

1/1 The Conference in its Presbyteral Session assembled in Birmingham at 14.15, The Revd Sonia M Hicks, the Ex-President of the Conference, in the Chair.

1/2 **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Conference shared in a service of Holy Communion, during which The Revd D Paul Wood preached.

1/3 The Conference adjourned at 15.42.

1/4 The Conference reassembled at 16.15.

1/5 **MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE**

The Conference adopted the membership of this Session of the Conference, being those presbyters who are listed in the Agenda (pp 588-565) as members of the Representative Session, with any substitutions duly made, together with the officers of this session appointed by the last Conference, associate members, and those presbyters listed in the Agenda (p 566) who have received the permission of their Synods or, where appropriate, the President to attend this Session by their own arrangement, with the following notes, substitutions and corrections:

- 1 The Revd Graham Thompson is not in attendance at the Conference.
- 39 The Revd Dr David Hinchliffe is unable to attend the Conference.

Associate Members

310 The Revd Dr John McPake, representative of the Church of Scotland, is unable to attend.

328 The Revd Lic Medardo Vedia Gutiérrez, representative of La Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia, is unable to attend.

The Vice-President of the Conference will not be in attendance. The Ex-Vice-President of the Conference, Mrs Barbara M Easton, will be in attendance.

PRESBYTERS ATTENDING THE PRESBYTERAL SESSION UNDER THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS

deleting The Revd Ann L Lett
adding The Revd Matthew Lunn

1/6 **LETTERS**

The Conference directed that letters of greeting be sent to presbyters with more than 70 years of service:

The Revd Trevor S Bates (1953)
The Revd Joseph F Collinson (1951)
The Revd John H S Crossley (1951)
The Revd Douglas A Dennis (1951)
The Revd Ralph E Fennell (1953)
The Revd Harry W Gillespie (1949)

The Revd Stephen J Grieves-Smith (1952)
 The Revd Antony M Hearle (1947)
 The Revd Peter G Jarvis (1951)
 The Revd Roy Kilner (1953)
 The Revd George W S Knowles (1949)
 The Revd Alfred Lawson (1953)
 The Revd John L Mitchell (1952)
 The Revd Dr Albert W Mosley (1948)
 The Revd J Clive Pugh (1953)
 The Revd Colin G Rowe (1951)
 The Revd Frank W Smith (1953)
 The Revd John E Stanfield (1948)
 The Revd Dr John J Vincent (1953)
 The Revd John M White (1952)
 The Revd Thomas M Witham (1953)

1/7 **HOURS OF SESSION**

The Conference agreed that these should be 14.15-15.45 and 16.15-18.30 on Thursday, 22 June; 09.15-10.45, 11.15-12.15, 12.30-13.00, 14.15-16.15 and 16.45-18.30 on Friday, 23 June.

1/8 **APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS**

The Conference appointed the Scrutineers as follows:

The Revd Philip J Jackson (Chief Scrutineer)	The Revd Dr Vincent M Jambawo
The Revd Karen A Beecham	The Revd R Margaret K Mwilu
The Revd Dr Graham M Edwards	The Revd Janet E Park
	The Revd Cleopas Sibanda

1/9 **APPOINTMENT OF ATTESTORS**

The Revds R Margaret K Mwilu and John D Yarrien were appointed to attest the 'written portion' of the Daily Record of the Presbyteral Session.

1/10 **4. REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERAL SESSION BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Conference adopted Resolution 4/1.

1/11 **5. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 5/3, 5/4, 5/5 and 5/6.

1/12 The Revd Dr Christine M Dutton chaired a panel discussion exploring *Leadership*, the panel comprising The Rt Revd Matthew Parker (Bishop of Stafford, Church of England), The Revd Michael D Parker (Chaplain-General of the British Army), The Revd Novette S Headley (Chair of the Birmingham District) and The Revd Jacqueline Liddell (Connexional Secretary for the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas).

1/13 The Conference shared in worship.

1/14 The Conference adjourned at 18.22.

- 2/1 The Conference assembled at 9.15, and shared in worship.
- 2/2 **PASTORAL ADDRESS**
The Conference heard the pre-recorded Pastoral Address from the President, The Revd Graham Thompson.
- 2/3 The Revd Michaela A Youngson facilitated the Conference in a discussion about *the Stationing Review*.
- 2/4 The Conference adjourned at 10.45.
- 2/5 The Conference reassembled at 11.15.
- 2/6 Ms Rachel J Lampard. facilitated the Conference in a discussion on **Agenda Item 12. A Justice-Seeking Church: the report of the Walking with Micah project.**
- 2/7 **OBITUARIES**
The Conference adopted the Obituaries as printed and circulated to the Conference, and the Obituaries below,

in the obituary for Douglas Maw, penultimate line, *for '2023' reading '2022'*

directing that if, after checks have been carried out in the Conference library, it is necessary to correct inaccuracies in these Obituaries, the Secretary of the Conference be authorised to make such corrections before the Obituaries are published in the Minutes of the Conference.

Glanville Thomas Magor: Born in Rotherham on 5 May 1925 of Cornish Methodist stock. After a brief period in a Wesleyan Sunday School, he joined the Parish Church choir and remained a chorister and church organist until after his Loughborough College engineering studies, when he was sent to London, where he worked on early gas turbines. He was converted in the Church of England and received a call to the ministry while Assistant Organist at Emmanuel Parish Church, Loughborough. Through wartime changes he became a Methodist and entered the Methodist ministry in 1948 as a pre-collegiate probationer in the Walton-on-Thames Circuit where he won the probationers' New Testament prize. After four years at Handsworth, where he was College Organist, he left with four College prizes, a London BD, and a WCC scholarship for a year post-graduate at Montpellier. After the required six years of waiting, Glanville married Jean, after ordination, and they had two children, both born in West Africa, where he served for fifteen years, lecturing in ministerial and teachers' colleges, and undertaking some circuit work. He returned to the United Kingdom as minister of St John's, Glasgow, with chaplaincies at Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities. Although nominated as Senior Chaplain to Manchester University, the Church declined to release him from his existing appointment. After superintendencies in the Helston and the Exmouth and Budleigh Salterton Circuits, he retired to Bridport in 1990 and developed his carving and puppetry skills. He twice returned to the active work during ministerial interregna. As a puppet-master he preached at St Paul's, Covent Garden, the Actors' Church. He lectured on eighteenth and nineteenth century social history and entertainments widely, even in the Windsor

Castle School, and performed (in French) at York Grammar School. He also performed for nine summer seasons at the Ironbridge Museum. After a year's cancer treatment, he ceased to preach and to perform, and returned to the organ, completing seventy-nine years as a church musician. After a year at Langholme MHA in Falmouth, he died on 26 May 2023 in the ninety-ninth year of his age and the seventy-second year of his presbyteral ministry.

John Peter Mason: Born on 17 July 1960 in North Yorkshire as a 'son of the manse' to the Revd Eric and Mrs Eileen Mason. His father's ministry took him from North Yorkshire to Birmingham, South Wales and Ponteland where he was to meet Sue in the youth fellowship. John felt a call to ministry whilst on a youth holiday in the Isle of Man and obtained a note to preach. John and Sue married in 1983 and they welcomed three wonderful sons, Paul, Philip and Andrew. Before ordained ministry, John worked in accounts; he was very good with numbers. Church and family were John's priority, and he was a loyal and dedicated husband and father, as well as a deeply committed servant of God. John's first attempt at candidating for ministry was unsuccessful and it took courage to try a second time a few years later. This time his call was affirmed and he trained through NEOC (North East Oecumenical Course) based in Durham. His first appointment was in the Carlisle Circuit. He then served in Leeds (North and East) Circuit before heading back to the North East and his final Circuit, North Shields and Whitley Bay. John had a pastoral heart and this was apparent in his ministry. He sought always to point people towards God rather than draw attention to himself, and his humble, gentle sense of care reflected the love of God as he made time to journey with people he encountered. John was treated for bowel cancer in 2021 and sadly it was discovered in 2022 that the cancer had returned. He faced the journey with courage and positivity and was supported by the Methodist Church, his family and the local church. After a month in palliative care, John died on 25 May 2023, in the sixty-third year of his age and the twenty-first year of his presbyteral ministry. John will be remembered for his love of God, his love of people and his sense of humour. He was missed terribly by his loving wife, Sue, and all the family, including his six grandchildren.

Robert Whitfield: Born in Gosforth on 20 July 1947. A younger brother to Ann, Robert, known to many as Bob, trained as a scientist. He achieved his PhD at Newcastle University in his early twenties. He moved to Grove, Oxfordshire to work for British Nuclear fuels. He came to a living Christian faith in his early adulthood. After joining the Methodist Church local to where he was living, he trained as a local preacher and then responded to a call to the ordained ministry. Bob trained at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham before being stationed to the Hull (West) Circuit. It was there that he met and married Brenda, and they quickly became very much a close-knit team in life and ministry. In marrying Brenda, Bob also embraced Brenda's four children, and subsequently four grandchildren to whom he became a much-loved father and grandfather. Bob went on to serve in the following Circuits: Chester-le-Street, Gateshead and Jarrow, Belper, Barnsley, and Huddersfield. Bob was widely appreciated for his preaching and pastoral ministry. Bob and Brenda offered generous and warm hospitality, particularly to young people. Bob had a particular gift for remembering information and details, so that during funeral preparation visits he would rarely need to take notes. This gift extended into his preaching, speaking without the need to rely on a full text or many notes. Bob and Brenda valued the opportunity to undertake three pastoral exchanges in the United States. He sat down in 2012, Bob and Brenda making their home in the North Yorkshire Coast Circuit. Bob remained active as a preacher, but he and Brenda also valued the opportunity of retirement to enjoy cruise holidays. In 2022, they moved to the Hull (Centre and West) Circuit to be closer to family. He died suddenly on 16 April 2023 in the seventy-sixth year of his age and the thirty-fifth year of his presbyteral ministry.

2/8 The Conference adjourned at 12.03.

2/9 The Conference reassembled at 12.30.

2/10 **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

A solemn Memorial Service was held during which the Secretary of the Conference read the names of those presbyters who had died during the year, as follows:

Patricia Elizabeth Aitchison
Leslie Allaway
Roy Christopher Allison
Hewlette Unsworth Bedford
Andrew*

Pauline Shirley Baker
Alan Frederic Barker
Brian Edgar Beck
Stephen Beer
Thomas Blakey
Richard Martin Broadbent**
John Peter Brown
Arthur Michael Cannon*
Carol Anne Chaplin
Paul Robert Johannes Cieka
David Nelson Clark
Elizabeth Anne Clark*
John Edward Clarke
Muriel Ann Clarke
Colin Campbell Colclough
Kenneth Robert Cracknell
Joseph Donald Cross
Patrick Louis Crow
Derek Davidson**
Stuart Davis
Richard Davison
Peter Doble
Stephen Richard Donoghue**
Donald Eadie**
Graham Victor Carl Eddy
Gordon Neville Elford
Harold Joseph Royston Emms
Michael Philip Feast
Robert Fisher
Geoffrey Fletcher
Helen Diana Gardner
Leslie Edwin Goulden
Denise Matthison Greeves
David John Griffiths**
Diane Margaret Hare
Frederic Harrison
Kenneth Graham Hawley*
Albert Richard Heafield
Kenneth Samuel James Hext
Magdalena Hoheges Boois Hoebes
Valerie Frances Honey
Derek Robert House

Peter Howard
Graeme Clark Jackson
Jack Frederick Jenkins
Brian Robert Jones*
Keith Jump**
Richard Andrew Laird*
David Wilfred Le Poidevin**
Glanville Thomas Magor
Robert Arthur Marsh**
John Peter Mason
Douglas Maw
Julia Susan Monaghan*
Claude Arthur Nurse*
Ebute Obiabo
Philip John Osborne
John Arthur Palmer
Daniel James Reid Paterson**
Baden Albert Reeve Pearce
Julia Mabel Pellett**
Alan George Powers
John Edward Pullan**
William George Henderson Rayne
Joseph Rimmer
Janet Elizabeth Roe**
Norman Thurston Routledge*
Colin Frederick Scarrett
William Frederick Seymour**
John Brian Sherrington**
John Basil Siddons**
Iain Thomson Skinner*
Jeffrey Spencer
Alan Lloyd Sproson
Peter Michael Stanley*
Brian Stocks*
William Henderson Tate
Ralph Frederick Gordon Taylor
Keith Tewkesbury
John Leslie Trudgill*
Walter George Flaxman Vivian
William Wallbank
John Michael Ward
Stanley Maurice Weary**
Brian Hugh Fallon Webb
John Keith Webster
Frank Whaling
David Wheatley
Robert Whitfield

Gwynfor Williams
Joseph Arthur Wilson*

Reginald John Withington*

* Presbyters who had died before or during the previous Conference but whose Obituaries are presented to this Conference.

** Obituaries for these presbyters will be presented to the next Conference.

2/11 The Conference adjourned at 13.12.

2/12 The Conference reassembled at 14.15.

2/13 **57. OVERSIGHT AND TRUSTEESHIP – SHARED BUSINESS** [as corrected by 5/27/1]

The Conference was led in reflection on the theme of ***Oversight and Trusteeship as it relates to the purpose of the Presbyteral Session*** by The Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler and Mr Doug Swanney.

2/14 The Conference went into closed session at 14.59.

2/15 **40. MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES AND PROBATIONERS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

2. Candidates for Presbyteral Ministry

2/15/1 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following candidates, to proceed unconditionally into pre-ordination training:

Eric Obenaye Bediako
Daniel Richard George
Obeth Ratnesan Thevanesan
Stuart John Watkin
Lorraine Fay Wheeler

2/15/2 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following candidate, to proceed into pre-ordination training upon fulfilment of a stated condition:

Olive Ruvimbo Ruzvidzo

2/15/3 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolution 40/2.

2/16 **1. Special Reports**

2/16/1 The Conference received a report that the following accepted candidate previously given permission to defer entry into training has now been given permission to enter training:

Liam James John Sheridan

2/16/2 The Conference agreed the following changes in expected date of Reception into Full Connexion:

<i>To a later date:</i>	
Sarah Louise Caddell	2024 (from 2023)
Cassandra Emma Jennings	2027 (from 2026)
Joyce Popoola	2026 (from 2025)
Agnes Eyiaba Sam	2025 (from 2024)

- 2/16/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 40/1.
- 2/17 **3. Preachers Recommended for Continuance on Trial**
The Conference adopted Resolution 40/4.
- 2/18 **4. Preachers on Trial presented to the Conference for Reception into Full Connexion**
- 2/18/1 The Conference accepted the recommendation of the Candidates' and Probationers' Oversight Committee that the following are fit to be admitted into Full Connexion with the Conference as presbyters:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Elisabeth Karen Brooks | Sally Ann Jones |
| Sarah Butcher | Jean-Claude Mwansa Kimpinde |
| Michelle Deans | Sarah Elizabeth Lamb |
| Craig Gaffney | Gareth Sherwood |
| Jonathan Garde | Gillian Songer |
| Paul Kenneth Alexander Harold | Stephen John Spain |
| John Trevor Saxelby Hayward | |
- 2/18/2 The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 40/5.
- 2/19 **33. PRESBYTERAL TRANSFERS AND REINSTATEMENTS**
- 1. Recommendations of the Ministerial Candidates' Selection Committee acting as a Transfer Committee (under S.O.730)**
- 2/19/1 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following applicants for transfer to be received into Full Connexion:
- Dawn Francis Brown (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
Paulo Bessa Da Silva (Methodist Church of Brazil)
Elizabeth Christina Catharina Van Aardt-Goddess (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
Ray Hampden Goddess (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
Brian Hutton (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
Clement Matarirano (Methodist Church in Zimbabwe)
Richman Ncube (Methodist Church in Zimbabwe)
Noel Nhariswa (Methodist Church in Zimbabwe)
Brenton Robert Prigge (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
Janet Elizabeth Verrier (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
- 2/19/2 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following former presbyter of another church to be received into Full Connexion:
- Brain Magadzire
- 2/19/3 The Conference accepted the recommendation of the Ministerial Candidates' Selection Committee that the following be recognised and regarded as presbyters in Full Connexion with the Conference under Standing Order 732(2) and (3):
- Shannon Casey De Laureal (Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church)

Krystyna Halina Kwarciak (Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (Lutheran))
 David Alan Markay (West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church)
 Kristin Chiles Markay (West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church)
 Tongayi Joseph Matamba (Methodist Church in Zimbabwe)
 Andrew Simon Christian Melvin (Baptist Union of Great Britain)
 Aboseh Ngwana (Presbyterian Church in Cameroon)
 Emmanuel Ajibola Onabanjo (Methodist Church Nigeria)
 Rajbharat Patta (Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, India)
 Manoa Ratubalavu (Methodist Church Fiji)
 Nimilote Rokotoro (Methodist Church Fiji)

2/19/4 The Conference renumbered Resolution 38/1 on p 440 as 33/1 and adopted Resolution 33/1 in the form:

The Conference adopts sections 1, 2 and 4 of the report.

