was a completely dictatorial approach from SF's side and what was followed by in writing made them feel that they should withdraw. However, MB conceded that they should not have withdrawn from the negotiations.</p> <p>The Lahori meeting clearly said to carry on with project and simultaneously to find a piece of land. AB said it was an interim project and Akbar bhai repeatedly said that when Birmingham Jamaat is ready to dispose this off, it would get more money.</p> <p>This was also confirmed by Sheikh Nuru at the meeting in the Jamaat office. SF said purchase of land; Sheikh Nuru advised it has to be done simultaneously.</p> <p>SF said that the mosque was being built not just for Jumma prayers but also for sitting facility. MB stated that if the mosque is being built, then it should cater for those who attend for prayers and not for those who come and sit.</p> <p>Currently, it was used as an overspill or youngsters used it as a nursery room. MB queried as to why we wanted to make the same mistake.</p> <p>Would it be justifiable to utilize this space as a nursery or sitting space? It was wrong to do this. For MB, 1.1 million within that 4 million was considered as ashraaf (waste) for this.</p> <p>He did not mind to report this matter to Ayatullah Sistani if this is what was required.</p>

	<p>Since the beginning, the mosque had always been the problem. Because we cannot dispose it off. this problem was further aggravated by expanding.</p> <p>The facilities targeted for expansion in our current place will cater for 1150 people, but the population in Birmingham exceeds 2500. So, 8.4 million pounds will be spent which will not even provide facilities for the existing population.</p> <p>MB queried as to why we could not build something big at the current site here rather than accommodate in patches.</p> <p>Thus, the well-wishers were saying we move to bigger and better pastures where there was enough space to build everything.</p>
Nasir Hussain (NH)	<p>Stated that he was not present at the meeting, but he understood the delegation that came did not attend in a professional capacity. They had just attended to mediate between the two parties.</p> <p>Queried as to why everyone was so hung on that and using that as a decision making tool.</p>
SF	<p>Stated that the last point made was very apt. He further stated that this whole meeting was being turned into something which could cause further divisions and this was not their objective.</p> <p>SF agreed that simultaneously land was to be bought and it was always said. This was even said when they met with Sheikh Nuru.</p> <p>The action points agreed for the purchase of the land were to set up a formal process whereby a mandate is given by the EC. A taskforce was set up with its own terms of reference but no further action was taken.</p> <p>SF further added with regards to the longterm plan to spend 8.4 million here and asked all to think logically. Would we as a community want to build another centre quickly after that?</p>
SF	<p>Stated that when the Prophet came to Medina, his masjid was more than what we had; it was a beacon that was there to transform society.</p> <p>SF urged all to think on this basis. Balsall Heath is our home and every effort should be made to try and transform it.</p> <p>SF queried as to why we have not managed to convert the local area to the path of Ahlulbayt. If converted, then he would advocate gifting it to them.</p> <p>These were things which could be discussed at a later stage and that no mistakes should be made going forward. In 25 - 30 years' time should we want to move, then it would be practical to get everyone on board and do a change in the management process. Where an individual lives depends on work, children, school, university, etc. Therefore, moving a community to another place would be a gradual process.</p> <p>This was what WF and CoEJ wanted to say; buy the land and bank it. To buy it, clarification was sought from WF. It was estimated that only 5 – 6 people here would contribute up to 100k, but not more than that. In order to purchase a 5 million piece of land, it was required to go outside and get donations and at the same time, to try and explain our vision. This in itself was required to go through the capital project process.</p>

