



WATCH TOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

THE RIDGEWAY LONDON NW7 1RN

TELEPHONE 020 8906 2211

TA:TSA January 11, 1999

The Congregation Secretary

Dear Brother:

Re: Format of Congregation Resolutions

There is no requirement in the Charities Act for unincorporated associations, such as congregations, to have a formal proposer and seconder for resolutions. The format of resolutions is normally determined within the internal rules of the charity, which in the case of the congregation is the Memorandum of Constitution.

The Memorandum of Constitution refers in the definition section to a simple majority; hence for resolutions only a simple majority on a show of hands would be required for a resolution to be passed without a proposer or seconder.

However, where there are third parties involved they may wish to see a resolution using the normal resolution format of a proposer and seconder. Examples of this may be where a congregation is applying for a loan relating to Kingdom Hall construction involving a commercial bank or lender or the Society. However, a congregation resolution resolving to send a donation to the circuit or the Society would not require a proposer or seconder. There is no legal objection to a congregation always using the format of a proposer or seconder if it so desires. However, as noted above, in many situations this is not legally necessary.

We hope this information will be helpful to you in fulfilling the legal requirements of the congregation as a charity.

May we convey to you our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

Watch Tower B. & J. Society
OF BRITAIN