2/19/5 The Conference renumbered Resolution 38/2 on p 440 as 33/2 and, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 33/2 in the form:

The Conference resolves by a Standing Vote that those persons whom the Conference has duly adjudged as fit to be received by transfer as presbyters be now or at a specified date presented to the Representative Session to be received into Full Connexion with the Conference, and if not already ordained, to be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

2/20 **3. Recommendations for reinstatements to Full Connexion**

The Conference considered a report regarding an application for reinstatement to Full Connexion and declined to adopt as Resolution 33/3:

The Conference adopts section 3 of the Report.

2/21 **32. PERMISSIONS TO SERVE**

The Conference adopted Resolution 32/1,

p 437, Permission to reside abroad,
adding Bernardino Mandiate (Mozambique)

2/22 **RESIGNATIONS**

The Conference received a report that the President had accepted the resignation of the following presbyters in Full Connexion, according them the status indicated:

Joanne Archer-Siddall	no status
Derek J Balsdon	no status
E Helen Brown	no status
Stephen J Clark	no status
Phillip A Dixon	no status
Kenneth J Fitzsimmons	no status
Kenneth Gowland	no status
Mary E Hart	no status
Eric P Lucas	no status
Thomas McInerney	no status
George Nuttall	no status
Ah Moi (Josephine) Soon	no status

Nigel S Waterfield	no status
Nadine Wilkinson	no status
Paul H Wilson	no status
Alan E Wilthew	no status

2/23 **REPORT OF CONNEXIONAL DISCIPLINE AND APPEAL COMMITTEES**

The Conference received a report on behalf of the Convenors of Connexional Discipline, Pastoral and Appeal Committees.

2/24 The Conference adjourned at 16.12.

2/25 The Conference reassembled in open session at 16.45.

2/26 The Revd Mark Rowland introduced **Agenda Item 29: Review of Criteria for Authorisations to Preside at the Lord's Supper**. The Conference engaged in discussion.

2/27 The Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler and Mr Doug Swanney introduced **Agenda Item 43: There is Room; Triennial Membership Returns 2019-2022**. The Conference engaged in discussion.

2/28 The Revd Catherine Dixon introduced **Memorial M22: Annual Affirmations**. The Conference engaged in discussion.

2/29 **48. PRESBYTERS BECOMING SUPERNUMERARY OR RETURNING TO THE ACTIVE WORK**

2/29/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 48/1,

p 532, in **3. Presbyters requesting permission to become supernumerary**
adding Martyn D Atkins (46)
adding *Stephen M Barlow (19)
adding *Jane E Gaffney (12)

2/29/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 48/2, noting the corrections under **3.** above.

2/30 **THANKS TO THE EX-PRESIDENT**

The Revd Michaela A Youngson expressed the thanks of the Conference to the Ex-President of the Conference.

2/31 **ANNUAL INQUIRY**

The Chairs of the Districts gave to the Conference the assurances as to the character and discipline of the presbyters and presbyteral probationers required by Standing Order 154, noting the number of those who had not been able to answer in the affirmative this year.

2/32 The Conference shared in worship.

2/33 The Conference resolved by a Standing Vote to adjourn to 14.15 on Saturday 24 June for the Representative Session.

2/34 The Conference adjourned at 18.05.

2/35

LETTERS

Letters of thanks were sent in the name of the Conference to The Rt Revd Matthew Parker and The Revds Jacqueline Liddell, Michael Parker, Novette S Headley and Dr Christine M Dutton for their contribution to yesterday's session on Leadership.

3/1 The Conference in its Representative Session assembled in Birmingham at 14.15, The Revd Sonia M Hicks, the Ex-President of the Conference, in the Chair.

3/2 **PRAYERS**

The Conference shared in worship, during which the President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, The Revd David L Turtle, led prayers.

3/3 **MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE**

The Conference adopted the membership of this session of the Conference as set out in the Agenda (pp 558-565), as amended by Daily Record 1/5, with the following notes, substitutions and corrections:

2 Mr Anthony Boateng is not in attendance at the Conference.

Bristol

107 Judith Cole *vice* Mr Gary Carey

Lincolnshire

148 Mrs Judith Kirk *vice* Mrs Julie Close-Mitchell

Manchester and Stockport

158 Deacon Jill Henderson *vice* Deacon Lorraine Brown

Nottingham and Derby

189 Mr John Heard is unable to attend.

Scotland

264 Mrs Barbara Harrison *vice* Mr David L Gibson

South East

303 Mrs Sandra Oborski *vice* Ms M Anne Haggarty

Associate Members

311 *for* 'The Church of Wales' *reading* 'The Church in Wales'

3/4 **APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS**

The Conference appointed the Scrutineers as follows:

The Revd Philip J Jackson (Chief Scrutineer)
Deacon Angela P Allport
Ms Martha Rand

3/5 **PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE**

3/5/1 The Revd Gillian Mary Newton, having been nominated according to rule at the preceding Conference, was duly elected by a Standing Vote as President of the Conference (Resolution 1/1).

- 3/5/2 Deacon Kerry Ruth Scarlett, having been nominated according to rule at the preceding Conference, was duly elected by a Standing Vote as Vice-President of the Conference (Resolution 1/2).
- 3/5/3 The Induction of the President and the Vice-President took place.
- 3/6 **THE LOYAL ADDRESS**
The Conference directed that a letter of greeting be sent to His Majesty the King.
- 3/7 **WORLD CHURCH AND ECUMENICAL REPRESENTATIVES AND INTERFAITH GUESTS**
- 3/7/1 The Conference welcomed full members and associate members of the Conference from The Methodist Church in Ireland, The United Methodist Church, Igreja Evangélica Metodista Portuguesa, The Methodist Church in Zimbabwe, UMC Nordic, Baltic & Ukraine Area, UMC Central Conference of Central and Southern Europe, L'Opera per le Chiese Evangeliche Metodiste in Italia, Iglesia Evangélica Española, The Church of North India, Methodist Church Hong Kong, Gereja Methodist Indonesia, The United Church in Solomon Islands, The Methodist Church of New Zealand/Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa, The Methodist Church Ghana, The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, Comunidad Cristiana Metodista de Venezuela, Iglesia Evangélica Metodista Argentina and from among our Mission Partners.
- 3/7/2 The Revd Jacqueline Liddell of The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas responded on behalf of the World Church guests.
- 3/7/3 The Conference welcomed the ecumenical associate members of the Conference from The United Reformed Church, The Baptist Union of Great Britain. The Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, The Church of England and The Church in Wales.
- 3/7/4 The Conference welcomed as guests Maswood Ahmed from the Muslim Council of Britain, Rabbi Nava Hefetz from Rabbis for Human Rights, Sheikh Nuru Mohammed from the Clifton Road Mosque Balsall Heath and Amrick Singh Ubhi from the Council of Sikh Gurdwaras Birmingham.
- 3/7/5 The Revd Rebecca Sparey-Taylor of The Church in Wales responded on behalf of the ecumenical guests.
- 3/8 **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**
The President of the Conference delivered her inaugural address.
- 3/9 The Conference adjourned at 16.05.
- 3/10 The Conference reassembled at 17.00.
- 3/11 **VICE-PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**
The Vice-President of the Conference delivered her inaugural address.
- 3/12 **2. FIRST REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**
The Conference adopted Resolution 2/1.
- 3/13 **47. SECOND REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**
The Conference adopted Resolution 47/1.

3/14 **THIRD REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

3/14/1 The Business Committee brings this update to its Reports printed in volumes 1 and 3 of the Agenda (items 2 and 47).

1. With reference to the length of speeches as set out in paragraph 3 of the First Report of the Business Committee (Agenda page 26), the Committee wishes to assure the Conference that this will be adapted for those speakers who have additional needs. The Committee wishes to ensure that all members of the Conference are able fully to participate, and therefore the speech limits will be applied with flexibility in those cases. It would be helpful, therefore, if those with particular needs who intend to speak could let the Business Committee know, via the Record Office, what adaptations need to be made.
2. An update to paragraph 7 of the first report (page 31) is that the Conference is required to elect five members of the Business Committee, three ministers and two lay persons, to serve on the Committee for three years (the Conferences of 2024, 2025 and 2026). Nomination forms have been circulated by email and are available from the Helpdesk; they should be placed in the ballot boxes by 14:00 on Tuesday 27 June, with voting taking place on Wednesday 28 June.
3. Nomination forms for Conference-elected representatives have been placed on the website and are available from the Helpdesk. This year, of the Conference-elected representatives to serve from 2024-2026, two will be presbyteral and two will be lay, thus fulfilling SO 103(2A). Nominations must be submitted by 14:00 on Tuesday 27 June, with voting taking place on Wednesday 28 June. Should the Conference adopt resolution 35/5 in its current or in an amended form, the Chair of the Business Committee will confirm to the Conference what elections, if any, need to take place.
4. Paragraph 9 of the First Report sets out the criteria and procedure for requesting that a letter be sent on behalf of the Conference. Members of the Conference are asked, if possible, to email conferenceletterwriter@methodistchurch.org.uk with the details of the request. Where that is not possible, please contact the Help Desk.
5. The schedule of business has been available on the Conference website and regularly updated. It now shows the current situation. Any Conference member wishing to have a hard copy can obtain one from the Helpdesk.
6. The Committee recommends the use of an electronic voting system for any counted votes. The ballots for the President and Vice-President of the Conference of 2024, Conference-elected representatives and members of the Conference Business Committee will be distributed via email and the elections conducted via an online voting system.
7. Nominees for President and Vice-President of the Conference for 2024 and as Conference-elected representatives 2024-2026 are kindly asked to have their photographs taken, for use in the visual projection during breaks. Would they please see June Howard-Norman in the Conference Arrangements Team office as soon as possible and no later than the respective closing times for nominations given in the Agenda page 32. In the

event that nominees are not present at the Conference, it would be most helpful if those making the nominations could arrange for nominees' photos to be sent electronically to asc@methodistchurch.org.uk.

8. There are two ballot boxes on each side of the hall. These can all be used at any time on Saturday until 19:00 and from Monday morning onwards for all nomination papers, strictly observing the deadlines given on page 32 of the Agenda. Please do not place your envelope with your completed Trustee Declaration Form and Register of Interest form in these boxes; they should be deposited in the box by the Helpdesk.

9. Memorials will be taken as shown in the table below:

Number	Title	Business
M1	Methodist corporate email provision for ministers	<i>En bloc</i>
M2	Resourcing the Church	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section M
M3	Annual returns	43. Triennial membership returns
M4	Statement from Methodist leaders in Jerusalem	<i>En bloc</i>
M5	Methodist Liaison Office, Jerusalem and Statement from Methodist Leaders	<i>En bloc</i>
M6	Anti-Semitism	<i>En bloc</i>
M7	Rural mission policy	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section M
M8	District probationers' committee and probationers' retreat	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section N
M9	District probationers' committee and probationers' retreat	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section N
M10	District probationers' committee and probationers' retreat	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section N
M11	District probationers' committee and probationers' retreat	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section N
M12	Access to the Worship: Leading and Preaching Course	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section N
M13	Ministerial Development Review	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section N
M14	Review of Part 11 of Standing Orders	3. Methodist Council, part 1: Section H
M15	Funding the payment of a stipend for a minister during long term absence	11. Connexional Allowances Committee
M16	Funding the payment of a stipend for a minister during long term absence	11. Connexional Allowances Committee
M17	Membership and Statistics for Mission	43. Triennial membership returns
M18	EDI Training	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section P
M19	EDI Training	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section P

M20	SO 650(6)	42. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity (2)
M21	Locally resident members	42. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity (2)
M22	Annual affirmations	Stand alone – Wednesday morning
M23	Data protection	<i>En bloc</i>

Any recommended reply to a memorial which is the subject of an amending notice of motion will automatically be removed from the *en bloc* list. A memorial can only be removed from the *en bloc* list if an alternative reply is proposed by way of a notice of motion.

10. The list of *en bloc* items of business (page 531) is now as printed below:

3. Methodist Council, part 1, Sections A, B, C, D
8. The Trustees for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Methodist Church Purposes
9. The Trustees for Jersey Methodist Church Purposes
10. Methodist Homes (MHA)
15. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity (1)
16. Methodist Forces Board
17. Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)
18. Methodist Schools Appointments
19. All We Can
22. Methodist Council, part 2, sections I, J, K, L, Q
28. Stationing Committee
30. Referred Memorials and Notices of Motion
31. Rydal Penrhos College – Amendment of Governance Structure and revision of Articles of Association
37. A S Peake Memorial Trust
38. Methodist Ministers' Housing Society (MMHS)
39. Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
42. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity (2), Sections I and J
44. Necessitous Local Preachers' Fund (NLPF)
53. Managing Trustees of John Wesley's New Room and Charles Wesley's House, Bristol
54. Managing Trustees of the Methodist Central Hall Westminster
55. Methodist Diaconal Order General Report

Memorials to the Conference as listed in paragraph 9 above.

Under the terms of SO 134A, if Notices of Motion are received about items in the *en bloc* list (including memorials), those items will automatically be removed from the above list. In addition, by giving notice to the Assistant Secretary of the Conference, any six members of the Conference may, without proposing an amendment, require that any item, except a recommended reply to a memorial, be removed from the list and debated. Such notice must be given before the close of business on Monday 26 June (SO 134A(1)(c)).

3/14/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution B/1:

The Conference adopts the Report.

3/15 **PRESBYTERAL SESSION BUSINESS COMMITTEE ELECTION**

The Conference elected the following to serve on the Presbyteral Session Business Committee at the Conferences of 2024-2026:

The Revd Dr Bonni-Belle F Pickard

3/16 **52. REPORT TO THE REPRESENTATIVE SESSION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED BY THE CONFERENCE DIACONAL COMMITTEE**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 52/1 and 52/3.

3/17 The Conference shared in worship, and adjourned at 17.58.

- 4/1 The Conference assembled at 10.45.
- 4/2 The Conference shared in worship, during which the President preached. The following business was transacted.
- 4/3 **RECEPTION INTO FULL CONNEXION AS PRESBYTERS**
The following persons were presented for admission into Full Connexion, the Presbyteral Session having judged that they were fit for such admission and, if not already ordained, for ordination:
- 4/3/1 The preachers on trial:
- Elisabeth Karen Brooks
 - Sarah Butcher
 - Michelle Deans
 - Craig Gaffney
 - Jonathan Garde
 - Paul Kenneth Alexander Harold
 - John Trevor Saxelby Hayward
 - Sally Ann Jones
 - Jean-Claude Mwansa Kimpinde
 - Sarah Elizabeth Lamb
 - Gareth Sherwood
 - Gillian Songer
 - Stephen John Spain
- 4/3/2 The following persons to be received by transfer:
- Dawn Francis Brown
 - Paulo Bessa Da Silva
 - Elizabeth Christina Catharina Van Aardt-Goddess
 - Ray Hampden Goddess
 - Brian Hutton
 - Clement Matarirano
 - Richman Ncube
 - Noel Nhariswa
 - Brenton Robert Prigge
 - Janet Elizabeth Verrier
- 4/3/3 One person to be received by reinstatement and transfer:
- Brain Magadzire
- 4/3/4 The Conference resolved by a Standing Vote that those persons whose names had been read to the Conference and are printed in the Agenda and Daily Record be now received into Full Connexion with the Conference as presbyters, and that those not already ordained be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands on the afternoon of this day, the twenty-fifth day of June 2023, at Coventry Cathedral.
(Resolution 40/6)

4/4 **RECEPTION INTO FULL CONNEXION AS DEACONS**

4/4/1 The following persons were presented for admission into Full Connexion and as full members of the Methodist Diaconal Order, the Conference Diaconal Committee having judged that they were fit for such admission and, if appropriate, for ordination:

Tessa Joanne Bennett
Sarah Emily Hoe-Crook
Sarah Pitkeathly
Sarah Jane Rigby

4/4/2 The Conference resolved by a Standing Vote that those persons whose names had been read to the Conference and are printed in the Agenda be now received into Full Connexion with the Conference as deacons and into full membership of the Methodist Diaconal Order, and if not already ordained, be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands on the afternoon of this day, the twenty-fifth day of June 2023, at Coventry Central Hall.