	<p>For the name Abbasi, SF requested to refer back to the groundbreaking ceremony where it was decided. Mehfil was changed to Centre so that it would be universal, reflecting the type of facilities and it would be relatable to the wider society. However, the name 'Abbasi' would be looked into further.</p> <p>Alam and disability facilities would be clarified by Sajjad Ghulamhusein (SG).</p> <p>When it was still being debated regarding staying versus moving, Clifton Road site was to become a residential retirement home for our members. The mosque would then be needed. In this scenario, expanding the mosque would not be a waste of money.</p> <p>Some analysis had been carried out:</p> <p>2017 figures</p> <p>Number of programs where attendance was between 0-249 people – 34 programs</p> <p>Attendance between 250-499 people – 39 programs</p> <p>Attendance between 500-749 people – 45 programs</p> <p>Attendance between 750 - 999 people - 3 programs</p> <p>Above 1000 people - 11 programs</p> <p>The above figures do support the fact that the Imambara and masjid being planned to be built is therefore enough for these numbers.</p> <p>Would it be viable to build for 2k or 5k or rather have more facilities?</p>
<p>SG</p>	<p>With regards to the Ghul Kafan and caretaker's flat, costs were continuously reviewed by the committee before the presentation was made for the multipurpose hall. The costs had risen and hence changes were made and the community informed accordingly.</p> <p>The committee has appointed a quantity surveyor called Ghulam Nadat who is one of the most experienced in mosque related projects. They made sure our costs were accurate.</p> <p>The Kitchen size currently is 34 m² and the new facility is 105 m². In addition to that there is dry and cold storage of 30 m².</p> <p>With regards to the access to SZ, it is not independent; it is via the Imambara; this is to provide some sort of security to nursery and the Madrasah children.</p> <p>Regarding the Alam. This was a good point and he will speak to the professionals and try to incorporate that.</p> <p>With regards to consultations, meetings had been held with the seniors and presentations were made. The feedback received was discussed and taken on board. Further consultations were also going to be arranged.</p>
<p>SA</p>	<p>Stated that everybody should be accounted for in the community. At present, he felt excluded; he cannot attend mosque as he felt that there were no facilities currently available. Advised for a disability specialist to be taken on board.</p>
<p>SF</p>	<p>Informed that the team has been divided in to sections with each having their own responsibilities. SG is head of design and is noting those queries related.</p>

SA	Stated that those who were hard of hearing should also be looked at.
SF	Informed that they were making provision for this.
SG	Informed that there is now a special needs committee who look at all the requirements, being those for disabled, special, blind and autistics persons. The team came back with a long list which he had passed to the architects who are being very mindful of the demographics of the people who attend. (SG read out the architect's email regarding incorporating special needs)
NP	Suggested to rename the project as either Abbas Islamic Centre or Al-Abbas Islamic Centre.
SD	Stated that the population of the Jamaat is more than what was being built for. Queried that as our population is growing, how many years could we actually use the Centre for before we needed a bigger place? If we buy a bigger place now, would it not be cheaper to move later?
Abbas Esmail (AE)	Asked for clarification as to whether it was correct to assume that the meeting held with WF was not a binding one.
GD	Stated it was just a suggestion.
AE	Made reference to the comment made by MB that he would go to Ayatullah Sistani. AE stated that there already was a member who had gone to council, and hence this comment was not acceptable. Comments such as these were not appreciated.
MI	Queried as to how much the ghusl kafan cost was and if there was a fridge/freezer facility available.
SG	The ghusl kafan and 3-bedroom caretaker's flat is £500,000 and has a fridge/freezer enough for 4 bodies.
RL	Requested clarification; if it would take six weeks for tender to come back and a further six weeks to analyze, when would we be ready for tendering? If the mosque and Imambara are going to be built together, it could be sold to Muslims only. Flats cannot be made. Clarification on this matter would be required from Agha as a mosque cannot be broken down.
Muslim Dharamshi (MD)	When planning permission was applied for, there was a letter from West Midland Special Needs stating that they will provide us with 35 car parking spaces. This letter was then taken to the BCC and planning permission was granted subject to this. This is stated in the 138-page report (copy of which MD had). This letter was given just to get planning permission. Would this not be classed as ghasbi as lies were told?
ID	With regards to the building layout with respect to the access to the SZ, the current system will be closed and the walk way that leads to the exit will be opened for access to the nursery and will provide them security.

