



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

Thursday, 17th July 2025 at 5.30pm

Greys College, Durham

Any matters not covered below must be notified to the Chair in advance of the meeting. There will be opportunities for informal conversation and discussion of the business of TEN during the preceding days of the Conference.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence
2. Approval of Minutes of 2024 AGM (included below)
3. Approval of the 2024 annual report and accounts (included below)
4. Chair's report (included below)
5. Elections to the Executive (there are three vacancies)
 - a. Chair
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Executive Members (3 vacancies)
6. Close / date of next AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, 12th July 2024

9.00am to 9.15am

Collingwood College, Durham

- Attendees:** Jo Slack (JS) Chairperson
Simon Stocks (SS) Treasurer
Jen Smith (JS) Secretary
John Hartley (JH) Exec. Member
Keith Beech-Gruneberg (KBG) Exec. Member
Jennifer Totney (JT) Exec. Member
Bruce Kinsey (BK) Exec. Member
15 members
- Apologies:** Michael Hull (MH) Exec. Member
Sarah Brush (SB) Exec. Member

1. Approval of Minutes of 2023 AGM

Approved.

2. Adoption of Accounts for 2023

Approved.

3. Chair's Report

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and their support of TEN over the past year. She was delighted that the TEN Reception had been received well at the conference and hopes to see this continue at future conferences.

The open session yesterday was also as it provided feedback that the Executive Committee would be able to act upon. See attached feedback summary.

Whilst there are no executive members standing down this year there are 3 potential vacancies so the chair requested that anyone interested contacts a member of the team.

The plans for TEN this coming year include the development of a TEN Moodle site which will host resources for members and the delivery of another potential theological educators webinar for those exploring a call to theological education.

4. Elections to the Executive Committee

Currently 3 vacancies: none filled.

Constitution allows up to 12 Executive Committee members (including officers).

5. Date of next AGM – Thursday, 17th July 2025 – time TBC.

COMMON AWARDS CONFERENCE TEN REVIEW SUMMARY

Opening reception

- Very well attended. Very few conference delegates who did not come. We were able to give a short explanation of what TEN is/ plans to do. Distributed TEN cards. It would be interesting to know how many people signed up as a result. Colleagues seem to be generally pleased that TEN exists and many can see an important role for it moving forward in providing independent support and cutting across the competitive framework that pits TEIs against each other.

General TEN workshop session

A small group of delegates attended and were asked to reflect on the most significant challenges and opportunities facing theological education in the UK at the current time. At first, responses were discussed in small groups and then fed into a wider plenary discussion.

Challenges

- Huge variations in understanding of theological education among bishops and DDOs.
- Students' general starting points/ biblical literacy/ denominational roots/ confidence in academic learning are far lower than previously.
- A perceived difference between the quality of academics in TEIs and Universities.
- A lack of clarity in what the church(es) want from theological education and the resources provided to achieve it
- The capacity of the TEI network is not fit for purpose – i.e. at present, there are simply too few CoE ordinands to go around.
- Pattern of using more/ cheaper associate or adjunct staff who have fewer rights. In some cases, clergy are absorbing teaching into other positions/roles, meaning that lay people can't compete because they're unwilling to work for free!
- Theological education being 'reactive' rather than 'responsive' – motivated by fear and anxiety that than bold actions that might help sector move forward.
- Use of language within the sector the unconsciously (perhaps) denigrates lay people and lay training.

Opportunities

- Growing awareness towards equipping ministers to enable discipleship in everyday life.
- Develop study skills/ orientation to learn training – rather than reacting to problems as they raise their heads, offering some underpinning awareness that will have a holistic improvement across training experiences.
- Joined up thinking across TEIs?
- General e-learning skills have improved through COVID – levels the playing field geographically. Can we find ways to use new technology to create equality of opportunity?
- Creatively incentivise/ demystify the profession of theological educator through collaboration.