(Resolution 52/4)

4/5 The Conference adjourned at 12.15.

- 5/1 The Conference assembled at 9.15 and shared in worship.
- 5/2 **APPOINTMENT OF ATTESTORS**
- 5/2/1 Katharine Crew and Matthew C Collins were appointed to attest the Daily Record and related documents.
- 5/2/2 Carolyn Hothersall and The Revd Luke G S Smith were appointed to attest the Journal and related documents.
- 5/3 **FOURTH REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**
- 5/3/1 The Business Committee reminds members of the Conference that, in order to submit a notice of motion, all signatures are required before the deadline for submission.
- The Conference Business Committee reports the following changes to the timetable of business: The closed session will now take place at 16:45 on Monday afternoon and not at 18:00 on Tuesday. Report 43 and Memorials M3 and M17 will be taken on Tuesday afternoon.
- The Law and Polity Conference Sub-committee has requested that Section K of the Methodist Council report (Minutes of the Conference and Directory) be removed from the *en bloc* list. The Business Committee has therefore scheduled this to be taken on Wednesday at 14:15.
- Memorial M21 will be taken on Tuesday afternoon rather than Wednesday.
- 5/3/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution B/2:
- The Conference receives the Report.
- 5/4 **3. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 1, Sections E, G**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 3/7, 3/8, 3/11, 3/12 and 3/13.
- 5/5 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Section S**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 22/20 and 22/21.
- 5/6 **3. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 1, Section H**
- 5/6/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 3/14.
- 5/6/2 **Memorial M14**
The Conference received Memorial M14 and adopted as its reply that recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorial and the reply appearing on Agenda pp 655-656.
- 5/7 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Sections T, O, P**
- 5/7/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 22/22, 22/13, 22/14 and 22/15.

5/7/2

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE JUSTICE, DIGNITY AND SOLIDARITY SCRUTINY GROUP

The JDS Scrutiny Group has continued to meet together during 2022/2023 and has met on two occasions with the Secretary of the Conference. We hope that meetings after each Methodist Council can be arranged for the next connexional year with consideration given regarding the way forward from September 2024 as Oversight and Trusteeship proposals are firmed up. Two members of the group have also met with the Connexional Secretary in relation to the recruitment of a new staff member as the Implementation Officer moves to a new role to include project management. It is our hope that this will be advertised shortly as there will inevitably be a gap as recruitment has not yet happened. We want to acknowledge the work undertaken by both the Connexional EDI Adviser and the Implementation Officer and the members of the JDS Committee and thank them for their diligence and flexibility, particularly in the absence of both Co-Chairs of the JDS Committee during this year due to ill health and sabbatical time. In spite of these difficulties, significant progress has been made.

During this year we have also met with Sue Miller from the Susannah Wesley Foundation and with Ermal Kirby, the facilitator of the Transformation Task Group. Transformation was a key subject in both conversations. We hope that the Methodist Council during this year will be able to consider work on transformation in more depth as this is surely the way that the first aim of the JDS strategy “The Conference commits itself to systemic, structural and cultural change” can be achieved.

The members of the Scrutiny Group met last September with representatives of Mazars who undertook an EDI internal audit review. A number of things came out of that review which we and others had identified regarding the information which was being kept relating to implementing the JDS strategy. In particular that information was in places “incomplete and difficult to interpret”.

The JDS committee is committed to putting in place a detailed project plan to enable robust project management of the delivery of the JDS strategy. The project plan must identify action required, the individuals responsible for action, the resources required and dates for completion. We would expect regular reporting against the project plan, reasons for any missed dates explained and what remedial action is being taken.

The Scrutiny Group has worked with the EDI Adviser and Implementation Officer with input from members of the JDS Committee to develop and agree clearer, more detailed terms of reference for our group following that audit.

There is one area which both the audit and the work of the Committee have demonstrated needs to have some clear and urgent emphasis in this next phase of the strategy. This is data collection and monitoring. This would enable the Church to counter accusations of bias or organisational failings in relation to EDI matters where these are not actually the case or are exaggerated, and also to provide evidence of progress made as a result of the implementation of the strategy. For example, when it is publicly asserted that there are significant disproportions of certain categories in some areas of the Church’s life, it is difficult to refute those assertions without the data. It will be particularly important as new trusteeship and oversight structures are developed and consideration given to where connexional leadership is exercised to have the evidence that we can show that JDS matters have been considered and taken into account.

Given the significant changes proposed in the organisation of the Connexion, we commend the use of EDI impact assessments and look for assurance that JDS matters have been considered in all reports and reviews. The role of the JDS

committee will need to be clear as the committee structure and reporting lines are finalised.

As the Conference considers the reports before it we do have concerns about the proposal related to oversight and trusteeship that the JDS Committee report to the Mission Committee rather than the Connexional Council. One of our concerns as major reviews on areas such as Complaints and Discipline, Stationing and Nominations take place has been how we show consistency in how JDS matters are kept to the forefront in similar ways in different reviews. JDS matters will certainly be key in areas of ministries and resources as well as mission. It is also not clear how JDS matters can be brought up where decisions are made if there is no JDS Committee representation replacing that of the Co-Chairs being members of the Methodist Council. Alongside this concern the “hope” in the report on the composition of the Conference that a category for EDI concerns and the Youth Assembly will become unnecessary because the Districts, from their reduced number of representatives, may become more broadly representative, as a result of embedding the JDS strategy, does seem like a triumph of hope over experience. We will be looking to ask how these concerns are being met as the Oversight and Trusteeship work moves forward.

This year we have been particularly pleased to see the work on the Discrimination and Abuse Response Service and the Solidarity Circles get under way as well as the EDI training being taken up across the Connexion, albeit not necessarily in a uniform way. Progress is certainly being made on the implementation of the strategy but we cannot be complacent about the journey we still have to make.

Ruby Beech, Bala Gnanapragasam and John Robinson, JDS Scrutiny Group

- 5/7/3 The Conference adopted as Resolution 22/15A:
The Conference receives the Report.
- 5/7/4 **Memorials M18, M19**
The Conference received Memorials M18 and M19 and adopted as its replies those recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorials and the replies appearing on Agenda pp 659-661.
- 5/8 The Conference adjourned at 11.09.
- 5/9 The Conference reassembled at 11.40.
- 5/10 The Conference engaged in Bible study, led by Alison Ransome.
- 5/11 **58. PROPOSAL FOR A NEW DISTRICT IN NORTH WEST ENGLAND**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 58/1 and 58/2.
- 5/12 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Sections R, U**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 22/18, 22/19, 22/23 and 22/24.
- 5/13 **7. ACTION FOR CHILDREN**
- 5/13/1 The Conference received a presentation by Paul Carberry and Jordan McCreery from Action for Children.
- 5/13/2 The Conference adopted Resolutions 7/1 and 7/2.

- 5/14 The Conference adjourned at 13.02.
- 5/15 The Conference reassembled at 14.15.
- 5/16 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Section V**
The Conference adopted Resolution 22/25.
- 5/17 **24. UNIFIED STATEMENT OF CONNEXIONAL FINANCES**
The Conference adopted Resolution 24/1.
- 5/18 **11. CONNEXIONAL ALLOWANCES COMMITTEE**
- 5/18/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 11/1, 11/2 and 11/3.
- 5/18/2 **Memorials M15, M16**
The Conference received Memorials M15 and M16 and adopted as its replies those recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorials and the replies appearing on Agenda pp 656-658.
- 5/19 **35. COMPOSITION OF THE CONFERENCE**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 35/1, 35/2 and 35/3,

p 449-451, Table at paragraph 10:
2024 column: Conference Elected, *for '7' reading '5'*,
and noting that the number of dual-qualified persons is not yet fully known
and therefore the number of members elected by Synods will be adjusted
accordingly, but will be at least 158
2025 column: noting that some figures are necessarily provisional at this
stage.
- 5/20 **12. A JUSTICE-SEEKING CHURCH: THE REPORT OF THE WALKING WITH MICAH PROJECT**
Rachel Lampard introduced this agenda item. The Conference engaged in discussion.
- 5/21 The Conference adjourned at 16.15.
- 5/22 The Conference reassembled in closed session at 16.45.
- 5/23 A report was presented to the Conference about a confidential inquiry regarding safeguarding processes.
- 5/24 A report was presented to the Conference by the Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice regarding charity regulatory matters. *[as corrected by 6/14]*
- 5/25 A report was presented to the Conference on behalf of the Convenors of Connexional Discipline and Appeal Committees regarding disciplinary processes concluded during the past year.
- 5/26 The Conference reassembled in open session at 17.18.
- 5/27 **DAILY RECORD**
- 5/27/1 The Daily Record of the Presbyteral Session on Thursday 22 June and Friday 23 June was presented, taken as read, and adopted,

at 2/13, for '47. OVERSIGHT AND TRUSTEESHIP' reading '57. OVERSIGHT AND TRUSTEESHIP'.

- 5/27/2 The Written Portion of the Daily Record of the Presbyteral Session was presented in headings only and adopted.
- 5/27/3 The Daily Record for Saturday 24 June and Sunday 25 June was presented, taken as read, and adopted.
- 5/28 **57. OVERSIGHT AND TRUSTEESHIP, Sections A, B, C**
- 5/28/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 57/1 and 57/2.
- 5/28/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 57/3,

p 618, clause (4) of the proposed Standing Order
third line, for 'on-line' reading 'electronically'
- 5/28/3 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolution 57/4.
- 5/28/4 The Conference adopted Resolution 57/6, noting the correction to p 618 above.
- 5/28/5 The Conference adopted Resolution 57/7.
- 5/28/6 **Notice of Motion 2023/101: Section C of the Oversight and Trusteeship Report**
The Conference recognises that it is important that the proposals for the establishment of the Connexional Council and its relationship with the Conference should command the confidence of the Methodist Church in Britain generally. The Conference therefore directs the Law and Polity Committee:

to consider and report to the Conference of 2024 on the questions (1) how any dispute between the Conference and the Connexional Council would be resolved and (2) how and in what circumstances members of the Connexional Council might be removed (whether or not in the event of such a dispute); and

to bring to that Conference any amendments to Standing Orders which the Committee recommends should be made in the light of the report.
- 5/28/7 The Conference adopted the Motion.
- 5/29 The Conference shared in worship, and adjourned at 18.24.
- 5/30 **LETTERS**
- 5/30/1 Letters of concern were sent in the name of the Conference to The Revd Dr David Hinchliffe, John Heard, The Revd Dr John McPake of the Church of Scotland, The Revd Lic Medarno Vedia Gutiérrez of la Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia and Jeremias Nimo of la Iglesia Metodista de Guinea Ecuatorial.
- 5/30/2 A letter of condolence was sent in the name of the Conference to The Revd Colin Emerson.

- 6/1 The Conference assembled at 9.15 and shared in worship.
- 6/2 **46. DISTRICT RESOLUTION**
The Conference declined Resolution 46/1.
- 6/3 **27. ONLINE CHURCH**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 27/1, 27/2, 27/3 and 27/4.
- 6/4 The Conference adjourned at 10.58.
- 6/5 The Conference reassembled at 11.30.
- 6/6 The Conference engaged in Bible study, led by The Revd Dr Al Barrett, the Rector of Hodge Hill.
- 6/7 **12. A JUSTICE-SEEKING CHURCH: THE REPORT OF THE WALKING WITH MICAH PROJECT (continued)**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 12/1, 12/2, 12/3 and 12/4.
- 6/8 The Conference adjourned at 13.05.
- 6/9 The Conference reassembled at 14.15.
- 6/10 **13. JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ETHICS OF INVESTMENT (JACEI)**
The Conference adopted Resolution 13/1.
- 6/11 The Conference heard a presentation by the Evangelism and Growth Team and engaged in workshops about the *'God for All'* strategy.
- 6/12 The Conference adjourned at 16.15.
- 6/13 The Conference reassembled at 16.45.
- 6/14 **DAILY RECORD**
The Daily Record for Monday 26 June was presented, taken as read, and adopted,
5/24, inserting 'charity' before 'regulatory matters'
- 6/15 **20. 3GENERATE 2022 – METHODIST CHILDREN AND YOUTH ASSEMBLY**
- 6/15/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 20/1,

p 272, **Main Points**, first bullet point, *for 'their faith and life' reading 'about faith and life'*

p 273, **Tune In**, second paragraph, line 3, *for 'taken for themselves' reading 'taken by themselves'*

third paragraph, line 3, *deleting* 'This process was woven throughout the event and in every venue.'

p 283, in the bold heading, *for* 'their faith and life' *reading* 'about faith and life'

p 284, second paragraph, line 5, *for* 'Youth Ministry Essentials course' *reading* 'Youthscape Essentials course'

6/15/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 20/2.

6/15/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 20/3 in the form:

The Conference encourages all Methodist people, as they seek to live a Methodist Way of Life, to build their confidence in speaking with children and young people about faith and life and recommends to them the first module of the Youthscape Essentials training course as a way to develop their skills in this area.

6/15/4 The Conference adopted Resolutions 20/4 and 20/5.

6/16 **36. ECUMENICAL REPORT**

6/16/1 Bishop John Sherrington, the Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster and Co-Chair of the Methodist-Roman Catholic International Commission, brought greetings to the Conference.

6/16/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 36/1.

6/17 **26. PENSION SCHEMES**

6/17/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 26/1,

p 392, paragraph 15, line 5, *for* 'buy-in' *reading* 'buy-out'

6/17/2 The Conference adopted Resolutions 26/2, 26/3, 26/4, 26/5 and 26/6.

6/18 The Conference shared in worship, and adjourned at 18.27.

6/19 **LETTERS**

6/19/1 Letters of greeting and thanks were written in the name of the Conference to Jon Purcell, retiring Methodist Council Liaison Officer for Methodist Archives, and The Revd Dr David J Hart, who retired this year as chair of the Archives and Records Advisory Group.

6/19/2 Letters of thanks were written in the name of the Conference to the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, World Church Representatives, preachers and Connexional Team representatives involved in the ordination services on 25 June, and to the local organisers.

6/19/3 Letters of thanks were written in the name of the Conference to Alison Ransome, who led Monday's Bible study, and to Paul Carberry, Chief Executive of Action for Children, thanking him and his colleague, Jordan McCreery, for their presentation to the Conference.

- 7/1 The Conference assembled at 9.15.
- 7/2 The Conference shared in a celebration of Holy Communion, in which the following, who have died in the last year, were remembered:
- (a) the presbyters remembered in the Presbyteral Session and listed at 2/10.
 - (b) the deacons who have died since the last Conference:

Rosa Miriam Eleanor Boulton
Stella Mary Bullivant
David Clark
Constance Lawson
Janet Linda Miles
Rita Adriana Savage
 - (c) the following lay people especially remembered as servants of the Church:

Sylvia Cowling
Bryan Hindmarsh
Leon Murray
Keith Slatter
Garnet Walker
 - (d) those who have served as Mission Partners:

The Revd Dr Brian E Beck
The Revd John E Clarke
The Revd Kenneth R Cracknell
Margaret Day
The Revd Denise M Greeves
The Revd David J Griffiths
Joyce Hastings
Dr Elisabeth Hogerzeil
The Revd Derek R House
The Revd Peter Howard

The Revd Glanville T Magor
The Revd Robert A Marsh
The Revd Baden A R Pearce
The Revd Dr Norman W
Taggart
The Revd Ralph F G Taylor
The Revd W G Flaxman Vivian
The Revd J Keith Webster
The Revd Prof Frank Whaling
 - (e) 257 accredited Local Preachers whose names are recorded in a Book of Thanksgiving held by the Connexional Team;
 - (f) many others whose service is known to others and to God.
- 7/3 The Conference adjourned at 10.42.
- 7/4 The Conference reassembled at 11.15.

