

## 35. Second Report of the Conference Business Committee

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### 1. Membership of the Conference Business Committee

The Council has appointed the Revd Kofi Amissah to the Conference Business Committee for the 2022 Conference, under the terms of SO 136(1C) to fill the vacancy which has arisen on the Committee.

### 2. Voting

At the request of the Conference Business Committee, the Law and Polity Committee recommends an amendment to Standing Order 016A to provide that, where only two candidates are nominated for an election which is ordinarily required to be held by Single Transferable Vote (STV), the STV method will be replaced by a simple majority vote.

This amendment will avoid the Conference having to suspend the relevant Standing Order requiring a ballot to be conducted by STV on every occasion where only two candidates are in the running, as has happened in recent years.

### 3. En bloc items

The Business Committee proposes the following items to be taken *en bloc*:  
Trustees for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Methodist Church Purposes  
Trustees for Jersey Methodist Church Purposes  
Committee on Methodist Law and Polity (1)  
Ecumenical Report  
Managing Trustees of John Wesley's Chapel, the New Room Bristol and 4-5 Charles Street Bristol  
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes  
Methodist Schools appointments  
Methodist Ministers' Housing Society  
Ashville College revision of Articles  
Relief and Extension Fund for Methodism in Scotland  
All We Can  
Stationing Committee  
Managing Trustees of Central Hall Westminster  
Referred Memorials and Notices of Motion  
Central Finance Board  
Methodist Diaconal Order General Report  
Methodist Council Sections A, B, C, D, E, G, K, L, R

Under the terms of SO 134A, if Notices of Motion are received about items in the *en bloc* list those items will automatically be removed from the 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 an item be removed from the list and debated. Such notice must be given before the close of business on Monday 27 June (SO 134A(1)(c)).

## \*\*\*RESOLUTIONS

**35/1. The Conference adopted the Report of the Business Committee.**

**35/2. The Conference amended Standing Order 016A as follows:**

**016A Single Transferable Vote.** (1) When the Conference or any other body is required by Standing Order to hold an election by single transferable vote or resolves to do so (as it may at any time unless Standing Orders require otherwise) it shall be

done in accordance with this Standing Order ***provided that, where only two candidates are standing for election, the vote shall be by simple majority and the remainder of this Standing Order shall not apply.***

***(1A) Voting will be by paper ballot or an agreed electronic voting system. Reference to ballot paper throughout this Standing Order will refer to the paper ballot or the equivalent electronic system.***

(2) [unchanged].

(3) [unchanged].

***(3A) The counting of the votes will be undertaken by a recognised single transferable voting method, as determined by the Methodist Council prior to the Conference.***

(4) [unchanged].

*Clauses (5) to (13) deleted*

(14) [unchanged].

### **THIRD REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Business Committee brought this update to its Reports printed in volumes 1 and 3 of the Agenda (items 2 and 35).

1. As set out in paragraph 7 of the first report (page 29), the Conference is required to elect two members of the Business Committee, one minister and one lay person, to serve on the Committee for three years (the Conferences of 2023, 2024 and 2025). Nomination forms have been circulated by email and are available from the Helpdesk; they should be placed in the ballot boxes by 2pm on Tuesday 28 June, with voting taking place on Wednesday 29 June.
2. Nomination forms for Conference-elected representatives have been circulated by email and are available from the Helpdesk. This year, of the three Conference-elected representatives to serve from 2023-2025, two will be presbyteral and one will be lay, thus fulfilling SO 103(2A). Nominations must be submitted by 2pm on Tuesday 28 June, with voting taking place on Wednesday 29 June.
3. 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.
4. The Committee recommends the use of an electronic voting system for any counted votes. The arrangements for this will be explained to the Conference at the appropriate point. The ballots for the President and Vice-President of the Conference of 2023, Conference-elected representatives and members of the Conference Business Committee will be distributed via email and the elections conducted via an online voting system. Amendments to the Standing Orders are presented below in order to enable this.
5. Nominees for President and Vice-President of the Conference for 2023 and as Conference-elected representatives 2023-2025 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 29? 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](mailto:asc@methodistchurch.org.uk).