Future of TEN

Several members of the TEN Exec met with several other delegates for a more focused discussion on the future of TEN and what it could develop moving forward to play its role in the sector more effectively. The following suggestions were made:

1. TEN should create and maintain an online space (VLE) where colleagues from across Common Awards and beyond (and potentially also future colleagues?) can be resourced, connect and discuss practice.

- A mini project within the VLE of some focused interviews (audio or video) created by members of the exec with a range of current theological educators. The aim is to demonstrate the breadth of the sector and the diverse routes in that are available.
- A request was made that the VLE should have both curriculum focused spaces and beyond the curriculum spaces where conversations about specific modules and disciplines can take place, but also discussions such as worship and other elements of the training experience.
- It was raised that those joining the VLE should be strongly encouraged to complete a 'profile', detailing their interests/ skills and areas of potential collaboration. The aim would be to create a 'little black book' of theological educators with tags in the profile so it is easy to see at a glance, all those who teach Bible or everyone interested in worship, for example.

***Practically, we are waiting for login details for the site, so that work can begin on its creation/ branding/ structuring.

2. Regular (termly?) online 'drop in'/ connect sessions as an opportunities to connect with others and discuss key topics.

- Exec members and other interested parties to host short, online drop in sessions for those with particular questions/ desire to connect with others/ get advice.
- Perhaps these might need a theme/ focus to draw people. Or, we could do a 'flipped classroom' approach where we post a short video on the VLE discussing a particular topic and then invite people to discuss it online? For example, I would be happy to lead one on using media in Moodle to make learning more interactive.

3. Work towards physical gatherings under the TEN banner.

- There was a general feeling that while a whole conference might currently be beyond the scope of TEN (both in terms of finances and management), that a day/ overnight gathering may be a more realistic aim. Could TEN draw together theological educators from within and beyond Common Awards and develop their skills/awareness and host diverse discussions concerning the understanding and practice of theological learning? Initial suggestions were: mental health *for* theological educators (i.e. a much more practical approach) and creating inclusive learning spaces (perhaps with the support of Nina and Bisi on the diversifying the curriculum Common Awards project?)

4. The development of TEN ambassadors or reps in individual institutions, to act as a connections between the exec and as many different theological training institutions as possible.

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED - 31ST DECEMBER 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Theological Educators' Network (TEN) of Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London SW10 3NZ is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No. 1078957). It was set up in May 1989 and is regulated by a constitution that was revised on 7th July 1999, and 9th July 2015, and 6th July 2016.

STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The Charity is administered by an Executive Committee, comprising:

1. Chair – Jo Slack [2023-2025]
2. Secretary - Jen Smith [2023-2025]
3. Treasurer - Simon Stocks [2023-2025]

Other elected members:

1. Keith Beech-Gruneberg [2022–2026]
2. Sarah Brush [2021–2025];
3. John Hartley [2023-2027]
4. Michael Hull [2021–2025]
5. Bruce Kinsey [2023-2027]
6. Charles Read [2023-2027]

Co-opted members:

1. Jennifer Totney – TCEN Representative [2023-2027]

Officers of the Executive Committee are elected for renewable terms of two years. Members of the Executive Committee are elected or co-opted for renewable terms of four years.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the charity is to advance religion through the furtherance of theological education and ministerial training and in its practical and theoretical aspects. To this end conferences are held from time to time (usually annually) to facilitate discussion and deliberation, and training events are held for new theological educators.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The principal activity in 2024 was the conference, which was held in conjunction with the Durham University Common Awards Staff Conference over 10th – 12th July, at Collingwood College, Durham. The Annual Meeting of the charity took place during this conference, attended by 20 members. The executive committee met three times.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accumulated Fund at the year-end amounted to £7,279. The conference generated no income. Expenditure was £78, which was compensated by bank interest received of £104.