7/5 **FIFTH REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

7/5/1 **Budget**

The Business Committee has considered the presentation of the Connexional Central Services Budget to the Conference. Noting that there are no memorials relating to the budget, and that no notices of motion have been submitted that impact the budget, the Committee recommends that the budget can be presented, discussed and adopted by the Conference on Thursday morning.

Order of business

The Business Committee has scheduled the business for Wednesday as set out in the Order Paper. Item 56 has been scheduled to be taken on Thursday morning. The remaining resolutions attached to the Composition of the Conference and the Oversight and Trusteeship reports will also be taken on Thursday morning.

Speeches

In view of the amount of business still to be dealt with, the Business Committee proposes that speeches be reduced to three minutes for presenters and one and a half minutes for other speakers.

7/5/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution B/3:

The Conference receives the Report.

7/6 **DESIGNATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE**

The Revd Helen D Cameron was designated for appointment as President of the Conference of 2024.

7/7 **DESIGNATION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE**

Carolyn J Godfrey was designated for appointment as Vice-President of the Conference of 2024.

7/8 The Conference engaged in Bible study, led by The Revd Simon C Sutcliffe.

7/9 **Memorial M22**

The Conference received Memorial M22 and adopted as its reply that recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorial and the reply appearing on Agenda pp 666-668.

7/10 **23. SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE**

The Conference adopted Resolution 23/1.

7/11 **34. RELIEF AND EXTENSION FUND FOR METHODISM IN SCOTLAND**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 34/1 and 34/2.

7/12 **21. FAITH AND ORDER COMMITTEE**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 21/1, 21/2, 21/3 and 21/4.

7/13 **14. SERVICES OF MARRIAGE**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 14/1, 14/2, 14/3 and 14/4.

- 7/14 The Conference adjourned at 12.56.
- 7/15 The Conference reassembled at 14.15.
- 7/16 **3. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 1, Section F**
- 7/16/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 3/9.
- 7/16/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 3/10 in the form:
- The Conference revokes SO 111(3) with effect from the 2024 Conference.
- 7/17 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Sections K, M, N**
- 7/17/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/4,
- p 305, *replacing* paragraph 4. *with*:
The proposal is that the first editions to be printed under this new arrangement will be those which record the decisions of the 2024 Conference. The Law and Polity Conference Sub-committee has identified some further regulatory and policy issues which need to be resolved before bringing Standing Order amendments to the Conference for approval.
- and *deleting* the amended version of Standing Order 124 on pp 306-307.
- 7/17/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/5 in the form:
- The Conference approves the proposal to separate the Minutes of the Annual Conference and the Directory of the Methodist Church into two publications and directs the Law and Polity Committee, in consultation with the Methodist Council, to bring the necessary Standing Order amendments to the 2024 Conference.
- 7/17/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/7.
- 7/17/4 **Notice of Motion 2023/104: Mission Partner Programme**
- The Conference is concerned to read in Methodist Council Report Part 2 Section M para 8 (page 311) of the seemingly abrupt ending of the lay mission partners scheme. Methodism has sent lay mission partners with professional skills for many decades going back long before Methodist Union.
- The Conference understands that changes to the Mission Partner programme are part of an ongoing transformation of our global relationships and how they are manifested. However, while the Conference recognises that there have been detailed deliberations within the committees it asks for ongoing reflection by the Global Relationships Committee and the Mission Committee and for this to be reported to the Methodist Council (who act as employers for lay mission partners) as they implement the changes outlined in the report:
1. To recognise the impact on existing mission partners who have been commissioned to serve for an agreed time in an agreed role;
 2. To consider what role there might be for those who are spouses of ordained mission partners within any ongoing programme;
 3. To consider whether the aspiration about stipends to be paid at local rates is realisable.

The Conference asks the Global Relationships Committee to plan for appropriate ways to celebrate the contribution of mission partners in the coming year.

7/17/5 The Conference adopted the Motion.

7/17/6 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/8 in the form:

The Conference approves A Methodist Way of Life in accordance with the understanding set out in paragraph 10 above.

7/17/7 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/9.

7/17/8 **Memorials M2, M7**

The Conference received Memorials M2 and M7 and adopted as its replies those recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorials and the replies appearing on Agenda pp 635-636 and pp 643-644.

7/17/9 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/10,

p 333, paragraph 65. line 4
for '2024 Conference' reading '2023 Conference'

7/17/10 The Conference agreed to the withdrawal of Resolution 22/11.

7/17/11 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/12.

7/18 The Conference adjourned at 16.20.

7/19 The Conference reassembled at 16.45.

7/20 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Section N (continued)**

Memorials M8-M13

The Conference received Memorials M8-M13 and adopted as its replies those recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorials and the replies appearing on Agenda pp 644-655.

7/21 **DAILY RECORD**

7/21/1 The Daily Record for Tuesday 27 June was presented, taken as read, and adopted.

7/21/2 The Written Portion of the Daily Record for the Representative Session was presented in headings only and adopted.

7/22 **29. REVIEW OF CRITERIA FOR AUTHORISATIONS TO PRESIDE AT THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 29/1, 29/2, 29/3, 29/4, 29/5 and 29/6.

7/23 **6. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolutions 6/1 and 6/2.

7/24 **42. COMMITTEE ON METHODIST LAW AND POLITY (2), Sections D, E, F, G, H**

7/24/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 42/1, 42/2, 42/3 and 42/4.

7/24/2 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolution 42/5.

7/24/3 The Conference adopted Resolutions 42/6 and 42/7.

7/24/4 The Conference adopted Resolutions 42/8 and 42/9,

p 510, title of Standing Order:
for '760 Resignation' reading '760 Resignation'

p 511, Standing Order 760(5), line 9
for 'is stationed or has pastoral charge' reading 'is stationed or of which he or she has pastoral charge'

7/24/5 The Conference adopted Resolutions 42/10 and 42/11.

7/24/6 **Memorial M20**

The Conference received Memorial M20 and adopted as its reply that recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorial and the reply appearing on Agenda pp 662-664.

7/25 **43. THERE IS ROOM: TRIENNIAL MEMBERSHIP RETURNS 2019-2022**

The Conference adopted Resolution 43/1,

p 515, *adding* after the table at paragraph 4:

The table below shows the membership figures by District, recorded in 2019 and 2022. Please note that these figures are not adjusted for missing data.

		2019	2022	Percentage of churches complete
2	Wales Synod Cymru	6836	5357	97.54
5	Birmingham	6952	5250	80.99
6	Bolton and Rochdale	3618	3371	98.67
7	Bristol	7031	6050	100
9	Cumbria	2666	1936	83.95
10	Channel Islands	934	823	100
11	Chester and Stoke	6688	3889	68.75
12	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	4600	4074	90.48
13	Darlington	4377	3853	95.45
14	East Anglia	5745	4675	91.85
15	Isle of Man	813	556	68.97
17	Lincolnshire	3784	3111	98.2
18	Liverpool	4380	3520	87.95
19	Manchester and Stockport	6408	4330	86.32
20	Newcastle upon Tyne	6204	3761	80.51
21	Lancashire	6134	3443	74.44
22	Nottingham and Derby	7144	5766	100
23	Northampton	9093	6938	85.78
24	Plymouth and Exeter	6301	3861	85.21
25	Sheffield	5651	4669	100
26	Southampton	7537	6507	94.37

27	Yorkshire West	9513	8011	97.33
28	Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury	6020	3515	56.57
29	Yorkshire North and East	7624	6338	96.13
31	Scotland	1830	1812	90.62
32	Shetland	175	142	100
34	Bedfordshire, Essex & Herts	6742	5786	98.64
35	London	15651	12787	86.11
36	South East	8926	7708	96.36

7/26 The Conference shared in worship, and adjourned at 18.28.

7/27 **LETTERS**

Letters of thanks were written in the name of the Conference to The Revd Dr Al Barrett, who led Tuesday's Bible study, and to Rachel J Lampard for leading the sessions on 'A justice-seeking Church'. *[as corrected by 8/43/1]*

- 8/1 The Conference assembled at 9.15 and shared in worship.
- 8/2 **CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE ELECTION**
The Conference elected the following to serve on the Representative Session Business Committee at the Conferences of 2024-2026:
- The Revd Leigh A Maydew
The Revd Jennifer M Porterpryde
The Revd Mmasape Zihle
Daniel Keen
Anna Malnutt
- 8/3 **25. CONNEXIONAL CENTRAL SERVICES BUDGET 2023/2024**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 25/1, 25/2, 25/3 and 25/4.
- 8/4 **35. COMPOSITION OF THE CONFERENCE (continued)**
- 8/4/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 35/4.
- 8/4/2 The Conference received the following additional report:
- When the Agenda was printed, it was thought that it would be necessary, in order to achieve the reduction in the number of Conference-elected representatives, whilst complying with the current requirements of the Deed of Union, to elect one presbyteral representative at this Conference. That is no longer the case since one of the lay representatives will be standing down at the end of this Conference. To give effect to the reduction in numbers which has been agreed, there should be no further elections of Conference-elected representatives. The Law and Polity Conference Subcommittee therefore advises the Conference that Resolution 35/5 should be moved in the following form (below).
- If the Deed of Union amendments proposed in Resolution 35/7 are confirmed by the Conference of 2024, a resolution will provide for existing Conference-elected representatives to complete their term of office.
- 8/4/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 35/5 in the form:
- The Conference suspends Standing Order 103 until the close of the Conference of 2024.
- 8/4/4 The Conference adopted Resolution 35/6.
- 8/4/5 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolution 35/7.
- 8/5 **57. OVERSIGHT AND TRUSTEESHIP (continued)**
- 8/5/1 The Conference, with the required majority, rescinded Resolution 57/3 adopted at 5/28/2.
- 8/5/2 The Conference re-adopted Resolution 57/3,

p 615, *replacing* the final sentence of paragraph 24 *with*:
'It is proposed that the Connexional Council shall appoint the managing trustees of Conference property in place of the Conference.'

p 618, clause (4) of the proposed Standing Order, line 3,
for 'on-line' reading 'electronically'

8/5/3 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolution 57/5,

p 617, paragraph 26, *replacing* the section under the heading **B Connexional and Conference property** *with*:

1. Interpretation.

'Conference trustees' means, in relation to any Conference property or any part of such property, the persons or body of persons, being members of the Church, annually appointed by the ~~Conference~~ **Connexional Council** to be the managing trustees of such property or part property;

'Connexional Trustees' means, in relation to any Connexional property or any part of such property, **the Connexional Council** ~~the person or persons for the time being constituting, in accordance with Standing Orders, the Connexional Trustees for that property or part property;~~

2. (1) [specifying who are the managing trustees]

(d) Connexional property: the Connexional Trustees;

(dA) Conference property: the Conference Trustees;

8/5/4 The Conference adopted Resolutions 57/8 and 57/9.

8/5/5 The Conference adopted Resolution 57/10,

adding the names:

Nick Garrett, Bala Gnanapragasam (Chair), The Revd Dr Nicola V Price-Tebbutt, Verity Wild

Nick Garrett

A member of Gracious Street Methodist Church, Knaresborough and a member of their leadership team and Church Council. He has experience of being a charity trustee and a town councillor. He brings experience in strategic planning, being a member of governing body, Human Resources management, property development and audit functions. He is a member of the Strategy and Resources Committee.

Bala Gnanapragasam

Bala Gnanapragasam is a former Vice President of the Conference and he brings several years of experience in business, public and charity sectors in relation to HR selection process.

Nicola Price-Tebbutt

The Revd Dr Nicola Price-Tebbutt is currently Director of Research and Scholarship in the Connexional Team. Prior to that she was the Secretary of the Faith and Order Committee for nine years. She has experience of recruiting people to numerous working parties and committees. As a former theological college tutor she brings experience in discerning and nurturing gifts as well as a keen interest in exploring different ways of working and conferring.

Verity Wild

Verity Wild is a schoolteacher with a degree in Mathematics. She is a competent young person who has experience of Methodist structures, policies, and practices. Verity has been a 3Generate Youth Representative for nearly 5 years; efficiently and wisely advising the Youth President on matters. Verity has also served on various Committees and governing bodies such as the Methodist Council, the Methodist Conference, and the Conference Financial Committee.

8/5/6 The Conference adopted as Resolution 57/10A:

The Conference delegates to the Council the appointment of further members of the Nominations Committee up to a maximum of three.

8/5/7 The Conference adopted Resolutions 57/11, 57/12, 57/13 and 57/14.

8/5/8 The Conference adopted Resolution 57/15,

adding:

Continuing membership from 2022/2023:

Anne Bolton, The Revd Dr David M Chapman, Susan R Howdle, The Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler, Dr Daleep S Mukarji, The Revd Leslie M Newton, David Pickles, The Revd Mark Rowland, Sandie Smith, Doug Swanney, The Revd Dr James N Tebbutt.

8/6 **56. CANDIDATING FOR MNISTRY – STANDING ORDER AMENDMENTS**

8/6/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 56/1 and 56/2,

replacing the proposed Standing Order amendments on pp 586-599 *with:*

Section 71 Presbyteral and Diaconal Candidates

710 General. (1) *Candidating for the diaconate or the presbyterate in the Methodist Church is a process of discernment by the candidate and the Church of the call of God upon a person's life and of how the Church may respond to it. In the remainder of this Section a "candidate" means a candidate for the diaconate or the presbyterate in the Methodist Church unless otherwise stated.*

(2) *It shall be the responsibility of the relevant member of the Connexional Team to make available a variety of resources to enable and encourage the exploration of vocation.*

(3) *Following any such exploration every candidate shall engage in a process of discernment of vocation comprising two stages. Stage One is a formal process of accompanied reflection leading up to a decision by the person concerned whether or not to offer as a candidate for ordained ministry. Stage Two is the process of consideration of such an offer once it has been made.*

(4) *It shall be the responsibility of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee annually to produce Information for Candidates setting out the process, requirements, dates and deadlines for both stages of Discernment of Ordained Vocation.*

(5) The Conference shall adopt and publish, and may from time to time amend, discernment criteria to be applied in considering offers by candidates for training as presbyters or deacons.

711 Appointments. (1) The Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee shall annually appoint:

- (i) a pool of appropriately gifted people to serve on an Advisory Group as directed by the relevant member of the Connexional Team;*
- (ii) a pool of appropriately gifted people from whom the relevant member of the Connexional Team shall appoint an accompanist for each candidate; and*
- (iii) such other appropriately gifted and experienced people as it thinks necessary for the purpose specified in clause (4) below.*

(2) An Advisory Group Panel of three people selected from the Advisory Group by the relevant member of the Connexional Team and normally comprising a presbyter, a deacon and lay member, will meet with each candidate.

(3) The role of the accompanist is to support the candidate through the journey of vocational discernment, to meet and reflect with the candidate and to produce the agreed record referred to in Standing Order 712(2) below.

(4) The purpose for which additional persons are to be appointed under head (iii) of clause (1) above is the purpose of delivering both stages of the process of discernment of ordained vocation effectively each year and in particular supporting each candidate pastorally throughout the process and, where necessary beyond it, whatever its outcome.

712 Discernment of Ordained Vocation: Stage One. (1) Any person exploring whether to offer as a candidate in accordance with the Stage One process shall have fulfilled all of the requirements of Stage One as set out in the Information for Candidates produced annually by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee as required by Standing Order 710(4) above.

(2) Every person entering Stage One shall be assigned an accompanist from the pool appointed in accordance with Standing Order 711(1)(ii) above by the relevant member of the Connexional Team. The person and the accompanist shall normally meet on at least three occasions either in person or online to review how the person's discernment is progressing and produce an agreed record of it which will form part of a candidate's portfolio.

(3) Unless the person concerned has voluntarily withdrawn every potential candidate shall meet with an Advisory Group Panel drawn from the Advisory Group appointed as set out in Standing Order 711(1)(i) above to reflect on the potential candidate's progress. The Advisory Group Panel shall suggest:

- (i) continuing to Stage Two to offer as a candidate; or*
- (ii) continuing to Stage Two to offer as a candidate after having undertaken further identified elements of preparation; or*

- (iii) *undertaking further exploration of vocation before returning to offer as a candidate in a subsequent year; or*
- (iv) *exploring a different vocation.*

If the suggestion made by the Advisory Group Panel falls within the categories (ii), (iii) or (iv) above, it shall nonetheless be for the potential candidate alone to decide whether or not to continue to offer for ordained ministry in the Methodist Church in the current year, with or without having undertaken any further identified elements of preparation.