	<p>Whilst it may provide some security, was it taken in to consideration that there are 30 children in nursery,300 children in madrasah and the school with 150 children. Would one exit suffice in the eventuality of a fire?</p> <p>Moreover, on a full capacity of 1150 or 1500, where would the gathering point be if the entrance is near Clifton road pavement?</p> <p>ID queried if there was a possibility of building on the land across the road as it is quite large.</p>
Adam Khimji (AK)	<p>It was good to hear from SF about the Khojaville and the change of management. Part of engaging with the community is that a vision document is set out. The reason the committee's position is independent from the EC also is so that they are not swayed by any political affirmations from who comes into office.</p> <p>Some time ago, a consultation had taken place with Bob the builder; following that our needs may have now changed. It was necessary to now review our vision to see what needs to be achieved in the long-term.</p> <p>AK was aware that a project manager has been put in place, but he suggested a change in the methodology and have someone to lead that and communication to go out to people regularly for all to be kept updated at all times regarding the progress of the project as he felt that there may have been a breakdown in communication.</p> <p>Regarding our vision, this needed to be for twenty to twenty-five years. The vision needs to be agreed collectively to move forward.</p>
Naushad Merali (NM)	<p>The planning permission for the project was received in 2015 and at that point, everyone was happy with the groundbreaking ceremony eminent within two years. Since then, it appeared that the project has been further discussed/objected. It was painful to sit in meetings with these discussions occurring repetitively.</p> <p>At the Lahori meeting, NK stated that Mohamad Jaffer bhai from Mombasa Jamaat said that we have gone very far down the line with our project. We cannot turn back; we must continue and at the same time; find a large (8 acre) piece of land, buy it and keep it as an investment. We can then decide what to do with it at a later stage.</p> <p>This meeting should be kept in context with the aim of moving forwards. NK reminded that the planning permission expires soon.</p>
GD	<p>To continue with the project and if any change, he will revert to the general accordingly.</p>
SF	<p>Answered SD; if the multipurpose hall is built, then it should last us 20-25 years based on population projection presented at referendum.</p> <p>Answered RL; if all went to as planned, work would commence beginning of October so that Muharram can be held here rather than renting and then move on.</p> <p>Answered MD; SF agreed that there was a letter which was submitted as part of the planning application. He had explained this matter on many occasions in the past.</p>

