

REPRESENTATIVE SESSION

ORDER OF BUSINESS

09:30 Morning worship

09:45 Administration

The Loyal Address

Agenda Item 3: Appointment of the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Conference (Agenda pages 37-38)
Resolutions 3/1, 3/2 (Agenda page 37)

Report from the Conference Business Committee (Order Paper pages 26-27)
Resolutions B2, B3 (Order Paper page 27)

Agenda Item 13: Unified Statement of Connexional Finances (Agenda pages 116-127)
Resolution 13/1 (Agenda page 124)

Agenda Item 2: Methodist Council part 1 (Agenda pages 22-36)

Section A: General Report (Agenda pages 22-24)
Resolution 2/1 (Agenda page 24)

Section B: Notices of Motion referred to the Council (Agenda pages 24-26)
Resolution 2/2 (Agenda page 27)
Notice of Motion 2020/101

Agenda Item 22: Methodist Council part 2 (Agenda pages 169-204)

Section K: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (Agenda pages 183-184)
Resolutions 22/8, 22/9 (Agenda page 184)
Notice of Motion 2020/102
Notice of Motion 2020/103
Notice of Motion 2020/104
Notice of Motion 2020/105

Agenda Item 27: Climate change and fossil fuels: response to Memorial 32 (2017) and Conference reply (Agenda pages 246-265, Order Paper pages 31-32)
Resolutions 27/1, 27A/1 (Order Paper page 32), 27/2 (Agenda page 259)
Notice of Motion 2020/106

Agenda Item 23: Connexional Central Services Budget 2020/2021 (Agenda pages 205-220)
Presentation of the budget

10:45 **Agenda Item 11: Methodist Homes (MHA)** (Agenda pages 105-108)

Resolution 11/1 (Agenda page 108)

11:00 Break

11:30 Bible Study led by Thelma Commey, Youth President

11:40 Presbyteral Session announcement

Daily Record

Agenda Item 25: Reaffirming Our Calling: Oversight and Trusteeship (Agenda pages 227-239, Order Paper page 30)

Resolutions 25/0 (Order Paper page 30), 25/1, 25/2, 25/3, 25/4, 25/5, 25/6 (Agenda page 236), 25/7, 25/8 (Agenda page 237), 25/9 (Order Paper page 30)

Notice of Motion 2020/107

Notice of Motion 2020/108

Agenda Item 31: Statistics for Mission (Agenda pages 283-288, Order Paper page 32)

Resolution 31/1 (Agenda page 288)

Agenda Item 22: Methodist Council, part 2 (Agenda pages 169-204)

Section M: Ministries Committee (Agenda pages 185-196)

Resolutions 22/11, 22/12, 22/13, 22/14, 22/15 (Agenda page 196)

Section N: Safeguarding Procedure: changes to Standing Orders and regulations adopted by the Conference (Agenda pages 196-202, Order Paper pages 29-30)

Resolutions 22/16, 22/17, 22/18 (Agenda page 197)

Section O: Connexional Grants Committee: Grant Reclaim Policy (Agenda pages 202-203)

Resolutions 22/19, 22/20 (Agenda page 203)

12:30 Adjourn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Record

Members of the Conference are invited to contact the Revd Jenny Dyer (jenny.dyer@methodist.org.uk) with any comments or corrections to the Daily Record.

Attestors of the Daily Record and the Journal

The Revd Beverly Hollings

Mrs Heather Lovelady

REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Notices of Motion

1. The Business Committee reports to the Conference that it has received a notice of motion relating to paragraph 6.2 of the Ecumenical Report (Agenda item 221). This

report is therefore removed from the list of business to be taken *en bloc* and will be scheduled for Wednesday morning.

2. Two notices of motion were among those received: one on the subjects of the implications of Covid-19 and one on climate justice in the light of Covid-19. The Committee advised the President that it did not consider that these related to business before the Conference, and the President after consultation with the Vice-President, concurred (pursuant to resolution LP/10(1)). These have therefore not been circulated.
3. In the light of the concerns raised about the implications of Covid-19 on the Church and on the world, the Committee proposes to enable workshops to take place on that theme. These will take place on Tuesday afternoon (at 4pm) via Zoom and further information will be circulated to members of the Conference. If anyone wishes to offer to facilitate one of these workshops, please indicate to the chair of the Business Committee as soon as possible (chair@methodist-nd.org.uk).