713 Discernment of Ordained Vocation: Stage Two. (1) *A candidate shall have been baptized and shall have been a member of the Methodist Church in good standing for at least one year as at 1 September in the connexional year in which the candidate's offer is made.*

(2) *A candidate shall submit such forms and supply such references and other documentation as shall from time to time be required by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee.*

(3) *A candidate must have and demonstrate the legal right to work in the United Kingdom.*

(4) *A candidate shall meet with the connexional psychologist who shall produce a resilience assessment report which the candidate will be invited to sign before it is submitted.*

(5) *A candidate shall submit a portfolio in the form and covering the areas of experience from time to time required by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee.*

(6) (a) *A candidate shall satisfy the Superintendent that the candidate assents to the doctrinal standards set out in clause 4 of the Deed of Union and indicate willingness, on reception into Full Connexion, to uphold the discipline of the Church, including its discipline in relation to stationing. In addition, a candidate for the diaconate shall indicate willingness to accept the commitments entailed in becoming a full member of the Methodist Diaconal Order.*

(b) *The Superintendent shall also make a preliminary assessment on a connexional proforma of what might reasonably be expected of the candidate's future availability for stationing in circuit or other appointments and the terms and conditions of service under which the candidate might serve.*

(7) *A candidate must be prepared to accept the form and length of training prescribed by the Conference.*

(8) *An offer shall only be accepted if the candidate at the time of acceptance:*

- (i) *again indicates a willingness to uphold the discipline of the Church in relation to stationing; and*
- (ii) *provides in writing an affirmation of willingness to be stationed in the active work for a minimum period of ten years.*

(9) *Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (8) above, the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee may in an individual case make*

recommendations as to exemption from the requirements of that clause to the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation, who shall have the power to grant or withhold such exemptions subject in each such case to the agreement of the Conference.

(10) A person who was formerly a candidate may not re-offer for either the presbyterate or the diaconate in the year following that in which the previous offer was declined unless advised to do so in writing by the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation.

714 The Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation. (1) The Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation shall examine all continuing candidates and shall report directly to the Presbyteral Session of the Conference in the case of presbyteral candidates and the Conference Diaconal Committee in the case of diaconal candidates.

(2) The committee shall meet on or before the date or dates determined by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee and shall take the form and be conducted in the manner set out in the Information for Candidates referred to in Standing Order 710(4) above.

(3) In order to facilitate the process of discernment of vocation the committee shall have access to all portfolios, documents, references and reports submitted together with any and all such other information as the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee may from time to time determine.

(4) The Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation shall report to the Presbyteral Session of the Conference or the Conference Diaconal Committee, as the case may be, under the classification specified in clause (5) below, the vote for each candidate being recorded and no neutrals being allowed. In reaching its classification the committee shall apply the discernment criteria published under Standing Order 710(5).

(5) The Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation shall have three categories in which it may report on candidates in accordance with clause (4):

- (i) Recommended: those candidates in respect of whom the committee recommends by a majority of 75% or more that, if accepted on that basis, they may proceed immediately or after deferment to pre-ordination training;*
- (ii) Conditionally Recommended: those candidates in respect of whom the committee recommends by a majority of 75% or more that, if accepted on that basis, they must first fulfil a condition but, provided that condition is fulfilled within three years, may then proceed to pre-ordination training;*
- (iii) Not Recommended: those candidates whom the committee does not recommend by a sufficient majority, or whom it judges to be unsuitable or not called to the form of ministry for which they offered.*

The recommendations in classes (i) and (ii) above are subject to there being no obstacle found in the safeguarding check or Occupational Health assessment

required by clauses (6) and (7) of this Standing Order. The report and the reasons given shall be made available to the candidate in writing.

(6) Every candidate recommended or conditionally recommended for training and every candidate not recommended for training, but who has appealed against the recommendation of the committee and whose appeal has been upheld, must undertake a safeguarding Disclosure and Barring Service check if based in a home district in England or Wales, or its equivalent if based in a home district in another legal jurisdiction. The check must be completed before the Conference to which the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation or the Appeals Committee, as the case may be, will report its recommendation.

(7) Every candidate recommended or conditionally recommended for training and every candidate not recommended for training, but who has appealed against the recommendation of the committee in accordance with Standing Order 716(2) below and whose appeal has been upheld, must undertake an Occupational Health assessment in accordance with Standing Order 715(2) below. The assessment, and any appeal against the recommendations of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee made in consequence of that assessment, must be completed before the Conference to which the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation or the Appeals Committee, as the case may be, will report its recommendation.

(8) The Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation may also advise on the desirable length and form of pre-ordination training for all candidates who are Recommended or Conditionally Recommended, shall make a judgment on any applications for deferment of pre-ordination training and, if it thinks fit, may for the purposes of Standing Order 713(10) advise a candidate whose offer is declined to re-offer in the following year.

715 Candidates' Health. *(1) The Methodist Council shall adopt and publish, and may from time to time amend, the Candidates Health Policy to be applied by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee when considering and making a determination consequent upon the outcome of the Occupational Health assessment of a candidate made under clause (2) below*

(2) Every candidate to whom Standing Order 714(7) applies shall undertake an Occupational Health assessment for the purpose of identifying adjustments that, for reasons of physical, mental or emotional health, or a combination of such reasons, will need to be put in place to enable a candidate to carry out the duties reasonably to be expected of a presbyter or deacon. The assessment shall be carried out by such external body or company as shall from time to time be appointed for this purpose by the Methodist Council.

(3) The Occupational Health assessment shall take place after the recommendation of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation, or the decision of the Appeals Committee, as the case may require, has been communicated to the candidate.

(4) The report of the outcome of the Occupational Health assessment shall be made available to the candidate and to the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee.

(5) If the Occupational Health assessment identifies a need for such adjustments as are referred to in clause (2) above, it shall be the responsibility of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee to make one of the following determinations:

- (i) that the candidate be recommended for acceptance unconditionally to the Conference;**
- (ii) that the candidate be recommended for acceptance conditionally to the Conference; or**
- (iv) that the candidate be not recommended for acceptance to the Conference.**

The committee's determination shall replace the previous recommendation of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation or, if applicable, of the Appeals Committee.

(6) In making the determination required by clause (5) above the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee shall determine only whether the adjustments identified by the Occupational Health assessment can reasonably and in timely manner be put in place having regard to and in all cases applying the Candidates Health Policy.

(7) Any candidate shall have the right to appeal against any recommendation made under clause (5) above, by following the appeals procedure set out in Standing Order 716 below.

716 Appeals. (1) The candidate, or with the candidate's consent the candidate's Superintendent or Chair, may, by notice given in writing to the secretary of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation, or in the case of an appeal against a recommendation of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee in accordance with Standing Order 715(5) above to the secretary of that committee, within fourteen days of notification to the candidate in writing of the decision of the committee, appeal against the recommendation of the committee, on one or more of the following grounds:

- (i) that the procedural provisions of this Section have not been correctly followed;**
- (ii) that there are facts which were not available to the committee and which are such as to make its recommendation inappropriate;**
- (iii) that the judgment of the committee, as conveyed to the candidate in the official letter informing the candidate that the offer made has been declined, is questioned in writing by both the Superintendent and the Chair of the candidate.**

The notice of appeal must specify the grounds of appeal and a reasoned statement to support the appeal shall be supplied by the appellant.

(2) Every such case shall be considered by an Appeals Committee of eight persons, of whom seven shall be a quorum. In the case of an appeal by or on behalf of a candidate for the diaconate the committee shall always include at least two deacons. The members of the committee shall be selected by the convener from the

panel appointed by the Methodist Council under Standing Order 326A. The convener shall be present throughout the meeting of the committee in order to advise on procedure and practice but shall not speak on the substance of the case and shall have no vote.

(3) The Appeals Committee shall be supplied at its meeting with copies of all papers from Stage One and Stage Two of the appellant's Discernment of Ordained Vocation process in the case of every appeal and, where the appeal is under Standing Order 715(7) above, the Occupational Health assessment, whether that appeal is against the recommendation of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation or of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee, and the secretary of the relevant committee shall expound its case for its recommendation.

(4) The candidate and any other appellant specified in clause (1) above shall have the right to attend the committee, to be present for the presentation of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation's case or that of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee, as the case may be, and to reply. The candidate may be accompanied by a presbyter or deacon of the candidate's own choice.

(5) The candidate may be questioned about the grounds of the appeal and, where the appeal is under heads (ii) or (iii) of clause (1) above, the issues cited in the judgment of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation or of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee but there shall be no general rehearing of the case or repetition of the assessment procedures, as the case may be, of the relevant Committee.

(6) After the candidate (if present), any other appellant and the secretary of the relevant committee have withdrawn, the Appeals Committee shall decide whether or not to uphold the appeal.

(7) Subject to the above the Appeals Committee shall regulate its own procedure.

(8) The Appeals Committee shall report to the Presbyteral Session of the Conference or the Conference Diaconal Committee, as the case may be, with the number of votes cast for and against its recommendation, no neutrals being allowed. Any recommendation at variance with that of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation or of the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee (as appropriate) shall require not less than six votes in favour.

717 The Conference. (1) The Conference in its Presbyteral Session shall first consider those presbyteral candidates in respect of whom there has been an appeal in accordance with Standing Order 716. The convener of the Appeals Committee shall present that committee's recommendation and the Conference shall vote upon each case in turn.

(2) When the cases specified in clause (1) have been dealt with all those candidates who have been recommended or conditionally recommended by a 75% majority or more by the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation, or by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee in respect of cases dealt with under Standing Order 715(5), shall be proposed to the Conference en bloc.

(3) Those candidates whom the committee has listed as Not Recommended in accordance with Standing Order 714(5) or 715(5) and in respect of whom no appeal has been made under Standing Order 716 shall then be proposed en bloc to be declined by the Conference.

(4) No candidate for the presbyterate shall be recommended or conditionally recommended by the Presbyteral Session to the Representative Session for the presbyterate save by a vote of 75% or more of the members of the Conference present and voting.

(5) The provisions of Clauses (1) to (4) of this Standing Order shall apply to the Conference Diaconal Committee in considering and making its recommendations in respect of diaconal candidates as if references to the Presbyteral Session were references to that committee.

(6) The candidates for the presbyterate recommended or conditionally recommended by the Presbyteral Session and the candidates for the diaconate recommended or conditionally recommended by the Conference Diaconal Committee shall be proposed respectively en bloc for acceptance or conditional acceptance as the case may be by the Conference in its Representative Session.

(7) No candidate shall be accepted or conditionally accepted save by a vote of 75% or more of the members of the Conference in its Representative Session present and voting.

718 Change of Order of Ministry. *(1) A deacon in Full Connexion or diaconal probationer intending to offer as a candidate for the presbyterate shall inform the Superintendent, Chair and the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order. A student deacon intending so to offer shall inform the oversight tutor with overall responsibility for the student's training institution and the Warden.*

(2) A presbyter in Full Connexion or presbyteral probationer intending to offer as a candidate for the diaconate shall inform the Superintendent and Chair. A student presbyter intending so to offer shall inform the oversight tutor with overall responsibility for the student's training institution.

(3) Every such candidate must be prepared to accept the form and length of training prescribed by the Conference.

(4) The candidate shall arrange for the provision of such documentation and other information and fulfil such other requirements as may be directed by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee, including in the case of a presbyteral candidate such reports on the candidate's ability to lead worship and to preach as may be appropriate. The candidate must also demonstrate an adequate ability to benefit from study and to apply what has been learnt. In the case of a student or probationer this shall include reports from the relevant training institution.

(5) The provisions of Standing Orders 713 to 717 shall apply, and the period of pre-ordination training and probation shall be determined by the Presbyteral Session of the Conference or Conference Diaconal Committee when the candidate is accepted.

(6) A candidate who is a deacon shall cease to be in Full Connexion as a deacon and to be a member of the Methodist Diaconal Order on the commencement of pre-ordination training or on entry upon probation, whichever is the earlier. If for any reason pre-ordination training or probation for the presbyterate is not completed, the candidate shall be entitled to apply for reinstatement as a deacon under the provisions of Standing Order 761.

(7) A candidate who is a presbyter shall cease to be in Full Connexion as a presbyter on the commencement of pre-ordination training or on entry upon probation, whichever is the earlier. If for any reason pre-ordination training or probation for the diaconate is not completed, the candidate shall be entitled to apply for reinstatement as a presbyter under the provisions of Standing Order 761.

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

320 Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation. (1) There shall be a connexional Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee *for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation* appointed annually by the Conference and consisting of:

- (i) two Team members responsible for initial presbyteral and diaconal training and candidates, and
- (ii) not more than eighty other persons nominated by the Methodist Council of whom not more than twelve shall be involved in initial ministerial training.

In addition the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order shall have the right to attend meetings of the committee but shall have no vote.

321 Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee. (1) The Methodist Council shall annually appoint a connexional Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee consisting of:

- (i) no more than two representatives of oversight committees of training institutions;
- (ii) three persons each of whom is a current or recent member of a district Candidates Committee *has recent and relevant experience of discerning vocation for candidates*; and
- (iiA) three persons each of whom is a current or recent member of a district Probationers Committee;

326A Appeals. The *Methodist Council* council shall appoint an Appeals Panel consisting of persons who are not members of the Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee *for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation* to deal with appeals under Standing Order ~~715~~ **716** or 722(3). The council shall also appoint a convener of Appeals Committees.

402 District Committees. ...

...(6) ~~Subject to Standing Order 451 the~~ **The** persons who are eligible to be members of district committees are those who, if ministers or probationers, are members of or (in the case of forces chaplains and chaplains' assistants) entitled to attend the Synod or, if not ministers or probationers, are members in the District or members of other communions involved in partnership schemes within the District which have been approved by the Conference.

Section 45 District Candidates Committee: This section is to be revoked in its entirety.

48A5 Further provisions relating to modified constitutions. ...

- (2) The provisions referred to in clause (1) above are the following:
- (i) *[revoked]*
 - (ii) Section 43 (District Policy Committee);
 - (iii) Standing Order 442 (chaplains);
 - (iv) *[revoked]*
 - (v) Standing Order 444 (formal education);
 - (vi) ~~Section 45 (district Candidates Committee);~~ and
 - (vii) Section 47 (property).

722 Pre-ordination Training. ...

(2) In the case of each person who is recommended by the Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee **for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation** for acceptance as a candidate the Connexional Team member responsible for pre-ordination training shall ensure that any training recommendations made by the ~~district Candidates Committee or the Selection committee~~ are reviewed by a connexional allocations panel in the discharge of its responsibilities under clause (3) below.

730 Ministerial Transfer between Churches. (1) ...

(1A) The Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation shall act as the Transfer Committee in respect of all applications to be received into Full Connexion by the Conference as presbyters or deacons by transfer.

(2) (a) Persons ordained to the ministry of word and sacraments in other conferences or other Christian churches, ordained deacons of the United Methodist Church or of a church with a three-fold order of ministry and officers of the Salvation Army who wish to be admitted into Full Connexion with the Conference as presbyters shall apply in writing to the President, by the date annually determined by the **Transfer Committee** ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee~~, and the President or the Vice-President on ~~his or her~~ **the President's** behalf shall arrange for the application to be considered as set out in the following clauses.

(b) Ordained deacons of other conferences or Christian churches or officers of the Salvation Army who wish to be admitted as deacons in Full Connexion with the Conference shall apply in writing to the President, by the date annually determined by the **Transfer Committee** ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee~~, and the President or the Vice-President on ~~his or her~~ **the President's** behalf shall arrange for the application to be considered as set out in the following clauses.

~~(3) So far as judged desirable, in each case, by the Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee, the requirements of clauses (4) and (5) of Standing Order 710 shall apply as if the applicant were a candidate offering for the presbyterate or the diaconate.~~

(4) Subject to clause (5B) below the appropriate Connexional Team member responsible for presbyteral or diaconal candidates shall obtain:

...

(iiiA) **evidence that the applicant has the legal right to work in the United Kingdom;**

...

