**Mothers’ Union, Newcastle Diocese**

**Summary of changes made to 2012 Constitution to form 2017 draft**

*Page numbers refer to 2017 draft*

**p. 2** Mary Sumner Day (9th August) added as a special day of prayer

**p. 3** **Diocesan Trustees**: quorum reduced from eleven to seven

 Trustees given power to set up Teams or Units

 **Diocesan Council**: Deanery representatives for Units removed

**p. 4** **Election of Council:** Vice-Presidents now eligible for re-election for second Triennium, like all other elected members

**Method of election** Nomination papers now need signature of Proposer, Seconder and Candidate, but do not need 5 nomination papers.

AFIA representative and Editor of Journal no longer Trustee appointments.

**p. 5** All reference to make-up of **Unit committees** now moved out of Constitution into ‘Guidelines’. All reference to Deanery representatives on Unit Committees removed.

 **Deanery Organisation** Provision for small Deaneries to be linked under one Deanery Leader added.

‘Duties of Deanery Leader’, and description of Deanery Committee, moved to ‘Guidelines’.

 **Branch Organisation:** provision added for a Branch to be run by committee.

‘**Duties of a Branch Leader’** moved to ‘Guidelines’.

 **Duties and membership of Branch committee** moved to ‘Guidelines’

**p. 6 Branch closure** Necessity of informing Bishop of Branch closure removed

**p. 7 Finance:** provision for a Debit Card holder added (4)

Listing of possible funds for voluntary contributions moved to ‘Guidelines’

 **Speakers:** Limit onfrequency of Speakers’ claims for travel expenses removed. Limit on number of visits Branches may receive from official speakers without payment removed.