

Minutes of a meeting of the Methodist Council held on 14-16 April 2018 at Woodland Grange, Leamington Spa

Present: The President, the Vice-President and 44 voting members as follows:
Mr Mike Anderson, Ms Janet Baker, Mr Tim Baker, the Revd Peter E Barber, the Revd Rory Dalglish, Ms Gill Dascombe, Mr Jack Delbridge, Ms Sue Draper, the Revd Mark Dunn-Wilson, Mrs Aileen Fox, the Revd Dr Andrew M Fox, the Revd Catherine Gale, the Revd Ruth M Gee, Mr Bala Gnanapragasam, Ms Ruth Hall, the Revd Novette S Headley, the Revd Beverly Hollings, Professor Peter D Howdle, the Revd Dr Jennifer A Hurd, the Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler, the Revd Eleanor G Jackson, the Revd Philip J Jackson, the Revd Vincent M Jambawo, Mrs Carolyn Lawrence, Mrs Heather Lovelady, Deacon Karen McBride, Deacon Jonathan Miller, Dr Daleep S Mukarji, Mrs Idy Osibodu, the Revd Rachel E Parkinson, the Revd Mary M Patterson, the Revd Gareth P Phillips, the Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, Mrs Anne Pryke, the Revd Sally A Ratcliffe, the Revd Peter D Sheasby, Mrs Heather Shipman, the Revd David Shirliff, Mr Doug Swanney, the Revd Timothy A Swindell, Mrs Louise C Wilkins, Mr Richard Wills, the Revd Dr Andrew D Wood, the Revd Michaela A Youngson

Apologies: Mrs Carole Burgess, the Revd Linda J Catlow, the Revd Olufemi R W Cole-Njie, Ms Gemma Curtis, Ms Rachel J Lampard, Professor Ken Mortimer, the Revd Stephen J Poxon, Mr Pete Prescott, the Revd Dr Roger L Walton, Mr Ted Awty, Mr Alan Kershaw

Substitutes: Ms Roxanne Bromley, Ms Alison Jackson, the Revd Jarel A Robinson-Brown

Observers: Mr Martin Ashford, Ms Jude Levermore (members of the senior leadership group of the Connexional Team), the Revd Dr Nicola V Price-Tebbutt (secretary of the Faith and Order Committee), Mr Michael Pryke (Youth President), the Revd Nigel Uden (URC observer)

In attendance: Ms Jane Bates (Minutes), Ms Louise Taylor (Administration), Ms Rosie Winn (Media Officer)

Letters: The Council sent letters of greeting to the following:
The Revd Linda Catlow
The Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon and family
Mrs Rosemary Harrison
The Revd Stephen and Deacon Myrtle Poxon
The Revd Dr Roger Walton
Southlands Methodist Trust

18.2.1 Minutes of the Council

The minutes of the meeting held on 24-25 January 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record.

The Council received an update in respect of minute 18.1.13 relating to resolution 10/3, and noted that the allowances for ordained members of the Team will be considered by the Remuneration Committee augmented for that purpose by the attendance of the Connexional Secretary.

18.2.2 Nomination of the Chair of the Council [MC/18/26]

The Secretary of the Conference presented MC/18/26.

26/1. The Council nominated Mrs Jill Baker to the Conference as Chair of the Council for 2018-2022.

18.2.3 Renomination of the Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee [MC/18/27]

The Secretary of the Conference presented MC/18/27.

27/1. *The Council, with the required majority, agreed to recommend to the Conference that the appointment of Professor Peter Howdle as chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee is extended for a period of one year until 2019.*

18.2.4 Methodist Church House [MC/18/35]

The Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee presented MC/18/35. Professor Roy Swanston, chair of the Methodist Church House Management Committee, was present for this item.

The Council noted that there were some adjustments to the figures in the paper in the light of indications received from Westminster Council following a pre-planning application.

35/1. *The Council agreed to Option 2 as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report.*

35/3. *The Council instructed the Strategy and Resources Committee, in conjunction with the Methodist Church House Management Committee, and with advice from the connexional treasurers, to take the necessary steps to proceed with the preferred option.*

18.2.5 Report from the Strategy and Resources Committee [MC/18/29]

The Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee presented MC/18/29.