	<p>When a planning application is submitted, there are certain things required to be shown within the remit of the application. At that time, they had spoken to WMSNT who had agreed for this.</p> <p>The condition that the planning department has laid down as to the occupation of the building is not related to having the WMSNT site available. It is related to having sufficient car parking; and if that is the case, then an amendment could be put to the planning permission as part of their normal process to make sure that we are compliant.</p> <p>SF further clarified that our original planning application was for three storeys; we will only be building two storeys. There will not be a need to go external for car parking.</p>
SG	<p>Informed that that the car parking needs would be fulfilled on the prospect place site. All efforts are also being made to ensure that should a multi storey car park be required at a later stage, this could be accommodated.</p> <p>Informed ID regarding the flow of people. In the eventuality of a fire, a fire plan is being developed with the West Midlands Fire Department and the building regulations. The building has been designed so that all the people can safely, quickly and adequately exit the building. Fire assemble points will also be advised by the fire department.</p> <p>Regarding the land across, many consultations had taken place for this and the consensus was that it was not big enough to cater for all the facilities needed for our community.</p> <p>SG informed AK a media and marketing team had been formed recently to ensure the required communication is sent out.</p>
GD	<p>Clarified to RL, there is a communal area in between the Imambara and masjid which can be broken if it was decided to move and sell.</p> <p>Regarding the planning permissions. The WFSNT was in the red line of our planning permission but the requirements clearly specify how many car parking spaces would be needed; there is not stipulation as to how and where these are sourced. WFSNT are not required at the moment. If they have given this letter to us, GD did not see anything wrong with that and suggested to MD to discuss this further offline.</p> <p>(There were some comments made here from Muslim bhai off the mic and therefore could not be documented)</p>
<u>Elections Results for EC and CT Positions</u>	
QS	<p><u>EC Nominations</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mohammed Kassamali – 107 Votes 2. Fatema Damji – 79 Votes 3. Rizwan Alidina – 67 Votes 4. Shabbir Hirji – 43 Votes 5. Tausif Bhanji – 66 Votes 6. Ali Mehdi Moti – 57 Votes 7. Abbas Esmail – 45 votes <p><u>Elected:</u> Mohammed Kassamali, Fatema Damji, Rizwan Alidina, Tausif Bhanji</p> <p><u>Nominations for Custodian Trustees</u></p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mussadiq Master – 96 Votes 2. Asghar Hemraj -51 Votes 3. Mehboob Hassam – 81 Votes 4. Mustafa Sumar – 61 Votes 5. Mushtaq Ismail – 41 Votes 6. Rizvan Ramji – 75 Votes 7. Haji Premji – 58 Votes <p><u>Elected:</u> Mussadiq Master, Mehboob Hassam, Mustafa Sumar, Rizvan Ramji</p>
SA	Queried as to why were the elections pre-empted. It was necessary to listen to the present EC completely and after having presented all reports. Voting could then take place.
QS	<p>Informed that SA had emailed him on Friday with his concerns following which QS called SA on Friday evening where a lengthy discussion took place to reflect the above concerns.</p> <p>QS responded that the reason he was doing this was for maximum participation. When Dr Siwji stood and Naushad Merali stood against him the elections were held perhaps after midnight and by precedence he decided that doing that would mean less participation. On the flip side of democracy is participation. He also extended it by 15 mins. The reason he did not extend it to 6.00pm is that he did not foresee a rush of people coming in.</p> <p>Even for CT he did not feel personally that an election was required. As a sensible Jamaat, we should be able to just nominate four people for it.</p> <p>QS had an election to run. And thus, it would become a logistical nightmare to tally numbers if not done in this manner. The vote share has also fallen with time.</p> <p>He had 300 votes casted in the presidential election and now there were 120 for the EC nominations which is less than half.</p> <p>If we would have delayed, then the vote share would have fallen further. On accountability, it would then have been alright but for vote share we would lose out. Both presidential candidates are better served if voters are given time to vote at their convenience. In his opinion, he got maximum people to participate.</p>
<u>Elections for Electoral Commissioner position</u>	
GD	<p>Invited nominations for the post of the Electoral Commissioner.</p> <p><u>Electoral Commissioner Nominations</u></p> <p>Qarrar Somji Proposer Mohammad Kassamali Secunder Imtiaz Dahya</p> <p>Riaz Ladak Proposed Nawshad Kanani Secunder Shabbir Hirji</p> <p>Tawfiq Jivraj Proposer Abbas Esmail Secunder Murtaza Ibrahim</p> <p>No show of hands for any further nomination.</p>