Standing Order 134A(1)

4. Standing Order 134A(1) provides for the Business Committee to table a list of those resolutions in the Conference Agenda which the Business Committee considers suitable for adoption *en bloc* ('**the list**').
5. Standing Order 134A(1)(c) entitles any six members of the Conference to require any item (except a recommended reply to a memorial) to be removed from the list by giving written notice to the Secretary of the Conference before the close of business on the third day of the Representative Session.
6. Standing Order 134A(1)(d) requires the resolutions remaining in the list to be moved *en bloc* and voted upon without discussion not earlier than the fourth day of the Representative Session.
7. During a physical meeting of the Conference, the third day of the Representative Session is normally the first day on which the main Conference Business commences, namely the Monday, and the fourth day of the Representative Session is normally the second day of the main Conference Business, namely the Tuesday.
8. However, in the case of the Conference of 2020, no Representative Session took place on the Sunday, meaning that, at least arguably, the third day of the Representative Session will be the Tuesday rather than the Monday; and the fourth day will be the Wednesday, rather than the Tuesday. The Business Committee has recommended in its second report that close of business on Monday 29 June 2020 should remain the time by which notice requiring an item to be removed from the *en bloc* business must be given. The following resolution gives effect to that recommendation so far as necessary and consequentially amends Standing Order 134A(1)(d).

*****RESOLUTIONS**

B/2. The Conference adopts the Report.

B/3. The Conference agrees that, for the Conference of 2020 only, the reference to 'the third day' in Standing Order 134A(1)(c) shall be read as a reference to Monday 29 June 2020, and the reference to 'the fourth day' in Standing Order 134A(1)(d) shall be read as a reference to Tuesday 30 June 2020

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 2: METHODIST COUNCIL, PART 1 (Pages 22-36)

Section A: General Report

Page 23, third bullet point

For Sonia J Hicks read Sonia M Hicks

Section B: Notices of Motion referred to the Council

Page 25, paragraph 2

Second bullet point

For ensure that and Circuits read ensure that churches and Circuits

Section C: Audit Committee

Page 32, SO 213A(2)

for five three persons, read five no fewer than three persons

Page 33,

SO 213A(5)

add

(ivA) to ensure that appropriate assurances and processes for risk management are in operation;

AGENDA ITEM 12: 3GENERATE 2019 – METHODIST CHILDREN AND YOUTH ASSEMBLY (Pages 109-113)

Page 113, Resolution 12/4

*****AMENDED RESOLUTION**

12/4. The Conference directs the Ministries Committee, in conversation with the Queen's Foundation, to explore how mental health awareness is included in presbyteral and diaconal training and to report to the 2021 Conference via the Methodist Council.

Page 113, Resolution 12/5

*****AMENDED RESOLUTION**

12/5. The Conference commends the Mental Health First Aid work being done by the Connexional Team and asks for a report to the 2022 Conference via the Methodist Council.

AGENDA ITEM 19: METHODIST INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS TRUST (MIST) – REVISION TO ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION (Pages 151-153)

The chair of MIST has recently resigned from that role. Under Standing Order 244(1)(i) and paragraph 3.4.1 of MIST's Articles of Association, the chair of MIST must be appointed by the Conference.

The trustees of MIST desire a new chair to be appointed as soon as possible, and in any event before the 2021 Conference.

*****ADDITIONAL RESOLUTION**

19/2. In exercise of the power of delegation given by clause 21(viii) of the Deed of Union, the Conference delegates to the Methodist Council its power to appoint the chair of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust (MIST) and directs that the Council, acting on

behalf of the Conference, shall appoint a new chair of MIST as soon as reasonably practicable.