29/1. *The Council received the report.*

18.2.6 Notice of Motion 2017/206: Growth Plan or End of Life Plan [MC/18/30]

Our Calling: draft Methodist Council objectives [MC/18/30A]

The Secretary of the Conference and the Connexional Secretary presented MC/18/30 and MC/18/30A.

The Council engaged in discussions of the detail of these papers in small groups.

18.2.7 Connexional Team report [MC/18/31]

The Connexional Secretary presented MC/18/31, noting that a Director of Finance and Resources and a Senior Finance Manager have now been appointed.

31/1. *The Council received the report.*

31/2. *The Council approved the policy concerning Regional Learning and Development Forums as set out in paragraphs 15-22 and agreed to commend the changes to the Conference.*

31/3. *The Council adopted part 2 of the report and agreed to commend it and any necessary amendments to Standing Orders to the Conference.*

18.2.8 Connexional Central Services Budget [MC/18/32]

The lead Connexional Treasurer presented MC/18/32.

The Council noted that there will need to be some adjustments made to this draft budget, in the light of changes within the Team and also to take account of the pensions valuations. However, it will remain a balanced budget.

32/1. *The Council endorsed the draft budget and agreed to recommend it to the Conference.*

18.2.9 District Allocations [MC/18/33]

The lead Connexional Treasurer presented MC/18/33.

33/1. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference the district allocations of the assessment to the Methodist Church Fund set out in this paper.

18.2.10 Connexional Allowances Committee [MC/18/34]

The Assistant Secretary of the Conference presented MC/18/34.

It was felt that the paper needed to be clearer about the offering of financial advice, ensuring that it was only provided by those who are qualified to deliver such advice. It was agreed that the third sentence of paragraph 3.2 should be deleted. It was clarified that Appendix 1 had no status other than as a background paper for this specific report. Noting these amendments and clarifications, the Council agreed resolution 34/1.

34/1. The Council received the report and agreed to recommend it to the Conference.

18.2.11 The response to the Training Review [MC/18/28]

The Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee presented MC/18/28.

The report will now be redrafted as the Council's report to the Conference, and the Chair of the Council will sign it off.

28/1. The Council received the report and agreed to recommend it to the Conference as the response to Notice of Motion 2017/106.

18.2.12 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee [MC/18/46]

The Connexional Secretary presented MC/18/46.

46/1. The Council received the report.

46/2. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that Standing Order 210(1)(iv) be amended as follows:

one representative of each home District, being either a lay person or a minister (other than a district Chair), ~~appointed~~ **nominated** in accordance with clause (2)(a) below;

46/3. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that Standing Order 210(1)(ix) be amended as follows:

two representatives, not being members of the Connexional Team, representing the concerns of ~~racial justice~~ **equality, diversity and inclusion**;

46/4. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that Standing Order 210(2)(a) be amended as follows:

The persons appointed under head (iv) of clause (1) above shall be nominated by their respective Synods for a period of four years, **having regard to age, sex and ethnic origin, and** being in each case a person who would be entitled under Standing Order 417(1) to be a representative of that District to the Conference...

18.2.13 'The Unfinished Agenda' – Progress report [MC/18/47]

The Connexional Secretary presented MC/18/47.

47/1. The Council received the report.

18.2.14 Legal and Property Support for Managing Trustees Working Party [MC/18/36]

Susan Howdle, chair of the working party, presented MC/18/36.

36/1. The Council received the report.

36/2. The Council accepted the recommendations contained within the report and:

- a) *directed the Strategy and Resources Committee and invited the Executive of the Board of the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes to oversee the implementation of the recommendations as soon as possible;*
- b) *further directed the Strategy and Resources Committee to make regular reports to the Council on the progress of implementing the recommendations;*
- c) *resolved to include the full report of the working party in the Council's own report to the Conference.*

36/3. *The Council thanked the working party for the careful way in which it has undertaken its work.*

18.2.15 Notice of Motion 2017/202: Applications for grants from the National Lottery [MC/18/37]

The Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice presented MC/18/37.

