1. Election and Induction of the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference

1. THE ELECTION AND DECLARATION

After a brief explanation of the procedure to be followed, the Secretary of the Conference moves the resolution for the election of the President.

*****RESOLUTION**

1/1. The Conference elected the Reverend Richard Mark Andrew to be the President of the Conference.

A standing vote is taken.

The President says:

I declare that **the Reverend Richard Mark Andrew** has been duly elected to be the President of the Conference.

The Conference is invited to sit.

The Secretary moves the resolution for the election of the Vice-President.

*****RESOLUTION**

1/2. The Conference elected Matthew Alexander Forsyth to be the Vice-President of the Conference.

A standing vote is taken.

The Vice-President says:

I declare that **Matthew Alexander Forsyth** has been duly elected to be the Vice-President of the Conference.

2. THE INDUCTION

The President and Vice-President enter together.

The Conference is invited to sit.

The Ex-President says:

Richard and Matthew, the Conference has elected you to the offices of President and Vice-President. In its sessions you are to preside over its worship, its conferring and its taking of decisions. You will be its representatives, embodying its authority and acting on its behalf as authorised by the Deed of Union and Standing Orders. You are called to share with others in the oversight and leadership of the Church. You are called to a ministry of visitation in the Districts and Circuits and with partners across the world, to encourage the Methodist people in their calling and strengthen the bonds that connect them with each other. In all this you are to exercise, in collaboration, the particular gifts God has given you as a presbyter and a lay person in the Church.

In the presence of God and of this Conference we therefore ask you: do you trust that God who has called you into his service has now called you to this ministry and will give you the grace to undertake it?

The President and Vice-President respond:

I do so trust.

The Ex-Vice-President says:

Richard and Matthew, will you endeavour to hold before the Church a vision of its calling to proclaim and respond to the grace and love of God in worship, mission and service?

They respond:

I will, God being my helper.

The Ex-President says:

Will you work with all who are in leadership of the Church in equipping God's people to fulfil their calling?

They respond:

I will, God being my helper.

The Ex-Vice-President says:

Will you work with ecumenical partners in pursuing the greater unity of Christ's Church and in the encouraging of a common witness to God's reconciling love?

They respond:

I will, God being my helper.

The Ex-President addresses her successor:

Richard, will you be faithful in living out your calling as a presbyter in the service of this Conference and all the Methodist people?

Will you work with the Vice-President to offer a ministry that affirms and encourages the gifts of all God's people?

The President replies:

I will, God being my helper.

The Ex-Vice-President addresses her successor:

Matthew, will you faithfully exercise the gifts God has given you in the service of this Conference and all the Methodist people?

Will you work with the President to offer a ministry that affirms and encourages the gifts of all God's people?

The Vice-President replies:

I will, God being my helper.

3. THE PRAYERS

The Ex-Vice-President says:

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you have called your Church to be a sign of and witness to your kingdom in the world, and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit you guide and inspire it.

We give you thanks for these your servants now called to the offices of President and Vice-President of the Conference. We bless you for the ways in which you have led them to this moment and for the gifts with which you have inspired them.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them that they may build up your people in love and service, to the glory of your name. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

4. THE GIVING OF SYMBOLS

The Ex-President invests the President with the Presidential Cross and hands to him John Wesley's Bible.

The Ex-Vice-President invests the Vice-President with the Vice-Presidential Cross and hands to him a first edition copy of John and Charles Wesley's Hymns and Sacred Songs.

Each in turn then briefly expresses the thanks of the Conference to his predecessor and presents her with a replica of the Presidential/Vice-Presidential Cross.

A hymn is sung and the Conference continues its business.