

# Minutes of Vaad Meeting

**Date:** 24 June 2026

**Meeting:** First meeting of the newly elected Vaad, following the General Meeting of 15 June 2026

**Present:** Jonathan Hoffman, Dani Abell, Matt Brenner

**Absent (with notice):** Ronnie Joss, Daniel Alweis

**Quorum:** 3 of 5 members present; quorum (3) satisfied

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The newly elected Vaad held its first working meeting with a single priority in mind: to begin placing the running of Mitzpe Ramot on a clear, well-organised and transparent footing that serves every part of the kehilla. A significant part of the meeting was devoted to understanding in detail how the shul currently operates — its finances, administration, banking, and the many tasks that keep the kehilla running week to week — and to setting in motion the steps needed to manage them more reliably in the year ahead. The decisions formally adopted are recorded first, followed by a summary of the matters the Vaad reviewed and the work now underway.

## Decisions adopted

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- Election of office-holders.** The Vaad elected Ronnie Joss as Chairperson (Yo"r) and Matt Brenner as Treasurer (Gizbar).
- Interim banking authority.** The Vaad authorised Mr. Mark Guggenheim and Mr. Alan Steinfeld to sign on the Amutah's bank accounts on an interim basis, as a function of the newly elected Vaad, so that pending payments can be made while permanent signatories are put in place.
- Permanent bank signatories.** The Vaad resolved to appoint three signatories to the Amutah's accounts on a two-of-three basis (any two signatories required for any transaction) — the Chairperson, the Treasurer, and Jonathan Hoffman — and to remove the previous signatories. The Vaad authorised preparation and execution of the documentation required by Bank Leumi to give this effect.
- 2025 financial statements.** The Vaad authorised the release of the Amutah's 2025 financial records to its accountant, Mr. Daniel Aviad, to begin preparing the 2025 financial statements, with a draft to be presented for the Vaad's review ahead of the Chagim.

## Matters reviewed and work now underway

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### Banking and continuity of payments

With the change of Vaad, the shul's bank accounts required new signing arrangements. The Vaad acted at this first meeting to restore normal payments without delay, and is putting permanent arrangements in place that require any two of three authorised signatories for every transaction — a control that safeguards the shul's funds and reflects sound financial practice.

### Financial administration and transparency

The Vaad examined in detail how the shul's income and expenditure are recorded, and is working to strengthen financial administration so that every contribution received is clearly accounted for and correctly categorised, reconciled regularly with the shul's accountant, and supported by proper documentation. The Vaad is also reviewing how donations and payments are processed, with the aim of making receipting more efficient and dependable for members and donors alike.

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## **Financial statements and regulatory standing**

The Vaad has set work in motion on the 2025 financial statements and is establishing a year-round calendar so that the shul's financial reporting, its authority to issue tax-recognised donation receipts, its proper-management standing (ניהול תקין), and its insurance cover are all maintained on time and in good order. The intention is that nothing important is left to chance or to the last minute.

## **Administration and continuity**

After many years of devoted service, the shul's long-standing administrator, Ruth Kilner, is stepping back from the day-to-day running of the office. The Vaad is deeply grateful for her service and is committed to a smooth handover with no interruption to the shul's administration. The Vaad is defining the administrative role clearly and putting well-organised systems in place — including for the coming year's membership and seating — so that the shul is well run and straightforward for members to deal with.

## **Committees and shared ownership**

The Vaad believes Mitzpe Ramot is strongest when responsibility is shared widely across the community rather than carried by a few. The Vaad's role is to set direction and provide resources; the day-to-day work is best owned by committees of dedicated members. The Vaad has begun establishing committees to take ownership of programming and events, kiddushim, building and maintenance, communications, and youth and family life. Members from every part of the kehilla who would like to contribute are warmly encouraged to be in touch.

## **One kehilla, shared communication**

The Vaad discussed the way information currently reaches members and agreed that, as one kehilla under a single umbrella, communication should be unified so that every member can see what is happening across the whole of Mitzpe Ramot. The Vaad is working toward a single communication channel for shul-wide announcements, within which members can also follow the particular communities and minyanim they are part of. The aim is that no part of the kehilla is left out of the life of the shul, and that everyone has full visibility of what the community is doing.

## **Operating as one institution**

In the same spirit, the Vaad is working to have the shul's finances run through unified, clearly-managed arrangements, so that the whole of Mitzpe Ramot operates transparently as one institution with one set of books and one clear point of accountability for its members.

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This first meeting marks the start of focused, sustained work to bring greater order, clarity and reliability to the running of Mitzpe Ramot, in the service of the entire kehilla. The Vaad looks forward to reporting further progress at its coming meetings.

*Recorded for the Vaad and posted in accordance with the Takanon.*