37/1. *The Council received the report.*

37/2. *The Council approved the policy decision and guidance set out in the report and authorised the Chair and Secretary of the Council to approve any changes to the guidance as may from time to time be required.*

18.2.16 Data Protection [MC/18/39]

The Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice presented MC/18/39.

39/1. *The Council received the report.*

39/2. *The Council adopted the Data Protection Policy for the Connexional Team.*

39/3. *The Council agreed to the principle of a requirement being included within Standing Orders for managing trustees to adopt the precedent policies and notices of the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes as the data controller.*

18.2.17 Sales under Paragraph 20 of the Model Trusts [MC/18/40]

The Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice presented MC/18/40.

40/1. *The Council received the report.*

40/2. *The Council directed the Connexional Team to present a report to the Council clarifying the purposes of the Methodist Church under section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976.*

40/3. *The Council directed the Connexional Team to present a report to the Council setting out proposals for a policy on the minimum terms for a disposal under paragraph 20 of the Model Trusts.*

40/4. *The Council adopted the Model Trust 20 policy as set out in the paper.*

18.2.18 Confidential item

18.2.19 Ministries Committee [MC/18/38]

The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Ministries Committee presented MC/18/38.

The Council noted the following amendments:

- Section 9.2, sixth paragraph – for 30 September read 1 February
- Paragraph 11.3 – for 'The following description was agreed by the Faith and Order Committee' read 'The following is a working definition of local lay ministry that we are using in relation to paragraph 11.5.'

With those amendments,

38/1. *The Council received the report.*

38/2. *The Council agreed to commend the report and its recommendations to the Conference.*

18.2.20 Review of the Replacement Project Criteria [MC/18/41]

The Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice presented MC/18/41.

41/1. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that SO 908 be revoked.

41/2. The Council agreed to recommend the proposed amendment to Standing Order 973 is adopted by the Conference in 2018.

The Council considered the discussion points raised in the paper in small groups.

18.2.21 Pension and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Methodist Church [PASLEMC] [MC/18/42]

The lead Connexional Treasurer presented MC/18/42. The Council noted the addition of paragraphs 6-9.

42/1. The Council re-appointed Mr Graham Danbury as a Director of Methodist Lay Employees' Pension Trust Limited (MLEPTL) for a period of three years from 1 September 2018.

42/2. The Council noted the retirement of Mr Colin Pearson as a Director of MLEPTL from 1 September 2018 and appointed Mr Andrew Gibbs as his replacement.

42/3. The Council noted there is a postal ballot for a Member Nominated Director of MLEPTL.

42/4. The Council noted that discussions are underway with the Finance Sub-Committee of the Strategy and Resources Committee regarding the 1 September 2017 actuarial valuation and that the statutory deadline for completing the valuation is 30 November 2018.

42/5. The Council agreed to augment the benefits of PASLEMC members whose basic annual salary on 1 September 2017 did not increase or increased by less than 2.5%, and to pay the required augmentation cost to the Trustee of PASLEMC provided that the augmentation cost is not materially different from the current estimate.

18.2.22 Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme [MC/18/43]

The lead Connexional Treasurer presented MC/18/43.

43/1. The Council agreed, on behalf of the Conference, to the Statement of Funding Principles, including the assumptions proposed by the Trustee of MMPS as the basis of the Actuarial Valuation and authorised it to be signed on its behalf by the Chair of the SRC.

43/2. The Council agreed to the Schedule of Contributions and agreed to recommend to the Conference that the Church contribution continues at 26.9% of standard stipends from 1 September 2018.

43/3. In line with the proposals made by the Trustee of MMPS, the Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that the current surplus be retained in the Scheme as a buffer against future adverse experience.

43/4. The Council nominated Mr Ronald Calver and Mr John Wyatt for reappointment by the Conference as Directors of Methodist Ministers' Pension Trust Limited, the Trustee of MMPS.

43/5. The Council noted the retirement of Mr Colin Pearson as Director of Methodist Ministers' Pension Trust Limited and agreed to nominate Mr Andrew Gibbs to the Conference as his replacement for appointment as a Director of Methodist Ministers' Pension Trust Limited from 1 September 2018.