(v) a report from **a connexional assessor who shall meet the applicant and make such other enquiries as to the applicant's suitability to exercise ministry effectively in the context of the Methodist Church,**

~~together with~~ the Superintendent of the Circuit in which the applicant resides, including a preliminary assessment on a connexional proforma of what might reasonably be expected of the ~~candidate's~~ **applicant's** future availability for stationing and the terms and conditions of service under which she or he might serve;

- (vi) **a resilience assessment report on the applicant provided by a connexional psychologist in accordance with connexional guidelines, which the applicant will be invited to sign before it is submitted.**

(5) Subject to clause (5B) below the Team member shall also **ensure that an occupational health assessment shall be conducted for each applicant recommended by the Transfer Committee. The assessment shall be conducted in accordance with the Health Policy adopted for candidates under Standing Order 715(1) with any necessary modifications and, in particular, substituting 'applicant' for 'candidate' throughout.:**

- (i) ~~require the applicant, not later than the date determined by the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committees, to complete and return to the Team member the medical questionnaire provided for that purpose, for consideration and report by a doctor specified by the Team member in consultation with the medical committee appointed by the Methodist Council;~~
- (ii) ~~appoint and obtain a report from a connexional assessor, who shall meet the applicant and make such other enquiries as to the applicant's effectiveness in ministry as he or she thinks fit;~~
- (iii) ~~obtain a 'fitness to minister' assessment covering both physical and psychological wellbeing conducted by a provider of occupational health services.~~

(5A) (a) **The assessment shall be sent to the Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee who shall advise the responsible connexional officers about any adjustments that, for reasons of physical, mental and/or emotional health may need to be put in place to enable an applicant to carry out the duties reasonably to be expected of a deacon or presbyter. It may also recommend that the responsible connexional officers make changes to the category in which the Transfer Committee reports on the applicant to the Conference under clause (6) below.**

(b) **The results of this assessment shall be disclosed to the applicant.**

(c) **If the applicant wishes to appeal against the assessment the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with clause (10) below.** ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee only after it has made its recommendation. The medical committee of the Methodist Council shall be consulted if the recommendation of the 'fitness' assessor contradicts a 'recommended' or 'conditionally recommended' report from the committee.~~

(5B) In the case of an applicant who is recognised and regarded as a presbyter or a deacon under clause 43(b), 44(b), 45(a) or 45A(a) of the Deed of Union the requirements of clauses (4) and (5) above shall apply only to the extent determined by the **Transfer Committee** ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee.~~

(6) The application shall be considered by the **Transfer Committee** ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee~~, meeting specially, if necessary, for the purpose. Clauses (1) to ~~(9)~~ **(4) and (7)** of Standing Order 713**4** shall apply with any necessary modifications and, in particular, substituting 'applicant' for 'candidate' throughout; adapting clause (3) in the light of clause 5(iii) above, and adapting clause (9) as set out in clause ~~(7)~~ below.

(7) ***The Transfer Committee shall have three categories in which it may report on applicants*** ~~The classes under which the committees shall report shall be:.....~~

(8) ...

- (ii) the Stationing Committee has approved outline provisions for the stationing of the minister including proposals about how she or he will exercise his or her ministry and the terms and conditions of service under which she or he will serve, and the ~~Selection~~ ***Transfer*** Committee is satisfied that the applicant is willing and able to fulfil them.

...

(10) The applicant may, by notice in writing to the appropriate Team member responsible for candidates for the presbyterate or the diaconate, apply for a review of the recommendation of the committee, specifying the grounds of appeal. The notice shall be given so as to reach the Team member within fourteen days of notification in writing to the applicant of the decision of the committee. The appeal shall be dealt with under Standing Order ~~715~~**716** (2) to ~~(98)~~ ***substituting "applicant" for "candidate" throughout***, except that

- (i) there shall be no other appellant than the applicant;
- (ii) ***the phrase "Stage One and Stage Two of" should be omitted in Standing Order 716(3), and "relevant connexional officer" substituted for "Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee";***
- (iii) ***the phrase "and any other appellant specified in clause (1) above" in Standing Order 716(4) should be omitted;***
- (v) ***substituting "the relevant connexional officer" for "Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee" in Standing Order 716(8).***

...

(13) (a) ~~If the Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee~~ ***Transfer Committee*** recommends that an application be accepted even though the applicant's own conference or equivalent authority refuses its consent to a transfer, the recommendation shall be reported to the Methodist Council, which shall consider the implications of the case for the relations between the Conference and the other conference or church, and shall advise the Conference whether the committee's recommendation be accepted.

...

(14) The Presbyteral Session of the Conference and the Conference Diaconal Committee shall consider the reports received from the ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee~~ ***Transfer Committee*** and (if applicable) the Appeals Committee on all applications for transfer under this Standing Order and make recommendations to the Representative Session of the Conference. No applicant shall be recommended or conditionally recommended for acceptance except by a vote of three fourths of the members of the recommending body present and voting. A similar majority shall be required for acceptance or conditional acceptance by the Conference in its Representative Session.

731 Former Ministers of other Churches applying to be received into Full Connexion.

...

(2) Where such a person applies to be received into Full Connexion then the procedures of Standing Order 730 shall apply with the following variations:

- (i) The ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection~~ ***Transfer*** Committee shall inquire into the reasons why the applicant is no longer regarded as a

- presbyteral minister or deacon, and shall be satisfied that, if he or she had been applying for reinstatement under Standing Order 761, the application would have been granted.
- (ii) The view of the applicant's previous conference or church as to the application shall be ascertained.
 - (iii) Whether the applicant is resident in the home Districts or elsewhere, the report of the assessor as under Standing Order 730(5) **and (5A)** (ii) shall in no case be omitted, unless for good reason, stated in the ~~Selection Committee's~~ report **of the Transfer Committee**.
 - (iv) If the applicant's conference or church formally registers its objection to the application the provisions of Standing Order 730(13) shall apply.

...

732 Persons Recognised and Regarded as Presbyters or Deacons. ...

(3) ...

(d) All such applications shall be made to the Secretary of the Conference, and in the case of deacons also to the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order, and in either case by the date annually determined by the ~~Ministerial Candidates Selection~~ **Transfer** Committee under Standing Order 730(2)(a) or (b), as applicable. The Secretary shall ensure that the applications are assessed by the same connexional bodies as deal with those offering for reception into Full Connexion by transfer, and according to similar criteria, and shall bring them to the Presbyteral Session of the Conference or the Conference Diaconal Committee, as the case may be, with recommendations.

...

733 Persons Authorised to Serve as Presbyters or Deacons. ...

(4) In cases arising after the meeting of the Conference the Secretary may bring the recommendation concerning an application to the President or the Vice-President on **the President's** his or her behalf, and where the ~~President or Vice-President~~ judges that the urgency of the situation **is judged to** demands it, **the President or Vice-President** he or she may grant to an eligible person an authorisation having immediate effect and continuing until the 31st August following the next meeting of the Conference.

...

734 ~~Presbyteral and Diaconal Probationers~~ Persons in training for ordained ministries of other Conferences and Churches. ...

(2) (b) The appropriate Connexional Team member ~~responsible for presbyteral or diaconal candidates~~ shall in each case obtain from the candidate and from the appropriate authorities in the applicant's own conference or church and his or her training institution the assurances required by clause (2)(a) above.

...

8/6/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution 56/3:

The Conference directs the editor of the *Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church* to make those amendments to Section 73 of Standing Orders which are needed in order to ensure gender neutral language before the publication of the 2023 edition.

- 8/7 **Memorials M3, M17, M21**
The Conference received Memorials M3, M17 and M21 and adopted as its replies those recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorials and the replies appearing on Agenda pp 636-637, 658-659 and 664-666.
- 8/8 **3. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 1, Sections A, B, C, D**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 3/1, 3/2, 3/3, 3/4, 3/5 and 3/6.
- 8/9 **8. THE TRUSTEES FOR THE BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY METHODIST CHURCH PURPOSES**
The Conference adopted Resolution 8/1.
- 8/10 **9. THE TRUSTEES FOR JERSEY METHODIST CHURCH PURPOSES**
The Conference adopted Resolution 9/1.
- 8/11 **10. METHODIST HOMES (MHA)**
The Conference adopted Resolution 10/1.
- 8/12 **15. COMMITTEE ON METHODIST LAW AND POLITY (1)**
8/12/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 15/1.
8/12/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 15/2,
p 241, *deleting* paragraph 5
8/12/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 15/3.
- 8/13 **16. METHODIST FORCES BOARD**
The Conference adopted Resolution 16/1.
- 8/14 **17. TRUSTEES FOR METHODIST CHURCH PURPOSES (TMCP)**
The Conference adopted Resolution 17/1.
- 8/15 **18. METHODIST SCHOOLS APPOINTMENTS**
8/15/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 18/1, 18/2, 18/3, 18/4, 18/5, 18/6 and 18/7.
8/15/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 18/8,
for 'Mr Steven College' reading 'Mr Steven Colledge' in the wording of the Resolution
8/15/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 18/9 in the form:
The Conference adopts the nomination by the Methodist Council of the Revd Stuart Ellis, Mr Steve Myers and Mr Gareth Roberts as Trustees of the Epworth Education Trust for a period of three years concluding 31 August 2026.
8/15/4 The Conference adopted as Resolution 18/10:

The Conference adopts the nomination by the Trustees of Mrs Bernasia Halikova and Mrs Gillian Wilson as Trustees of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust for a period of three years concluding 31 August 2026.

Bernasia Halikova has over 40 years' experience leading high-profile assignments involving organisational change management, post-mergers restructuring, business performance improvement, HR strategy and implementation. In addition, Bernasia is a former Governor at a Methodist school in Suffolk and served within their Finance Committee, among other sub-committees.

Gillian Wilson is a retired headteacher with experience in both state primary schools and independent prep schools. Gillian also worked for the Independent Association of Prep Schools as a team inspector and as a mentor of new Heads. In addition, she represented other headteachers at the GEMS Group of Schools. Gillian is currently serving as a Chair of Governors at a Methodist prep school in Yorkshire and is in full sympathy with the Methodist ethos and vision.

8/15/5 The Conference adopted as Resolution 18/11:

The Conference adopts the nomination of Professor Peter G Flew as a Trustee of the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust for a period of three years concluding 31 August 2026.

Professor Peter G Flew is the Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dean of the School of Education at University of Roehampton. Peter is a former primary Headteacher and joined the University of Roehampton in 2013 as a Principal Lecturer. He was awarded the title Professor of Leadership in Education in September 2021. Peter is a member of the Methodist Church.

8/16 **19. ALL WE CAN**

The Conference adopted Resolution 19/1.

8/17 **22. METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 2, Sections I, J, L, Q**

8/17/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/1.

8/17/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 22/2,

p 302, paragraph 4, *noting* the following additional report:

The Law and Polity Conference Sub-committee has considered the interpretation of Standing Orders referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Report and advises that there is more flexibility in using funds proceeding from the sale of any CCL property than paragraph 4 of the Report suggests. Whilst district trustees should certainly consider using the proceeds of sale "in continuing the work of God in the relevant city centre" as their first and foremost district purpose in this scenario, if that use/purpose is not appropriate for whatever reason, then Standing Orders and the Model Trusts make it possible for the money to be used for general or other specific district purposes. For further details of the analysis, please contact the Law and Polity Committee secretary: lcp@methodistchurch.org.uk.

8/17/3 The Conference adopted Resolutions 22/3, 22/6, 22/16 and 22/17.

- 8/18 **28. STATIONING COMMITTEE**
The Conference adopted Resolution 28/1.
- 8/19 **30. REFERRED MEMORIALS AND NOTICES OF MOTION**
The Conference adopted Resolution 30/1.
- 8/20 **31. RYDAL PENRHOS COLLEGE – AMENDMENT OF GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND REVISION OF ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 31/1 and 31/2.
- 8/21 **37. A S PEAKE MEMORIAL TRUST**
8/21/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 37/1,

p 459-460, *replacing* the report with the following:

Contact name and details	The Revd Dr Andrew J Lunn admin@mandsmethodists.org.uk
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The Trust was set up in 1932 to memorialise the work and life of Arthur Samuel Peake, a Primitive Methodist layperson and Biblical scholar, tutor at Hartley College, Manchester, and in 1904 becoming the first Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis in the University of Manchester. The Trust had been run in close partnership with Hartley Victoria College, until that closed in 2015.

The 2022 Conference appointed a new body of Trustees, who have met twice since then. They are planning to run a day conference in Manchester in March 2024 as the first of a new series of events organised under the Trust’s auspices.

Under the terms of the Trust, the Conference has the power to amend the Trust Deed. The Trustees have been advised to amend the Trust Deed to confirm that the Trustees may use the capital as well as the income in the Trust, and to clarify the number of Trustees and how they are appointed. The Trustees therefore request that the Conference confirms these amendments.

The Trustees have also redrafted the regulations for the Trust to reflect the ways they believe the resources of the Trust could best be utilised at this point in its history, and ask the Conference to approve these amended regulations which will, if adopted, replace the existing regulations in their entirety.

- 8/21/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 37/2 in the form:

The Conference resolves in accordance with clause 3 of the A S Peake Memorial Trust Deed Poll dated 21 December 1932, that clause 2 of the said Deed Poll is deleted in its entirety and replaced with:

“2. The trustees must apply the income and, at their discretion all or part of the capital, of the Peake Memorial Fund in furthering the objects mentioned in clause 1 and may do any lawful thing that is necessary or desirable for the achievement of the said objects.”

- 8/21/3 The Conference adopted as Resolution 37/3:

The Conference resolves that the charity trustees of the A S Peake Memorial Trust may, pursuant to section 280 of the Charities Act 2011, alter clause 4 of the A S Peake Memorial Trust Deed Poll dated 21 December 1932, so that clause 4 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with:

“4. The number of trustees shall be a minimum of four and a maximum of seven. Any new trustee or trustees shall be appointed by the said Conference of the Methodist Church from persons nominated for the vacancy or vacancies by the charity trustees of the A. S. Peake Memorial Trust.”

8/21/4 The Conference adopted as Resolution 37/4:

The Conference approves the regulations for the A S Peake Memorial Trust as set out below, such regulations to replace the existing regulations in their entirety.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR A S PEAKE MEMORIAL TRUST 2023

A S Peake Memorial Trust (“the Trust”)

Regulations

1. These regulations are made in accordance with the governing document of the Trust being a Deed Poll dated 21 December 1932 (as amended) (“the Deed Poll”) and replace in their entirety any existing regulations. If there is any conflict between these regulations and the Deed Poll, the Deed Poll shall take precedence.

2. The Managing Trustees

a) The charity trustees of the Trust (“Managing Trustees”) to be appointed in accordance with clause 4 of the Deed Poll shall include lay participation, and where possible two trustees who represent theological higher education in Greater Manchester but who need not be Methodist members or ministers.

b) The Managing Trustees appointed in accordance with clause 4 of the Deed Poll shall serve for three years, but any Managing Trustee may be re-appointed at the expiration of their term provided that no Managing Trustee shall serve for more than 9 years in total.

c) The Managing Trustees shall issue an annual report to the Methodist Conference together with a statement of accounts.

d) The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes shall act as custodian trustees for the invested funds, and shall forward the annual income less expenses to the fund holder appointed by the Trustees (currently the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church) whose receipt shall be a sufficient discharge.

8/22 **38. METHODIST MINISTERS’ HOUSING SOCIETY (MMHS)**

The Conference adopted Resolution 38/1.

8/23 **39. CENTRAL FINANCE BOARD OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 39/1 and 39/2.