AGENDA ITEM 22: METHODIST COUNCIL PART 2 (Pages 169-204)

SECTION N: Safeguarding Procedure: Changes to Standing Orders and Regulations adopted by the Conference

Amend as follows:

010 Qualification for appointment. (1) [unchanged]

(2) [As Agenda p.197-198, but with initial capital letters for “Disclosure and Barring Service”]

(3) [unchanged]

(4) Clause (2) above shall have effect in relation to persons in any jurisdiction within the home Districts other than England and Wales as if, in any such jurisdiction in which any of the legislative provisions there mentioned does not have effect, there were substituted a reference to the legislation, if any, of similar substance in force in that jurisdiction from time to time- **and as if the reference to the Disclosure and Barring Service were a reference to the body in that jurisdiction, if any, with a comparable power of barring persons from work with children, young people or vulnerable adults.**

690 Arrangements for involvement. (1) When a person:

(i) who has been convicted of or has received a simple or conditional caution in respect of an offence referred to in Standing Order 010(2)(ii); or

(ii) in respect of whom the Safeguarding Committee has made a recommendation that clause (2) below should apply

worships in a Local Church or seeks to become involved in its life, he or she may only do so in accordance with the provisions of that clause (2) below.

(2)(a) ~~The Local Church in question, acting by~~ **safeguarding officer for the relevant District in consultation with** the presbyter in pastoral charge **or circuit superintendent**, must establish a monitoring and support group, **including at least one member of the Local Church**, in accordance with the applicable policies and ~~practice guidance~~ **procedures** adopted by the Methodist Council from time to time, for the purposes set out there and in this Standing Order.

(b) The **safeguarding officer, working with the** group so established, must consider the recommendations made in any risk assessment undertaken pursuant to Standing Order 237 and if no such risk assessment has been undertaken, **must carry out such an assessment at the earliest opportunity** ~~will immediately refer the matter to a safeguarding officer as defined in Standing Order 236.~~

(bA) ~~The~~ **safeguarding officer, working with the** group ~~will seek~~ **and seeking** to minimise the risk to others presented by the person concerned, ~~and for that purpose~~ will determine on what terms he or she may attend for worship and become involved in the life of the Local Church.

(c) [unchanged]

[(3) and (4) deleted; (5) and (6) unchanged.]

690A Review of a Contract. (1) [unchanged]

(2) The group shall consider at least once every three years, **but no earlier than two years and six months after the contract takes effect or after the latest previous consideration of the subject**, whether a new risk assessment is required to be undertaken to reassess the risk posed by the person concerned. **This timescale may be varied, but only by the appropriate connexional safeguarding officer.**

[(3) to (5) unchanged]

1125 Possible Criminal Offences. (1) [unchanged]

(2) If in the view of the relevant connexional Team member, the criminal offence to which the matters alleged amount or may amount is an offence mentioned in the First Schedule to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 as currently in force **or is one which is included in the Sexual Offences Act 2003 or Schedule 15 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003** ~~section 1 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956~~ and (in either **any such** case) the offence if committed **is** against a person under 18 **or a vulnerable adult**, the relevant connexional Team member must report the matter to the police. ***If the matters alleged relate to a minister or office holder (paid or voluntary) working with children or young people a report of the matter must be made by the relevant connexional Team member to the Local Authority Designated Officer or, if no such officer or equivalent office or body is appointed, to the local children's services in addition to being reported to the police.***

(2A) Clause (2) above shall have effect in relation to persons in any jurisdiction within the home Districts other than England and Wales as if, in any such jurisdiction in which any of the legislative provisions there mentioned does not have effect, there were substituted a reference to the legislation, if any, of similar substance in force in that jurisdiction from time to time.

[(3) to (7) unchanged]

AGENDA ITEM 25: REAFFIRMING OUR CALLING: OVERSIGHT AND TRUSTEESHIP (Pages 227-239)

Page 236, Additional Resolution

*****ADDITIONAL RESOLUTION**

25/0. The Conference receives the Report and invites comments on it from around the Connexion.

*****AMENDED RESOLUTION**

25/9. The Conference directs the Secretary of the Conference to convene a small group to have oversight of the work on structures of oversight and trusteeship to ensure that there is collaborative working, further consultation as necessary and that concerns already identified and comments received after the Conference are addressed, and in order to ensure that the proposals brought to the 2021 Conference are cohesive and comprehensive.