43/6. The Council noted the appointment of the Revd John Illsley as a Member Nominated Director of Methodist Ministers' Pension Trust Limited, Trustee of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme from 1 September 2018 for a three year term.

43/7. The Council noted the retirement of the Revd Michael Fielding on 31 August 2018 as the pensioner Member Nominated Director and agreed to nominate Mrs Ruth Edmundson to the Conference as his replacement from 1 September 2018.

18.2.23 Pension Reserve Fund [MC/18/45]

The lead Connexional Treasurer presented MC/18/45.

The Council noted an additional paragraph at 3.4, which was amended.

- 45/1. *The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that no further payments are made from the Pension Reserve Fund to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme until further notice.***
- 45/2. *The Council agreed to recommend that the Conference re-states unequivocally that the Pension Reserve Fund exists to support both the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS) and the Pension and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Methodist Church (PASLEMC) as the need arises, that they will be given equal consideration as the need arises and as permitted by charity law or the Charity Commission, and that no change will be made to either the use of the fund or the way in which income from the Connexional Priority Fund levy is calculated without first being satisfied that appropriate consultation has been undertaken with both Trustee Boards.***
- 45/3. *The Council agreed to request that the Conference delegates to the Methodist Council authority to utilise the Pension Reserve Fund as part of the recovery plan arising from the 2017 valuation of the Pension and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Methodist Church.***
- 45/4. *The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that the Pension Reserve Fund will cover the past service liabilities of all participating employers within the PASLEMC.***

The Council gave authority to the Chair of the Council in consultation with the connexional treasurers to make any adjustments needed to the precise wording required in terms of how this is presented to the Conference.

18.2.24 Confidential item

18.2.25 Nominations and Appointments

- 48/1. *The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 320(1)(ii), agreed to nominate to the Conference the following persons as members of the Ministerial Candidates' Selection Committee:***

The Revds Joanne Archer-Siddall, Rachel A Burgess, Richard J Byass, Jane H Carter, Molly Chitokwindo, Alan Combes, David R Emison, Matthew R Finch, Vivienne M Gasteen, Susan J Griffiths, Mark P Hammond, Gareth J Higgs, Dr David Hinchliffe, Christine M Howe, Ian J K Hu, Catherine Hutton, Kavula J John, Graham R Jones, Dr Elizabeth A Kent, Prof Teddy Kalongo, M Susan E Lawler, Dr Jane Leach, Andrew Letby, Jonathan E Mead, Andrew C Moffoot, Dr Ian D Morris, Faith Nyota, Nicholas A Oborski, Paul Nzachahayo, Dr Claire R Potter [SO 320(1)(i)], Stephen E Robinson, Dr Joseph B Suray, Nutan Sandhya J Suray, Tina F Swire, Susan J Wigham, D Paul Wood [SO 320(1)(i)], Dr Timothy R Woolley, Ian J Worsfold Deacons Guy Austin-Bride, P Jane Gibson, Richard D Goldstraw, Eleanor Griffin, Julie A Hudson, Belinda S Letby, Ian Murray, Suzanne Peat, Sylvia R Phillips, Myrtle A Poxon, Kerry R Scarlett, Angela Shereni, Marilyn O S Slowe, Sian M Street, Lynne R Sylvester-Tonge, Janet H Thomas

Miss Victoria Aggasild, Ms E Jane Allin, Mr Rob Cooper, Ms Sarah Dixon. Mrs Janet Dobinson, Mrs Glenna Griffin, Mrs Elaine M Grout, Ms Sylvia Hart, Mr Phil Langdale, Mrs Jane Lloyd, Mrs Dorothy Lumley, Mrs Grace Penn-Timity, Mr Alfred Philpott, Mrs Catherine Roots, Mrs Maxine Scott, Mr Michael Sharpe, Dr Rachel Starr, Mrs Karen Stefanyszyn, Mrs Anne Vautre, Mrs Denise Tomlinson, Dr Margaret Williams

The Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order has the right to attend but not to vote.

The Council noted that additional nominations will be brought to the Conference.