	By virtue of only one nomination that was accepted, he declared Tawfiq Jivraj as Electoral Commissioner for term 2018-2020.
GD	Requested for the accounts presentation to be displayed on the screen.
KSIMC 2017 Accounts (Presented by Gulamraza Dato)	
ID	Asked for detailed accounts to be sent to all as per the old format rather than notes of the accounts.
GD	All full accounts were available. There has been a change in the auditors who came up with this format, but this could be changed.
<u>Accounts Approval</u>	
GD	Proposed Mohseen Meghjee Secunder Mehboob Kassamali & Abbas Esmail
<u>Auditors' Approval</u>	
GD	For this year, auditors noted to be Fairman and Davis. Happy to continue with them for 2018 subject to general approving. Approved by Mohseen Meghjee & Rizwan Alidina Secunder Mehboob Kassamali
ID	Since it is the EC who work with the auditors, the decision of approving auditors should be the EC's with the recommendation then made to the general for the same.
GD	Informed that it was a pleasure dealing with the auditors. They were accommodating and good value for money. By changing to F & D from McIntyre Hudson, the Jamaat has saved 6k
GD	<u>Department of Secular Education</u> This department aims to provide secular education services for members and non-members. It is also an important revenue stream. It aims to ensure advancement of secular education for the community, identifying and addressing any gaps. The subcommittees under this department include: ME School and Muhammadi Nursery EC Leads: Shamim Zaidi (Head), Gulamraza Dato, Tawfiq Jivraj Improvement in figures had been noted. Shamim bhai and his team had done well.
ID	Regarding the profitability and sustainability of ME school as a tuition Centre, there was some confusion where some individuals were asking questions regarding this 44K figure. That 44K figure is actually associated to the operating cost of the whole of SZ building and not just the running of the ME school. There is Jamaat usage, Nursery, Madrasah and school. If this figure was apportioned, the reflective cost for the school itself was in the region of 8-11K. The school on average year on year has been making a net profit of 25K. Since accounts have been kept at school for the last 19 years, the contribution from the school to Jamaat in terms of income is about 480K altogether.
GD	Concurred the above and that the figures had improved.
GD	<u>Department for Social Responsibility</u>

	<p>The aim of this department is to discharge the social responsibility of the Organization, which includes well-being of our neighbors and the wider Community, as well as responsibility to the environment. It includes networking with other organizations, and politicians to achieve these goals.</p> <p>The subcommittees under this department include: Interfaith and CSR</p> <p>EC Leads: Hasanain Jaffer (Head), Kazim Sajan, Riaz Ladak</p> <p>This team does a lot of external work. We are part of Citizens UK as well. This includes the interfaith and sustainability. The ladies and youth of the community are participating and delivering this project and doing a fantastic job.</p> <p>Kazim Sajan was invited to speak.</p>
Kazim Sajan (KS)	<p>Informed that Hasanain Jaffer who was the EC lead for this department had asked him to read a few points in his absence.</p> <p>The department of social responsibility has responsibility of the community towards the rest of society to build bridges with other communities and organizations. To enable the mosque to be a beacon of light within Birmingham.</p> <p>There is the CMI (Clifton Muslim Interfaith) and CSR (Committee for Social Responsibility) under this department.</p> <p>The CMI team have been very busy in the last two years putting on a number of events and building relationships with other mosques and organisations. Their highlights are the visit my mosque day where 300 people attended, roses for peace event where a few thousand roses were given out in the town centre, a few of the team went to Geneva Intrafaith trip, 150 people attended a midnight mass at the local St Mary's church and finally the street iftar where about 2000 people attended.</p> <p>The CSR focus on making the mosque more sustainable to care for the environment. They are focusing on initiatives to go green with biodegradable cutlery, they are involved in citizens UK. Our mosque was even nominated for being mosque of the year for being such a responsible and socially active organization. We also represented in the commonwealth assembly where thousands of people gathered not so long ago.</p> <p>Hasanain Jaffer – EC lead was nominated and awarded as the most inspirational young activist of the year. Finally, the refugee resettlement project is looking at sponsoring and resettling a refugee family.</p>
MRS	<p>Highlighted this particular area of the community. The intent had always been there to engage with other communities. The team that is doing the work in this space have done phenomenal work on this.</p> <p>People now know who KSIMC of Birmingham is. MRS encouraged others who are interested to get involved. It promotes integration which was necessary.</p>
Dr Hadi	<p>Thanked KS for the report. Requested the incoming EC and in particular to the President, VP and SG that he would like to see more engagement with other organizations.</p>