RESERVES POLICY

The policy of the Charity is to maintain an Accumulated Fund sufficient for on-going purposes and to add to this, as necessary, by planning for a surplus at the annual conference and/or by requesting the payment of subscriptions from members.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Conferences continue to operate effectively in conjunction with the Common Awards annual staff conference organised by Durham University as part of the Common Awards arrangements, and/or in conjunction with other national church groups with related interests (e.g. Continuing Ministerial Development network). The next conference will be 16th – 18th July 2025. Other events for specific groups are also planned including a potential theological educators webinar. There will also be a TEN Moodle Site developed to host resources for members.

Jo Slack

Chair of the Executive Committee

Jen Smith

Secretary to the Executive Committee

Theological Educators Network
Registered Charity No. 1078957

Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31st December 2024

2023		2024
£		£
	Income	
0	Conference	0
<u>49</u>	Bank interest	<u>104</u>
49		104
	Expenditure	
	Executive Committee:	
0	Travel & postage	0
<u>68</u>	Website hosting & domain renewal	<u>78</u>
<u>68</u>		<u>78</u>
<u>(19)</u>	Surplus (Deficit) for the year	<u>26</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	Assets	
204	Cash on bank current account	426
<u>7,049</u>	Cash on business saver account	<u>6,853</u>
7,253		7,279
	Liabilities	
<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
<u>7,253</u>		<u>7,279</u>
	Represented by:	
	Accumulated Fund	
7,272	Balance at 1 st January	7,253
<u>(19)</u>	Surplus (Deficit) for the year	<u>26</u>
<u>7,253</u>	Balance at 31 st December	<u>7,279</u>

Simon Stocks
Treasurer to the Executive Committee

REVD SIMON PAUL STOCKS
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATORS NETWORK
316 COULSDON ROAD
COULSDON
CR5 1EB

Your Business accounts – at a glance

Up-to-date account information

To get your current balances or find out about other accounts you have that aren't listed here, log on to online banking (if you're registered), or call us on 0345 605 2345.

Your balances on 16 December 2024

Business Current Accounts

Community Account Statement	£425.54
<hr/>	
Sort Code 20-18-27 • Account No 60661597	

Business Savings Accounts

Business Premium Account	£6,853.42
<hr/>	
Sort Code 20-18-27 • Account No 80980498	

This is the end of your account summary.

REVD SIMON PAUL STOCKS
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATORS NETWORK
316 COULSDON ROAD
COULSDON
CR5 1EB

Your Community Account

At a glance

17 Jul - 16 Dec 2024

Date	Description	Money out £	Money in £	Balance £
17 Jul	Start Balance			445.93
26 Nov	On-Line Banking Bill Payment to Simon Stocks Ref: Lcn Invoice	20.39		425.54
16 Dec	Balance carried forward			425.54
	Total Payments/Receipts	20.39	0.00	

Start balance	£445.93
Money out	£20.39
▶ Commission charges	£0.00
Money in	£0.00
▶ Gross interest earned	£0.00
End balance	£425.54

Anything wrong? If you notice any incorrect or unusual transactions, see the next page for how to get in touch with us.

Your deposit is eligible for protection by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Dispute resolution

If you have a problem with your agreement, please try to resolve it with us in the first instance. If you are not happy with the way in which we handled your complaint or the result, you may be able to complain to the Financial Ombudsman Service. If you do not take up your problem with us first you will not be entitled to complain to the Ombudsman. We can provide details of how to contact the Ombudsman.

Important information about compensation arrangements

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). The FSCS can pay compensation to depositors if a bank is unable to meet its financial obligations. Most depositors – including most individuals and businesses – are covered by the scheme. We will issue the FSCS information sheet and exclusions list which set out in detail what is, and is not, covered by the FSCS, once a calendar year usually with your account statement.

For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at www.FSCS.org.uk.

Important information about going overdrawn without an agreed overdraft limit or exceeding your agreed overdraft limit

An unarranged overdraft rate of 29.5% will apply if there is not enough money in your account(s) to make a payment and so cause an unarranged overdraft on your account(s).

What is an unarranged overdraft?