It is proposed that the small group comprises the Secretary of the Conference, the Connexional Secretary, the chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee, a representative of the Faith and Order Committee, a representative of the concerns of equality diversity and inclusion, a representative of the Law and Polity Committee, a District Chair, a Superintendent, a lay Synod Secretary and a circuit steward.

AGENDA ITEM 27: CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOSSIL FUELS: RESPONSE TO MEMORIAL 32 (2017) AND CONFERENCE REPLY (Pages 246-265)

Update Report

The Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment (JACEI) work assessing oil and gas companies has continued in the past quarter. A regular JACEI meeting was held in June,

- JACEI members noted that the Central Finance Board had followed the Committee's advice and added several oil and gas companies to its ethical exclusion list. This had required the CFB to sell its holdings in BP, Total, and ARC Resources.
- JACEI reviewed a refreshed assessment of the oil and gas sector, focusing on four companies held in CFB funds, and including for reference BP and Total. New data from the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI) was used for one of the metrics in the assessment. Rather than focus on one or two factors, companies are assessed across up to 25 metrics under five categories, as reported to Conference 2018: current asset mix; capital expenditure; strategy and governance; positive transition steps; decreasing emissions.
- JACEI noted that there had been no change in the green 'traffic light' rating derived for the four companies held in CFB funds.

These companies have all made commitments that lead the Committee to believe they are aligned, or are close to being aligned, with the Paris Agreement. JACEI advised the CFB that it should engage further with these companies to press for more detail on their commitments and for further action.

The CFB has committed to continuing its intensive engagement with fossil fuel companies, including on the points JACEI recommended, outlined in its Report to Conference, though the pandemic lockdown had prevented physical meetings from taking place. As a responsible shareholder, the CFB is committed to pushing for further and faster change.

- Repsol
Repsol had seen a small change due to the carbon performance metric now using TPI data, but the rating and its relative position was not affected.
- ENI
The ENI rating and relative position were unchanged.
- Royal Dutch Shell
After the assessment was completed in April, Shell made new announcements. It has a net zero target for Scope 1 and 2 emissions. It has a new ambition, to ensure its net carbon footprint is consistent with a +1.5°C outcome, rather than 2°C. It is the best company on the TPI data now being used for the carbon performance metric. We note that the current TPI analysis does not show that Shell is aligned with 1.5°C, but TPI states that *"Its 1.5°C alignment claim could reflect the impact of its additional sectoral decarbonisation initiatives and plans to pivot over time towards serving the businesses and sectors that, by 2050, are net zero emissions themselves. However, these initiatives cannot currently be captured by TPI's Carbon Performance methodology."*

Shell has pledged to work *"more closely with other organisations that are aiming for net zero by 2050, and potentially not serving those which do not share the same ambition"*. This links to an area we have advised the CFB to engage with the company about. The

company had not yet appeared to have considered in detail how it would ‘pivot’ away from companies without a +1.5 °C strategy. This is an area about which we have advised the CFB to engage.

Overall, on the revised assessment, there was no change in the Shell rating and a slight improvement in its assessment. Its relative position remained unchanged.

- Equinor
Equinor has seen marginal improvement since the March/April assessment due to its improving production and emissions trend. On the revised assessment, Equinor’s rating remained unchanged, its assessment improved slightly, and its relative position remained unchanged.
- The Committee has not examined BP and Total in detail since issuing its advice in April, but it did note that Total had made new commitments regarding responding to global warming. Its advice has not changed.

The Climate Emergency is a matter of grave concern to Methodists. JACEI will continue to review the progress these companies make and should that reverse or prove insufficient it will update its advice to the CFB. JACEI will report further on this ongoing work to Conference 2021.

*****RESOLUTION**

27A/1. The Conference receives the additional Report.