	In the last few months, interfaith had faced some difficulties in running events due to the lack of financial support. He asked for this to be improved.
GD	Thanked Dr Hadi and informed that they have always been supportive of all our sub committees and as a Jamaat have sponsored where needed.
KS	One of the other fantastic initiatives of CSR is that they have opened the Food bank at prospect place. They receive approximately 100 plus people every week. They serve people in need and the homeless. Many Thanks to the WhoisHussain and the CRFB team.
GD	<p><u>Department of Sports and Community Spirit</u></p> <p>The aim of this department is to create a space for members to socialize, which will in turn potentially enhance community spirit.</p> <p>The subcommittees under this department include: AlMahdi Boys Club, Al Zahra Girls Club, Al Najiyaat, Masoomeen, BAYN, Seniors</p> <p>EC Leads: Kazim Sajan (Head), Mahmud Walji, Mumtaz Esmail</p> <p>There has been an increase in the number of activities they do and put in a lot of effort. Kazim would like to say a few words.</p>
KS	<p>The idea was to celebrate the achievements and create a space to socialize and bond with one another whilst discussing pertinent issues.</p> <p>For the seniors, KS informed that Sultan uncle was doing a fantastic job for the mental and physical well-being of the seniors and to uplift them.</p> <p>AMBC and AZGC are doing a fantastic job with more and more events being organized.</p> <p>BAYN has been organizing debates.</p> <p>The two sports clubs along with the cycling clubs are focusing on unity and trying to bring more participation. Many of the Al-Najiyaat team today were at the SMASH IT tournament.</p> <p>The cycling club was recently formed, and they have had a few hundred people taking part. They have also incorporated fundraising.</p> <p>Community spirit still needs a lot of work. Inshallah the future sub-committee can work on this.</p>
MRS	Highlighted on the debates organized by BAYN and felt that these debates had triggered some thought process with the community.
GD	<p><u>Department of Strengthening Families and Support Structure</u></p> <p>They aim to provide an effective platform where members can learn and develop with regards to various challenges they may be experiencing, across all stages of their life.</p> <p>The subcommittees under this department include: Health and Well Being, Match-Making, Me2We, SMUMS, Special Needs</p> <p>EC Leads: Mumtaz Esmail (Head), Rizwan Alidina</p>
Rizwan Alidina (RA)	Recalled the match-making event that was held yesterday and congratulated on their hard work. Another highlight was the change

	<p>in portal where they were keeping all their information. They are also looking for young blood. All interested in joining were encouraged to do so.</p> <p>They have had 14 matches over the last year which is quite an achievement.</p> <p>ME2WE have spoken in their report about early intervention in marriages. They are also looking for young blood. They have saved quite a few marriages during the year.</p> <p>SMUMS run by Salima Merali is a group of mothers who are preparing our children to be soldiers of Imam Mahdi (ajtf). They have had several events including an international social night, Insta pot demo, Muharram Q&A sessions, parenting sessions, buloogh events etc. They would like me to thank the Masters family for organizing the 11+ program to help prepare our kids.</p> <p>SEN has registered more people and is growing. They have contributed to the AIC by providing consultations on special needs.</p> <p>RA thanked all of the above sub-committees for their hard work and wished them well to do more in the future.</p>
GD	Thanked the volunteers and well-wishers once again.
<u>Motions with notice</u>	
GD	<p>One motion with notice received, proposed by Shakir bhai Mussa:</p> <p><u>"It is hereby resolved that a constitutional review team be setup to consider and suggest changes to our constitution. This committee to specifically look into setting up of an independent body which will monitor the Executive committee and the Jamaat functions and performances".</u></p> <p>Secunder for the motion</p> <p>Abdul bhai Dhirani</p>
Shakir Mussa (SM)	<p>The reason he had proposed this was because very soon Jamaat will not have custodian trustees. They played an important role in our Jamaat and they advise the EC on important matters and act as an appeal body for grievances. Thus, the general body needed to consider this as an important matter. He felt that a constitutional review committee was required to look at this and other matters of importance.</p>
MB	<p>Agreed that the motion which Shakir bhai had brought was very important. When the constitution was amended for Jamaat to become member of CIO at that time, MB had raised this question as well that since the trustees were going to be eliminated, who will be the appellant body?</p> <p>The reply received from Hasanain Jaffer was that now a petition could be brought which gave the other party direct access. That reply given was completely wrong.</p> <p>MB encouraged for the motion to be passed and agreed that other clauses of our Constitution could be reviewed too. He asked for assurances that something could be implemented so that the EC</p>