- 8/24 **42. COMMITTEE ON METHODIST LAW AND POLITY (2), Sections I, J**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 42/12 and 42/13.
- 8/25 **44. THE NECESSITOUS LOCAL PREACHERS FUND (NLPF)**
- 8/25/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 44/1,
 p 522, paragraph 15, lines 1 and 2,
 for 'in the Law and Polity Committee'
 reading 'in consultation with the Law and Polity Committee'
- 8/25/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 44/2,
 adding the names:
 Ros Peedle, Gauri Taylor-Nayar, the Revd Caroline A Weaver, the Officer for
 Worship & Local Preachers, *ex officio*
- Ros Peedle**
 Rosalind Peedle is a Local Preacher in the North Norfolk circuit. She has been involved with LWPT for many years, including as Trustee of the NLPF. She has a strong commitment to the ethos of the Fund and detailed knowledge of its history and development.
- The Revd Caroline A Weaver**
 Caroline is a presbyter and a member of MCPOC and the Ministries Committee. Since starting to preach in 1983 she has supported and encouraged people to consider their vocations to lead worship and preach and been involved in training, and continuing development.
- Gauri Taylor-Nayar**
 Gauri is a local preacher living in Cardiff. She is an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate, music teacher and trustee for two charities (Cardiff Foodbank and Home4U, which works with destitute asylum seekers).
- Robert Bartindale – ex officio**
 Bob Bartindale is a local preacher in the Bramhall and Wythenshawe Circuit and currently serves as the Officer for Worship and Local Preachers in the Connexional Team.
- 8/25/3 The Conference adopted Resolutions 44/3, 44/4 and 44/5.
- 8/26 **53. MANAGING TRUSTEES OF JOHN WESLEY'S NEW ROOM AND CHARLES WESLEY'S HOUSE, BRISTOL**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 53/1 and 53/2.
- 8/27 **54. MANAGING TRUSTEES OF THE METHODIST CENTRAL HALL WESTMINSTER**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 54/1 and 54/2.
- 8/28 **55. METHODIST DIACONAL ORDER GENERAL REPORT**
The Conference adopted Resolutions 55/1 and 55/2.

8/29 **Memorials M1, M4, M5, M6, M23**

The Conference received Memorials M1, M4, M5, M6 and M23 and adopted as its replies those recommended by the Memorials Committee, the Memorials and the replies appearing on Agenda pp 633-635, 637-642 and 668-669.

8/30 **5. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS (continued)**

8/30/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 5/1,

p 78, **A. Future Conferences**, *amending* the last three lines to read:

2024	Leeds	27 June – 3 July
2025	Telford	26 June – 2 July
2026	Telford	25 June – 1 July

8/30/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 5/2,

p 78, *deleting* the heading 'If there are to be six:' and the churches listed after it

p 79, *deleting* the heading 'If there are to be twenty:' and the churches listed after it

8/30/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 5/7.

8/31 The Conference adjourned at 10.56.

8/32 The Conference reassembled at 11.30.

8/33 **41. AUTHORISATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 41/1 and 41/2,

noting the following Additional Report:

One appeal was received against the recommendations of the Authorisations Committee. Under Standing Order 011(3), such appeals are heard by a further committee appointed for the purpose from amongst the members of the next Conference by the Methodist Council. The report of the appeals committee is required to be presented along with the General Report of the Authorisations Committee.

The Council duly appointed an appeal panel which reviewed the paperwork from the Authorisations Committee along with the additional information in support of the appeal from the Circuit concerned. On the basis of new information, and noting that this had changed since the submission date for the Authorisations Committee's consideration, the panel agreed to uphold the one appeal and therefore adds the following to the lists printed in the Agenda:

36/18	Weald of Kent	Kirsty S McGhee	P
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and *with* the following amendments:

pp 487-491 List A

<i>for</i> 12/9	Liskeard and Looe	David Nicholls	L
<i>reading</i> 12/19	Liskeard and Looe	David Nicholls	L
<i>adding</i> 26/1	Southampton	Penny Thorne	P
<i>adding</i> 27/21	Settle	Wendy Holt	L

<i>adding</i> 36/17	Hastings, Bexhill and Rye	Alan Hurrell	L
<i>adding</i> 36/17	Hastings, Bexhill and Rye	Jill Sayers	L
<i>adding</i> 36/18	Weald of Kent	Kirsty S McGhee	P

pp 491-496 List B

<i>deleting</i> 12/8	Bodmin, Padstow and Wadebridge	Myra Williams	L
<i>deleting</i> 12/20	Camelford and Week St Mary	Sophie Doyle	L
<i>deleting</i> 12/20 <i>for</i> 22/2	Camelford and Week St Mary	Loveday Paynter	L
<i>reading</i> 22/22	National Forest East	Susanna Draper	L
<i>deleting</i> 24/16	National Forest East	Susanna Draper	L
<i>deleting</i> 26/11	Tiverton and Wellington	Dawn Nadim	L
	Isle of Wight	John Wells	L

pp 496-498 List C

<i>deleting</i> 12/8	Bodmin, Padstow and Wadebridge	Caroline Bailey	L
<i>deleting</i> 12/8	Bodmin, Padstow and Wadebridge	Rod Harrison	L

8/34 **48. PRESBYTERS AND DEACONS BECOMING SUPERNUMERARY OR RETURNING TO THE ACTIVE WORK (continued)**

8/34/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 48/3,
noting the corrections listed at 2/29/1.

8/34/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 48/4,
p 533, **3.** *for* 'Deborah D E Harkness' reading '*Deborah D E Harkness'

8/35 **40. MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES AND PROBATIONERS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (continued)**

The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 40/3.

8/36 **52. REPORT TO THE REPRESENTATIVE SESSION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED BY THE CONFERENCE DIACONAL COMMITTEE (continued)**

The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 52/2.

8/37 **50. PRESBYTERS AND DEACONS FROM OTHER CHURCHES**

8/37/1 The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 50/1.

8/37/2 The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 50/2.

8/37/3 The Conference adopted Resolutions 50/3, 50/4 and 50/5.

8/38 **45. DESIGNATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT CHAIRS**

8/38/1 The Conference adopted Resolutions 45/1, 45/2, 45/3 and 45/4.

8/38/2 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolutions 45/5, 45/6 and 45/7.

8/38/3 The Conference adopted Resolutions 45/8 and 45/9.

8/39 **49. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

8/39/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/1,

p 535, (ii) (Connexional Treasurer), *reading Anne Bolton for 'to be confirmed'*

8/39/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/2,

p 535, *deleting* Mrs Sue Chastney

8/39/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/3,

p 536, *deleting* Mrs Judy Jarvis and Mr Leon A Murray

8/39/4 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/4,

p 537, *deleting* Miss Maureen Anderson

8/39/5 The Conference adopted Resolutions 49/5, 49/6, 49/7, 49/8, 49/9 and 49/10.

8/39/6 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/11,

p 540, (ii) The Connexional Treasurer, *reading Anne Bolton for 'to be confirmed'*

Anne Bolton is nominated to the Conference as Connexional Treasurer.

8/39/7 The Conference adopted Resolutions 49/12 and 49/13.

8/39/8 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/14,

p 541, *replacing* the two lines *with*:

Recording Officer: Deacon Tracey J Hume

Reporting Officer: Deacon Gail Morgan

8/39/9 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/15,

p 541, *adding Karen Attaway*

Karen Attaway brings a wealth of experience, both within the Methodist Church and within charitable and third sector organisations. Her background in business systems and her Masters in Theology allow Karen to offer new perspectives into the work of the Ministries Committee. She is a member of the ministry team at, and is Stakeholder and Communications Manager for, Methodist Central Hall, Manchester.

8/39/10 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/16,

adding Tim Baker, The Revd Charity D Madenyika, the Revd Michaela A Youngson (Convener)

Tim Baker is the Head of Public Engagement at All We Can and a former member of the Methodist Council. Tim is an experienced governor and trustee and brings an enormous insight and shared passion for the mission of the church. He is committed to seeing the Methodist Church continue to get involved in God's mission in the world, and to being the justice-seeking, evangelistic, growing and inclusive church that it seeks to be.

Charity Madenyika is currently serving in the London District. Charity has previously served on the District Candidates' Committee in the Northampton

District. She brings experience of coaching, counselling and community work. She has a passion to cultivate a culture that celebrates equality and diversity. Charity also serves on the District Chairs Nominations Committee.

8/39/11 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/17.

8/39/12 The Conference adopted Resolution 49/18,

p 542, *deleting* The Revd Andrew Letby and Mr Peter Baffoe

8/39/13 The Conference adopted Resolutions 49/19 and 49/20.

8/39/14 The Conference adopted as Resolution 49/21:

The Conference appoints Anne Bolton to be Connexional Treasurer for the connexional year 2023/2024.

Anne Bolton is a member of the Strategy and Resources Committee, treasurer of Westminster College Oxford Trust, and formerly a Board member of Methodist Insurance, Anne's working experience includes 20 years as school Bursar, including 5 years at Kent College Pembury. She is a Cambridge Mathematician with an MBA. A lifelong Methodist, Anne is currently in the High Wycombe circuit.

8/39/15 The Conference adopted as Resolution 49/22:

The Conference appoints Alethea Siow to be Chair of the Resourcing Committee from 1 September 2023.

Alethea Siow is a lawyer by profession having worked for a number of leading banking and property finance law firms. She is currently Head of Structured Finance at Blackfriars Investments Limited. She has held a number of non-executive and trustee roles including Council Member of the Royal College of Music, Trustee of the London Music Fund, and Trustee of the London Early Years Foundation. She is circuit steward in the West London Mission Circuit, a member of the connexional Property Development Committee, Chair of Methodist Central Hall, Manchester and Vice-Chair of the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

8/39/16 The Conference adopted as Resolution 49/23:

The Conference appoints Jenny Jackson to be Chair of the Stationing Committee from 1 September 2023.

Jenny Jackson serves on the connexional Oversight Committee and will complete this role this year. She currently serves on District Council and the Leadership Team of the South East District. At various times, she has been a church and circuit steward, Lay Complaints Officer, and served as District Lay Stationing Representative and member of the Stationing Committee until 2020 and Manses Group until 2021. She previously participated in creating or rewriting a number of stationing related policies. She has produced role descriptions for Synod Secretary and Lay Stationing representative on behalf of the South East District.

8/39/17 The Conference adopted as Resolution 49/24:

The Conference appoints the Revd Robert Birnie to the Connexional Panel for Deliverance Ministry.

Robert Birnie is studying for a PhD in Wesleyan theology of Deliverance. Rob is an experienced minister, and worked for many years in the police force before spending time as both a Methodist circuit minister and then as a forces chaplain. In his current role, he has experience of the supernatural and different responses to it.

8/40 **51. APPRECIATIONS**

The Conference adopted Resolutions 51/1, 51/2 and 51/3.

8/41 **REPORT OF THE LAW AND POLITY CONFERENCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

8/41/1 **1. Special Resolution consultations**

Two Special Resolutions have come before the Conference this year for which directions for consultations are required under Standing Order 126(1), as follows:

- a) Resolution 35/7: Deed of Union amendments for the Composition of the Conference; and
- b) Resolution 57/5: Model Trust amendments for the Connexional Council.

The Sub-committee advises that the consultations on the amendments proposed by both Special Resolutions should be with the Methodist Council under Standing Order 126(1)(c).

The Sub-committee also reports that the consultation on the proposed Model Trust amendments with the jurisdictions outside England and Wales, which is required under Standing Orders 919A and 126(1)(a), is underway.

8/41/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution LP/1:

The Conference directs that the consultation on the amendments proposed by Special Resolutions 35/7 and 57/5 shall be with the Methodist Council under Standing Order 126(1)(c).

8/41/3 **2. Standing Order 105(2) – District Allocations**

In light of the changes to the composition of the Conference approved by the Resolutions contained in Report 35, the Sub-committee advises that the minima prescribed in Standing Order 105(2) may need revising, and therefore brings the following resolution under Standing Order 131(25)(i) to make consequential provisions.

8/41/4 The Conference adopted as Resolution LP/2:

The Conference directs the Methodist Council to review the allocations set down in Standing Order 105(2) and to report to the Conference of 2024 with whatever Standing Order amendments may be necessary to effect any proposed changes.

8/41/5 **3. Standing Order 340 Learning and Development Forums**

As a result of the Conference passing Resolution 22/19 to revoke Standing Order 340, the Sub-committee notes that a replacement Standing Order may be required

for the new arrangements. If so, the Committee will bring it as appropriate. At this point, a consequential amendment needs to be made to Standing Order 1110(3) and the Sub-committee therefore brings the following resolution under Standing Order 131(25)(i).

8/41/6 The Conference adopted as Resolution LP/3:

The Conference amends the final sentence of Standing Order 1110(3) as follows:

“For the purposes of this clause ‘connexional appointment’ includes an appointment under Standing Order ~~340~~, 340A or 341 if made on or behalf of the Conference.”

8/41/7 **4. 57/10 Nominations Committee**

Since the Conference has passed Resolution 57/10 to create a Nominations Committee, consequential amendments will be required to Standing Orders 32A0 and 1000A0. The effect of Resolution 57/10 is that nominations for appointment to the Ministries Committee, the Mission Committee and the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee should be made by the Nominations Committee rather than in accordance with Standing Orders 32A0(5) and (6), 1000A0 (5) and (6) and 213A(1). The Sub-committee advises the Conference that this result is best achieved by suspending the above-mentioned provisions and directing the Nominations Committee to bring the appropriate nominations to the Conference of 2024. The Sub-committee therefore proposes the following resolution under Standing Order 131(25)(i).

8/41/8 The Conference adopted as Resolution LP/4:

The Conference:

(1) suspends Standing Orders 32A0(5) and (6), 1000A0 (5) and (6) and 213A(1) with effect from the close of the Conference of 2023 until the close of the Conference of 2024; and

(2) directs the Nominations Committee to bring the relevant appointments to the Conference of 2024.

8/42 **THE STATIONS**

8/42/1 The Stations were presented to the Conference in the form of the Draft previously circulated with the following amendments:

WALES SYNOD CYMRU

2/6 **Bridgend**
for: **2/6 Bridgend**
reading: **2/6 Bridgend United Area**

2/12 **Conwy and Prestatyn**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: **J Brian Sherrington**

2/19 **Newport and Lower Wye**
deleting: **Paula R Parish (AP)**

THE BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT

- 5/1** **Birmingham**
for: Alison Richards (S)
reading: Alison Richards
adding: Irene Tafirenyika (D) (WA)
for: L Denise Yeadon
reading: L Denise Yeadon (WA)
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Donald M Eadie
adding: Jennifer Edmondson
- 5/9** **Tamworth and Lichfield**
for: Wendy Walker
reading: + Wendy Walker
- 5/10** **Coventry and Nuneaton**
for: Pauline Warner (*MHA and Coventry University Chaplain*)
reading: Pauline Warner (*Coventry University Chaplain*)
- 5/12** **South Warwickshire**
for: Tina Brooker
reading: + Tina Brooker
for: David M Butterworth (*Workplace Chaplain*)
reading: David M Butterworth (*NEC Chaplain*)
deleting: Samuel E McBratney (*Southlands Methodist Trust*)
- 5/16** **South Worcestershire**
adding: Samuel E McBratney
- 5/18** **Bromsgrove & Redditch**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Julia M Pellett

THE BOLTON AND ROCHDALE DISTRICT

- 6/1** **Bolton**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Norma B Couldwell
- 6/7** **Leigh and Hindley**
Supernumeraries:
adding: Jacquie P Evans
- 6/14** **Rossendale**
for: *Supernumeraries:*
reading: *Supernumerary:*
deleting: Kenneth J Fitzsimmons

THE BRISTOL DISTRICT

- 7/13** **North East Somerset and Bath**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: R Martin Broadbent
adding: Dawn L Hudson

THE CUMBRIA DISTRICT

9/4 Western Fells
Supernumeraries:
adding: C Anne Taylor (D)

9/14 South Lakes
adding: + Hayley L Edmondson

THE CORNWALL AND ISLES OF SCILLY DISTRICT

12/1 Camborne, Redruth and Hayle
for: Kathryn J Brooke (*Chaplain*)
reading: Kathryn J Brooke (*Hospital Chaplain*)

12/3 Falmouth and Gwennap
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Glanville T Magor

12/9 West Cornwall
deleting: Robert J M Amess (AP)

12/14 The Lizard and Mounts Bay
for: Amanda Stevens (*District Retreats and Spirituality Enabler*)
reading: Amanda Stevens (*District Retreats and Spirituality Enabler*)
who shall act in respect of ministerial duties under the
direction of the Chair of the District

12/19 Liskeard and Looe
adding: Loraine N Mellor (S)

THE DARLINGTON DISTRICT

13/1 Darlington and Teesdale
deleting: Richard M Andrew (S)
for: Timothy C Boocock (WA)
reading: Timothy C Boocock (S)

13/19 North Yorkshire Dales
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Jennifer Edmondson

THE EAST ANGLIA DISTRICT

14/3 Bury St. Edmunds
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Keith A Horton

14/18 Thetford, Diss and Mildenhall
adding: Paul Mellor

THE ISLE OF MAN DISTRICT

for: There is a Lay Secretary of the District Synod
reading: Bryan A Yardy, Secretary of the Synod

