

- 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<br>of churches<br>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 Barratt, who led Tuesday's Bible study, and to Rachel Lampard for leading the sessions on 'A justice-seeking Church'.