	<p>were policed appropriately and at the same time this would provide a route of grievance for the public too.</p> <p>He also stated that the electoral system needed to be reviewed as well. Gave an example of Toronto where everybody has nominated names before the closing date.</p>
ID	<p>Agreed with this motion. Queried that although the CIO would technically do away with the CT, would it not be up to us to re-introduce that role?</p>
GD	<p>No</p>
ID	<p>Stated that the independent body should not be external and within Jamaat. They should be elected in the same way as trustees are elected.</p> <p>They have an expanded role. They should have overall governance so that everyone knows them. As an example, they could walk into the tuition centre one day and ask for their DBS records as part of spot checks. They should assess the wider Jamaat and not just the EC.</p>
RL	<p>Stated that what Shakir bhai was suggesting is to pass resolution for a group of people to find out how this could be implemented in the current constitution. Then the constitutional conference to pass this.</p> <p>Once this is passed, this body's TOR will be created for its process and implementation. Resolution passes on majority vote then a body is formed. EC will choose someone. That team will then work to see how a draft of constitution will bring this in and then the TOR will be created.</p> <p>GD & QS confirmed that the above was correct.</p>
SA	<p>If this motion was agreed in principle, the mechanism could be worked out at a later stage. If it was felt that it would be difficult for this to be incorporated within the Constitution, then it could be used as a bylaw.</p> <p>What SA understand from this motion was that we are trying to monitor if any injustice was being done. They will have the right to appeal and look at it independent of Jamaat or sub committees and then make a decision which would be binding on both parties.</p>
AE	<p>Queried as to who would govern this body and if this would create unwanted complications and issues. He reminded that the EC as a body is already there who is trusted upon to run the affairs of the Jamaat. Is there a need for an additional body?</p>
GD	<p>Was worried that by putting a body over the EC would create problems</p>
QS	<p>Motion asks for CR committee to be setup which will be guided by EC to what they should look at and they will be the appellant body and look at things like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional review • Electoral process • Female participation

	This independent body will come up with recommendations to EC and then present its finding at an EGM/AGM where they can be adopted or rejected. To summarize, we need a committee of experts to look at this and recommendations to be made accordingly.
MA Rajani	Queried if there was a grievance policy at the moment and if there was already a procedure in place where people can approach our elders and sheikh if they are unhappy.
SF	Forming a taskforce may be a solution. Perhaps that will remove burden of EC to look at such issues.
RA	On looking at the Gov.uk website, it says that the EC has powers to govern the institution. RA queried as to what was the point of having an EC with their hands tied back. This required clarification. If by law, the charity trustees have the ultimate responsibility, then this community needs to decide if they want to tie their hands behind their back.
Haji Harji (HH)	Stated that what QS had said was right and that this motion should be taken on board. There is an EC but there is no scholar who is part of the EC at present. The independent body could perhaps include a scholar who could guide us which would in turn relieve some of the burden from the President.
QS	Stated that RA made a good point that under charity law, trustees have the ultimate responsibility. Perhaps if this was to work, it would not to give this body power above the EC, but just as advisors to the EC. The pressing decision is whether to form this body or not and take it forward.
GD	Bearing in mind recent experiences, he requested Shakir bhai to withdraw the motion and assured him that he would review this at EC level and form a constitutional review team to look at this with solicitors and revert. (Shakir bhai (SM) asked for it to go to vote)
SF	Recommend that if the 2 nd paragraph is removed; it would be noted that there will be unanimous support to approve it. So, voting to take place on only first part of the motion: <u>"It is hereby resolved that a constitutional review team be setup to consider and suggest changes to our constitution."</u> With the second part to be removed.