THE LINCOLNSHIRE DISTRICT

17/1 Epworth, Scunthorpe and Gainsborough

Supernumeraries:

adding: Elizabeth A Childs

adding: Brian Bailey

17/11 Barton, Brigg and Wolds

Supernumeraries:

deleting: Elizabeth A Childs

THE LIVERPOOL DISTRICT

18/1 North Liverpool and South Sefton

for: **18/1 North Liverpool and South Sefton**

reading: **18/3 North Liverpool and South Sefton**

Supernumeraries:

deleting: Derek W Bowker

deleting: E Anne Cox

adding: Martyn A Newman

18/5 Liverpool (South)

deleting: Caroline R Ainger (*Chaplain for Brick Charity*)

18/17 Southport

Supernumeraries:

adding: E Anne Cox

adding: Derek Bowker

adding: Ernest Grimshaw RN

18/20 Emmaus (including City Centre Ministry)

for: **18/20 Emmaus (including City Centre Ministry)**

reading: **18/20 Emmaus**

adding: Caroline R Ainger (S)

deleting: *Supernumerary:*

deleting: Martyn A Newman

THE MANCHESTER AND STOCKPORT DISTRICT

19/1 Manchester

adding: Alistair S Jones (WA)

for: Jennifer A J Jones (D) (*City Centre Deacon*) who shall act in respect of ministerial duties under the direction of the Chair of the District

reading: Jennifer A J Jones (D) (*Central Hall Deacon*) who shall act in respect of ministerial duties under the direction of the Chair of the District

19/2 United Stockport

deleting: Stephen M Barlow (WA)

Supernumeraries:

adding: Stephen M Barlow

19/15 Bramhall and Wythemshawe

adding: Caroline F Ryder (Luther King Centre)

THE NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE DISTRICT

20/1 <i>adding:</i>	Newcastle upon Tyne (Central and East) Grant F Wilson (AP)
20/02 <i>deleting:</i>	Newcastle upon Tyne (West) Nigel S Waterfield
20/8 <i>deleting:</i>	Tynedale Anne Taylor (D)
20/13 <i>adding:</i>	Bede Ian M Kent (<i>-serving in an appointment outside the control of the Church</i>)
20/16 <i>adding:</i>	Sunderland John W Purdy (RR)
20/20 <i>deleting:</i> <i>adding:</i>	Chester-le-Street Ian M Kent (S) Anne R Jeffrey
20/22 <i>deleting:</i>	North West Durham Anne R Jeffrey

THE LANCASHIRE DISTRICT

21/14 <i>Supernumeraries:</i> <i>deleting:</i>	Blackpool and South Fylde Dawn L Hudson
21/16 <i>Supernumeraries:</i> <i>deleting:</i> <i>adding:</i>	North Lancashire J Edward Pullan David H Peach

THE NOTTINGHAM AND DERBY DISTRICT

22/2 <i>Supernumeraries:</i> <i>adding:</i>	Nottingham (South) Hilary M Cheng
22/6 <i>Supernumeraries:</i> <i>deleting:</i> <i>adding:</i>	Derby Hilary M Cheng Douglas R Allen
22/14 <i>adding:</i> <i>Supernumeraries:</i> <i>deleting:</i>	Mid Derbyshire Janet E Rossall (WA) Derek H A Davidson
22/16 <i>Supernumeraries:</i> <i>deleting:</i>	East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Douglas R Allen

THE NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT

23/7 **Leicester (Trinity)**
adding: Helen White (WA)

23/14 **East Mercia**
for: Kim Shorley
reading: Kim Shorley (*District Mission Team*) who shall act in respect
of her ministerial duties under the direction of the Chair of
the District
deleting: Jane E Gaffney
Supernumeraries:
adding: Jane E Gaffney

THE PLYMOUTH AND EXETER DISTRICT

24/8 **Torbay**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Jonathan H Doble

24/10 **South Devon**
for: *Supernumerary:*
reading: *Supernumeraries:*
adding: Jonathan H Doble

24/18 **South Petherton and Crewkerne**
for: Andrew P Longshaw
reading: Andrew P Longshaw (S)
deleting: Daniel R Haylett (S)

24/28 **Teignbridge**
for: Verity J Phillips
reading: Verity J Phillips (WA)

THE SHEFFIELD DISTRICT

25/1 **Sheffield**
adding: Kim Mason (AP)
adding: Kate Barclay (AP)

25/13 **The Peak**
Supernumeraries:
adding: Martyn D Atkins

25/14 **Doncaster**
deleting: Jonathon D Bellfield (*Hospital Chaplain*)

25/17 **Rotherham and Dearne Valley**
adding: Jonathon D Bellfield (*Hospital Chaplain*)

THE SOUTHAMPTON DISTRICT

26/5 **Yeovil and Blackmore Vale**
deleting: Duncan M Goldie (AP)

THE YORKSHIRE WEST DISTRICT

27/2 **Leeds (North and East)**
deleting: Helen White

27/15 **Wharfedale and Aireborough**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Brian Bailey
adding: David Halstead

27/17 **Aire and Calder**
deleting: Ruth E Gilson-Webb

THE WOLVERHAMPTON AND SHREWSBURY DISTRICT

28/4 **Walsall**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Colin S Gardner

28/9 **Stafford**
adding: David J Middleton (AP)

28/21 **Telford**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: Christopher P Parkes

THE YORKSHIRE NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT

29/2 **The Bridge**
adding: Francesca Rhys
adding: **Circuit Support Team Leader**
Ruth E Gilson-Webb who shall act in respect of ministerial
duties under the direction of the Chair of the District

Supernumeraries:
adding: A Diane Finch
adding: David E Wilkes

deleting: **29/8 Beverley** and all listed under it

29/23 **Thirsk and Northallerton**
deleting: Elizabeth M Baxter (AP)

29/37 **Hull (Centre and West)**
for: Alison Hyde (D)
reading: + Alison Hyde (D)

THE SCOTLAND DISTRICT

31/3 **Forth Valley**
Supernumeraries:
deleting: William F Seymour

THE BEDFORDSHIRE, ESSEX AND HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT

34/10 **Southend and Leigh**
Supernumeraries:

adding: Maureen A Spinks (D)

34/13 **St Albans and Welwyn**
adding: Mark Dearney (AP)

34/14 **West Hertfordshire and Borders**
for: Andrew D Wood (*Connexional Team*)
reading: Andrew D Wood (WA)

THE LONDON DISTRICT

35/3 **Westminster**
adding: **Methodist Church House**
The following ministers shall act under the direction of the Secretary of the Conference:
Fidelio R Patron (WA)

35/20 **Newham**
Supernumeraries:
adding: William H Tardy

35/23 **Wembley**
deleting: Conrad J Hicks (Connexional Team)

35/37 **Teddington**
deleting: Kan Wing-Chit Yu

35/38 **Kingston upon Thames**
adding: Kan Wing-Chit Yu (WA)

35/40 **Purley**
deleting: Stephen J Day

THE SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

36/15 **Gibraltar**
adding: Conrad J Hicks (S)
adding: David Hinchliffe (S)
adding: Nicholas A Oborski
adding: Samantha E Funnell

36/25 **South Kent**
adding: Adrian Roux (AP)

36/27 **Canterbury and East Kent**
Supernumeraries:
adding: Stephen J Poole

SERVICE IN OTHER CONFERENCES AND CHURCHES

PERMISSION TO SERVE ABROAD

deleting: Martyn D Atkins (United States)

PERMISSION TO RESIDE ABROAD

adding: Bernardino M Mandlate (Mozambique)
for: Ramona Dinard (D)

reading: Ramona Dinard (D) (Antigua and Barbuda)
for: Gordon H Wallace (Ireland)
reading: Gordon H Wallace (D) (Ireland)

THE CONNEXIONAL TEAM

deleting: Andrew D Wood (34/14)

THE CIRCUITS TO WHICH THE FOLLOWING ARE TO BE APPOINTED OR IN WHICH THEY ARE TO BE STATIONED ARE YET TO BE IDENTIFIED

deleting: Alistair S Jones (WA)
deleting: Fidelio R Patron
deleting: Paul Mellor
deleting: David H Peach
deleting: Janet E Rossall (WA)
deleting: Caroline F Ryder
deleting: Irene N Tafirenyika (D)
Supernumeraries:
deleting: David Halstead
deleting: Bernardino M Mandlate
deleting: Stephen J Poole
deleting: Maureen A Spinks (D)
deleting: William H Tardy

ASSOCIATE PRESBYTERS

adding: Liz Guest (34/13)
deleting: Kathryn A Fitzsimons (27/2)
deleting: Brendan A Giblin (29/16)
deleting: Fiona R Mayer Jones (29/23)

8/42/2 The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted the Stations.

8/43 DAILY RECORD

8/43/1 The Daily Record for Wednesday 28 June was presented, taken as read, and adopted,

7/27, for 'The Revd Dr Al Barratt' reading 'The Revd Dr Al Barrett' and for 'Rachel Lampard' reading 'Rachel J Lampard'

8/43/2 The Daily Record for Thursday 29 June was presented in headings only and adopted.

8/44 EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS

8/44/1 The Past-President of the Conference, The Revd Sonia M Hicks, and the Past-Vice-President, Barbara M Easton, expressed the thanks of the Conference to the President and Vice-President of the Conference.

8/44/2 The Conference expressed its thanks to the Record Office staff, especially Louise Taylor, the Conference Business Committee, Sharon Hassanali and the Conference Arrangements Team, the staff of the conference centre, the Conference volunteers, the technical team, the musicians, the connexional media team, the Conference letter writer The Revd Alan Bolton, the Convenor of the Memorials Committee and those taking the Record.

8/45 **ATTESTATION**

The Daily Record of the Presbyteral and Representative Sessions and associated documents were signed by the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary of the Conference, and were duly attested.

8/46 **THE JOURNAL**

The Conference, by a Standing Vote, directed that the Resolutions, Orders, Elections, Consents, Delegations and Appointments, and each of them, and every Act and all Acts whatsoever made and done by the Conference begun on Thursday 22 June 2023, be duly entered in the Journal of the Conference, subscribed by the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary, and shall be taken as, and shall be, the Acts of the Conference to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

8/47 **ADJOURNMENT**

The Conference, by a Standing Vote, resolved to adjourn to the Conference of 2024, which would meet in Leeds on Thursday 27 June in its Presbyteral Session, and on Saturday 29 June in its Representative Session.

8/48 The Conference adjourned at 12.34.

8/49 **LETTERS**

8/49/1 A letter was written in the name of the Conference to Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, President of the Global Ministries Board of the United Methodist Church, sending greetings and the condolences of the Conference on the recent sudden death of The Revd Edgar Avitia Legarda, who led the Global Mission Relationships Unit.

8/49/2 Letters of thanks were written in the name of the Conference to The Revd Simon C Sutcliffe who led the Bible Study on Wednesday, the precentors The Revd Nathan S Falla and Matthew Beckingham, those who led worship during the Conference, the scrutineers, the technical team, the Conference Arrangements Team and the Chaplains.

8/49/3 Letters were written in the name of the Conference to those ministers becoming supernumerary this year.

8/49/4 Letters were written in the name of the Conference to the following presbyters on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of their ordinations:

The Revd Elizabeth Dr M Allison
The Revd Preben W Andersen
The Revd Dr Sheryl M Anderson
The Revd David F Ashby
The Revd Brian Bailey
The Revd R Claudius Bailey
The Revd Richard A Bainbridge
The Revd Rosemary A Baker
The Revd Peter T Bates
The Revd Paul M Beard
The Revd J Roy Boffey
The Revd Dr Roger N Bradley
The Revd Antony J Cavanagh
The Revd Robert O Channon
The Revd Paul D Cleever-Thorpe
The Revd Alan Coates

The Revd Simon W Coleman
The Revd Lynda A Cooke
The Revd Melvyn N E Cooke
The Revd Peter J Cornick
The Revd C Anne Curnow
The Revd Jennifer M Dyer
The Revd A Bryan Ede
The Revd Dr Robert E Ely
The Revd Dr John C A Emmett
The Revd Valerie A Fisher
The Revd Eden J Fletcher
The Revd Dr Andrew M Fox
The Revd J Robin E Fox
The Revd Andrew W Fyall
The Revd Helen J Fyall
The Revd Philip J Gough

The Revd John K Harris
The Revd Richard W Harris
The Revd Carole M Holmes
The Revd David W Hookins
The Revd Dawn L Hudson
The Revd Barbara I Jeffries
The Revd Christine Jones (B)
The Revd Christine Jones (C)
The Revd Nicholas W Jones
The Revd Martin L Keenan
The Revd John A G Kime
The Revd Helen R Kirk
The Revd Rachel Larkinson
The Revd Dr Jane Leach
The Revd Elaine M Lindridge
The Revd Stephen T Mann

The Revd Robert C Manning
The Revd Suzette A Manning
The Revd Suzanne Newton
The Revd David R Owen
The Revd Michael D Parker
The Revd Fidelio R Patron
The Revd Mary M Patterson
The Revd David P Philo
The Revd Dr Kevin N Ridd
The Revd Colin Sherwood
The Revd Rolison C Sims
The Revd Janet L Tate
The Revd Heather M Walker
The Revd Ralph H Ward
The Revd Allison Waterhouse
The Revd Gwendoline Wills

8/49/5 Letters were written in the name of the Conference to the following presbyters on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their ordinations:

The Revd Bernard D C Arnold
The Revd J W Wesley Blakey
The Revd David Buckley
The Revd David H Copley
The Revd Charles J Crane
The Revd Dr Stephen B Dawes
The Revd John A Fisher
The Revd Christopher H Gardner
The Revd Trevor Grewcock
The Revd Dr John A Harrod
The Revd B John Ingyon
The Revd G Leslie Judd
The Revd Roger C Larkinson

The Revd John W Newbury
The Revd Roger North
The Revd Mervyn P Oliver
The Revd Geoffrey C Reid
The Revd R Geoffrey Senior
The Revd William A Seville
The Revd John A Stacy-Marks
The Revd Frank E Sykes
The Revd David W Watson
The Revd Ian Yates
The Revd Terence J Young
The Revd W John Young

8/49/6 Letters were written in the name of the Conference to the following presbyters on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of their ordinations:

The Revd Richard T Baggott
The Revd Geoffrey H E Barnard
The Revd Alan R Bidnell
The Revd David Blatherwick
The Revd John R Bolton
The Revd W Paul Brook
The Revd Malcolm Carter
The Revd Laurence H Churms
The Revd Ian G Cramb
The Revd Elgin P Crewe
The Revd Malcolm Daley
The Revd William J Davies
The Revd Geoffrey D Gordon
The Revd John H Grice
The Revd T Raymond Guy
The Revd David J Harding
The Revd David J Harris
The Revd Ivor M Haywood

The Revd Gordon James
The Revd Derek Kendrick
The Revd Peter G Lane
The Revd John F Macadam
The Revd David J Moody
The Revd Thomas P Patton
The Revd Colin E Richards
The Revd Donald H Ryan
The Revd Brian N Shackleton
The Revd Ronald Taylor
The Revd Brian N Tebbutt
The Revd A Juan Thompson
The Revd Anthony G Trevithick
The Revd G Michael Wearing
The Revd Gordon E Webster
The Revd Donald M Wilkes
The Revd Maurice H Wright

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**APPENDIX A
NOTICES OF MOTION 2023**

This Appendix lists Motions adopted, or agreed to be not put, other than those which are not specifically recorded because their substance appears in the Resolutions they amended. It also lists those that the Conference referred to other bodies. It does not list Motions lost or withdrawn, which do not appear in the Record. The figures in brackets are the numbers given to the Notices of Motion.

(a) adopted

Mission Partner Programme (104)7/17/4-5
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(b) not put

none

(c) referred to the Methodist Council

none

RESPONSES TO NOTICES OF MOTION OF PREVIOUS CONFERENCES

For a report about work done and work in progress on Notices of Motion brought to previous Conferences, see item 30 of the Agenda (adopted Daily Record 8/19).

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M22	Annual Affirmations.....	2/28, 7/9
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REPLIES TO MEMORIALS OF PREVIOUS CONFERENCES

For a report about work done and work in progress on Memorials sent to previous Conferences, see item 30 of the Agenda (adopted Daily Record 8/19).