6. 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 27 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.
7. All memorials will either be taken with existing business to which they relate or placed in *en bloc* as shown in the table below.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Connection to other business</b>
M1	Work with young people	10. 3Generate
M2	Central Finance Board Investments	7. JACEI
M3	Ethical Investments and HSBC	7. JACEI
M4	Connexional Levy and property improvements	17. Methodist Council, Section T: Action for Hope
M5	Information Technology (IT) Provision for Ordained Ministers	11. Connexional Allowances Committee
M6	£150 Tax Rebate	11. Connexional Allowances Committee
M7	Living Wage	11. Connexional Allowances Committee
M8	Cry for hope	<i>En bloc</i>
M9	Palestine and World Churches Assembly	<i>En bloc</i>
M10	Korea	<i>En bloc</i>
M11	Tenant Farmers	<i>En bloc</i>
M12	Energy Efficiency Rating of Methodist Buildings and Standing Order 973	17. Methodist Council, Section T: Action for Hope
M13	Climate Change and Energy Efficiency of Manses	17. Methodist Council, Section T: Action for Hope
M14	Framework for quinquennial reports	17. Methodist Council, Section T: Action for Hope
M15	Positive Working Together	19. Covenant Relationship between the Church and its Ministers
M16	Anniversary of birth of Hugh Bourne	Presentation of Hugh Bourne anniversary
M17	Ecumenical Appointments of Ministers	17. Methodist Council, Section N: Ministries Committee
M18	Church Closures	44. Oversight and Trusteeship
M19	Affordable Housing	<i>En bloc</i>
M20	Safeguarding	9. Safeguarding Committee
M21	District Safeguarding Officers	44. Oversight and Trusteeship
M22	The Use of Alcohol in Holy Communion when Methodist presbyters are invited to preside by other denominations.	<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.

8. The list of *en bloc* items of business (page 405) has since been updated and is as printed below:

3. Methodist Council, Part 1 Sections A, B, C, D, E
6. Trustees for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Methodist Church Purposes
8. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity (1)
12. Trustees for Jersey Methodist Church Purposes
15. Ecumenical Report
17. Methodist Council, part 2 Sections G, K, L, R
20. Managing Trustees of John Wesley's Chapel, the New Room Bristol and 4-5 Charles Street, Bristol
22. Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
23. Methodist Schools Appointments
24. Methodist Ministers' Housing Society
31. Ashville College – Revision to Articles of Association
25. Stationing Committee
48. Managing Trustees of the Central Hall, Westminster
32. Referred Memorials and Notices of Motion
33. Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
34. Methodist Diaconal Order General Report

Memorials to the Conference as listed in paragraph 7 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 27 June (SO 134A(1)(c)).

### **\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**B/1. The Conference received the Report.**

#### **FOURTH REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Conference Amendment, Daily Record 7/5)**

The Business Committee has a duty under SO 136(2)(ii) to recommend which Notices of Motion are debated in the Conference. The Committee therefore recommends that two Notices of Motion that have been submitted are not debated for the following reasons:

The Business Committee has received a Notice of Motion concerning the provision of ordinands' accommodation and the way in which it is arranged and paid for. The Committee notes that the arrangements of the Conference are within the remit of the Council rather than the Conference, and that the arrangements for the 2023 Conference will necessarily be different because of the different venue. The Committee therefore assures the Conference that the concerns raised in the Notice of Motion are being addressed and the matter will be reviewed.

The Committee has also received a Notice of Motion concerning the Supreme Court decision in the US concerning the Roe v Wade ruling. Whilst recognising the impact that this decision is having in the USA and wanting to support our Concordat partner in a complex and sensitive matter, the Committee recommends that the Conference write a letter to the United Methodist Church, in which it expresses its support and concern as the Church responds to the ruling and the implications of it.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**B/2. The Conference received the Report.**

**FIFTH REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Committee has considered the business still before the Conference, and makes the following recommendations: There will be coffee available during the coffee break time (11:00-11:30 am) on Thursday morning, but there will not be a formal break. Introductory speeches will be reduced to two minutes, and all other speeches will be reduced to one minute, including when presenters are responding to points raised. A maximum of five minutes will be allocated to each notice of motion shown on the order of business for Thursday.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**B/3. The Conference received the Report.**