An unarranged overdraft occurs where either:

- a) you go overdrawn on your account without agreeing an overdraft with us first; or
- b) you exceed your agreed overdraft limit.
- c) not every Barclays product will allow you to go overdrawn or exceed your agreed overdraft limit. Please check your terms and conditions for more information.

If you try to make any payment from your account and you don't have the funds available, or if we have reasonable grounds to believe that you won't have sufficient funds on the date that the payment will be made from your account, we will treat this as a request to make, or extend, the use of our unarranged overdraft facilities. It's within our discretion to process the payment or return it unpaid.

What can you do to help avoid or limit an unarranged overdraft?

Get In Touch. If you become aware in advance that payments may take your account into an unarranged overdraft, please contact us as early as possible so that we can discuss the ways we could help. This will maximise the chances of us being able to:

- a) understand any changes in your business and explore the options available;
- b) consider options for authorised borrowing facilities;
- c) facilitate payments being made;
- d) limit the costs associated with unarranged borrowing;
- e) address any concerns that you may have.

Register for Text Alerts. Business banking customers can register for our 'Near Limit' Text Alert which is designed to help you avoid going overdrawn (if you don't have an agreed overdraft limit), or exceeding your agreed overdraft limit, by notifying you when your balance falls below a figure you specify. Once you have signed up for this Text Alert, if your account goes into an unarranged overdraft, we'll send you a Text Alert the following working day (Monday – Friday) to let you know. By acting on this information you have the opportunity to clear your unarranged overdraft.

You can register for Text Alerts through Online Banking, in any of our branches or over the phone. Visit barclays.co.uk/business-banking/ways-to-bank/mobile-banking for more information. Terms and conditions apply.

Go online for more support. For useful tips to keep on top of your cashflow, helpful downloadable tools, and a simple guide to borrowing, visit barclays.co.uk/business-banking/borrow. For details relating to unarranged borrowing, please refer to your banking services tariff guide.

- For Business Banking customers, this can be found online at <https://www.barclays.co.uk/business-banking/accounts/rates-and-charges>

Any reference to Bank of England Base Rate or Barclays Base Rate is the same rate. In the event that either of these rates is less than zero, the rate will be shown as zero on your statement. This does not affect our rights and obligations under our terms and conditions. If you require further information on the calculation of your interest rate, please contact us.

Interest

Interest is calculated daily on the cleared balance of your account at the close of business. We'll let you know if interest is calculated on the statement balance rather than the cleared balance. The cleared balance includes only credits and debits that have cleared. Ask your branch or Barclays Business Team for details of clearance times and the dates when we pay or charge interest. The rates of interest shown are current at the time of printing this statement and may have changed during the period of the statement.

In accordance with UK tax legislation, from 6 April 2016 interest is paid gross. For UK resident individuals (including sole traders or partnerships), if you are a UK taxpayer you may have to pay tax on interest earned in excess of your Personal Savings Allowance. For information and guidance please refer to HMRC's website.

The management of your tax affairs is your responsibility, including making any required declarations to the relevant tax authority(ies), where you are tax resident. If the statement shows that we have applied interest to your account, we'll give you on request details of the rate(s) of interest used and a clear explanation of how the interest was calculated. Details of Barclays interest rates for business customers are available at barclays.co.uk/business-banking.

Any reference to Bank of England Base Rate or Barclays Base Rate is the same rate. In the event that either of these rates is less than zero, the rate will be shown as zero on your statement. This does not affect our rights and obligations under our terms and conditions. If you require further information on the calculation of your interest rate, please contact us.

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Leicester
LE87 2BB**

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**LEICESTER,
LE87 2BB**

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- 24 hours

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- you think someone else may know your PIN.

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<https://www.barclays.co.uk/travel/using-debit-card-abroad/> This is updated twice a day. This may help you to decide whether you want to accept the conversion rate offered by the retailer or ATM provider or accept our rate.

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Getting information from Barclays

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