A Friendly amendment was agreed based on recommendation from SF. The motion voted on was:

"It is hereby resolved that a constitutional review team be setup to consider and suggest changes to our constitution."

Seconded by QS, RA, SM

Against 0

All in favor

Unanimously agreed

No abstentions

<u>Motions without notice</u>	
GD	Asked if there were any motions without notice.
ID	Related to the building. According to the WF charter, 30-40% of funds were required in the bank to start work. His concern was that what if the Jamaat finds itself in a situation where funds run out in the middle of the works and is left with an incomplete building. In view of the above, the motion would be to consider increasing that percentage to 60-70%.
GD	Informed that we were following the WF capital project process. By putting an extra on top of that, it meant that by the time the project commenced, the planning permission will have expired.
ID	Queried as to whether we would rather have a half made building.
GD	Stated that most of the money would come when the building work starts. If we wait till we have most or all of the money before work starts, we would never get to that point.
ID	Stated that SF had provided the figures which show that from 8.4 million, we have 4.5 million in relation to the masjid and Imambara. Hence, if 40% is received and work commences and funds run out, then that would be a concern.
GD	Informed that this could not be avoided. The capital project had a percentage that needed to be followed. Once digging commences, the funding starts to come through.
SF	Informed that conversations have taken place with many donors and that they would give money once digging has commenced.
ID	Assured that he was not trying to delay the project in any way. His aim was to not end up in a half-way house.
GD	Prior to commencing this, the EC & BC would discuss all the risks including other aspects and then take it forward. GD requested to not take it forward as a motion without notice.
ID	Agreed
GD	Thanked ID for considering the above.
<u>Any Other Business (AOB)</u>	
HH	Addressed GD and stated that he had a concern regarding a program held earlier where people were speaking against the resident Alim. HH noted that problems arose because we treated them differently. They are not on our committees. Advised GD that once elected, to make sure that this issue would not arise again.
GD	Concurred with Haji bhai (HH). We should be mindful of what is said in public out of respect to our Alim. What was said on Thursday was used as an example and that it is prudent to always think of the circumstances before speaking.
MD	Stated that further to what HH said on Thursday was very offensive for him to hear comments about our resident Alim. He has helped the community immensely in matchmaking, book cave, CTC etc. Sheikh's efforts needed to be commended. MD suggested that someone should apologize to Sheikh for those comments as most of us did not agree with those comments.

GD	Informed MD that this matter had already been clarified this morning when he was not here. His efforts had been recognized and the individuals had clarified their statements.
RA	Proposed that the Jamaat write a formal letter of appreciation to Sheikh Nuru.
Sajeda Canani-Sajan (SCS)	Had a suggestion for the incoming EC; to look at restructuring the AGM and to manage timing for each department updates in a better way in order for each department to have due time to present their updates. This would also ensure that the audience has the opportunity to be present in its entirety.
MK	Gave a vote of thanks to GD and his committee for their excellent work over the last two years. He also requested GD to not attend any future informal meetings with WF, well-wishers, etc. Everything needed to be done publicly and documented accordingly.
GD	Thanked MK for his compliments.
GA Peera	Thanked the outgoing EC and incoming EC for their hard work. Gave special thanks to the secretariat, specifically to TJ & SCS as well as the trustees & volunteers.
GD	Thanked GA Peera for his compliments.
GD	No further matters arising and AOB. GD ended the meeting at 7.55pm with a request to all to recite Surah Fateha for all those who had played an important role in the history of Birmingham Jamaat, some of whom were with us at last year's AGM but were not present today including all our Marhumeen.