AGENDA ITEM 31: STATISTICS FOR MISSION (Pages 283-288)

Page 286, Figure 3

Replace the graph shown with:

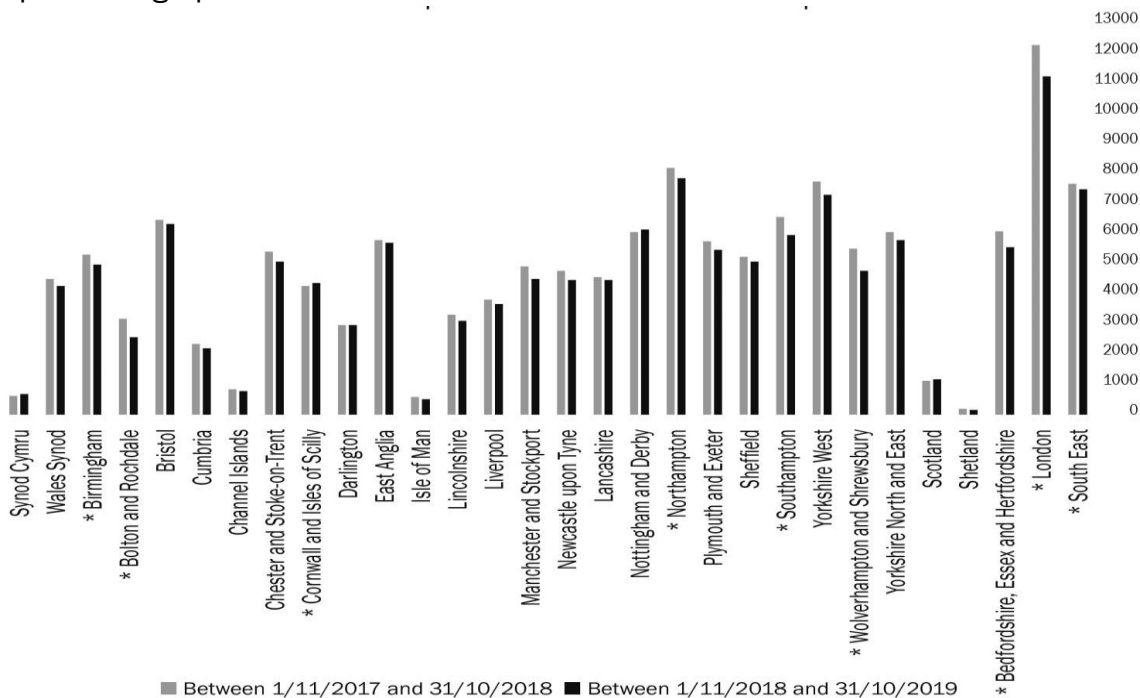


Figure 3: Comparison of estimated weekly attendance figures between the latest and previous statistical years

Estimated average attendance was up in 4 and down in 26 Districts. London, Northampton and the South East reported the highest number of attendees.

AGENDA ITEM 41: COMMITTEE ON METHODIST LAW AND POLITY (2) (Pages 439-446)

Page 440

The following is substituted for the proposed amended Standing Order 015(2) on p.440 of the Agenda:

(2) The responsibility for supervising and arranging the deposit of church records under this Standing Order shall rest with the responsible supervisor who shall be:

- (i) in relation to local church and circuit records, the church or circuit archivist, if appointed, failing whom the Superintendent;
- (ii) in relation to district records, the Chair; and
- (iii) in relation to connexional records, the relevant secretary or convener.

AGENDA ITEM 48: COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (Pages 471-480)

Page 474, Resolution 48/7

Add: The Revd Dr Catrin Harland Davies, The Revd Dr Graham Edwards, the Revd Dr Caroline Wickens

The Revd Dr Catrin Harland-Davies

Co-Director of the Centre for Continuing Ministerial Development at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham. She has a PhD in biblical studies, exploring the ecclesiology of the New Testament church.

The Revd Dr Graham Edwards

Superintendent of the Macclesfield Circuit, with academic interest in practical theology. His doctoral research involved an exploration of the nature of lived Methodism and he has a continuing interest in how the Methodist Church does theology out of lived experience.

The Revd Dr Caroline Wickens

Superintendent of the Manchester Circuit, with expertise in biblical studies and experience of theological education, including overseas and within the Learning Network.