48/2. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 213(2), agreed to nominate to the Conference the following persons as members of the Strategy and Resources Committee of the Council:

(i) Professor Peter D Howdle (Chair)

(iA) Ms Janet Arthur, Mrs Anne Bolton, Mr Robert J Harrison, the Revd Susan Keegan Von Allmen, Professor David Matthews, the Revd Dr Ruth Midcalf, the Revd Michael D Parker

(ii) The Revd Timothy A Swindell, Mr Edward Awty (Connexional Treasurers)

(iii) deleted

(iv) Chair of the Connexional Grants Committee: Mrs Helen Woodall

(v) The Chair or Deputy Chair of the Ministries Committee: The Revd Dr Andrew D Wood

(vi) District Chair: The Revd Loraine N Mellor

(vii) The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Connexional Secretary and other members of the senior leadership group (non-voting): the Revd Gareth J Powell, the Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler, Mr Doug Swanney, Mr Martin Ashford, Ms Jude Levermore

48/3. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 321(5)(b), agreed to nominate to the Conference the following persons as Oversight Tutors:

Where more than one oversight tutor is appointed for the same institution one shall be identified as having oversight responsibility. In the following list, that person is identified by an asterisk.

Queen's Foundation, Birmingham: *The Revd Dr Jane Craske, Deacon Eunice Attwood, The Revd Dr Jonathan Dean, The Revd Gary Hall, The Revd Dr Paul Nzacahayo, The Revd Dr Judith Rossall, Deacon Kerry Scarlett

48/4. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 322, agreed to nominate to the Conference the following persons as members of the Stationing Committee:

Mrs Pamela Lavender (Chair), the Revds Canon Gareth J Powell and Dr Jonathan R Hustler, the Revd Nigel Cowgill, Ms Jenny Jackson, the Revd Dr David Hinchliffe, Mrs Biddy Bishop, the Revd Ian Howarth, Mrs Val Mayers, the Revd Gillian M Newton, Mrs Beverley Duffy, the Revd Canon Helen D Cameron, Ms M Frances Hopwood, the Revd Dr Sheryl M Anderson, Mr Iain S A Henderson, the Revd Stephen J Lindridge, Mr Bill Offler, the Revd Dr Claire Potter, the Revd Dr Jennifer A Hurd, Deacon Karen McBride, the Revd Peter E Barber, the Revd Stephen J Poxon, the Revd Graham Thompson.

48/5. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 213A, agreed to nominate to the Conference the following persons as members of the Audit Committee:

Mrs Sarah Atwell-King, Mr Adrian Burton, Mr Alan Kershaw (Chair), Mrs Susan M Mortimer

48/6. Pursuant to SO 212(7), the Methodist Council agreed to nominate to the Conference the following representatives.

(a) Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI): Annual General Meeting
Mr Michael P King

(b) Churches Together in Britain and Ireland: Senior Representatives' Forum
Mr Michael P King; Connexional Ecumenical Officer

(c) Churches Together in England (CTE): Enabling Group
The Revd Dr Jonathan H Pye, Connexional Ecumenical Officer

(d) Churches Together in England Forum (17-19 September 2018):

The Revds Steven Cooper, Dr Jonathan H Pye; Deacon Melanie Beaven; Ms Gracie Burnett, Berenice Dalrymple, Ruth E Hall, Marcia Tull, Jasmine F Yeboah; Mr Jack Key, Michael Pryke; a lay vacancy; Connexional Ecumenical Officer

(e) Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS): Members' Meeting:

The Revd Dr David P Easton; Mr Alan Henderson

Alternate: The Revd T Alan Anderson

(f) Cytûn (Churches Together in Wales): Enabling Group

The Revd Dr Jennifer A Hurd

Proxies: The Revds Dr Ian D Morris, Philip A Poynor

- 48/7. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 116B, appointed the Revd Ian J Worsfold to be the Precentor for the Presbyteral and Representative Sessions of the 2018 Conference.**
- 48/8. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 116B, appointed the Revd Catherine Dixon to be the Letter-writer for the Presbyteral and Representative Sessions of the 2018 Conference.**
- 48/9. The Methodist Council, acting under Deed of Union Clause 14(4)(d) and Standing Order 107(3), appointed the following two associate members of the Conference as (full, voting) members of the 2018 Conference:**
Mrs Muriel Smith (Methodist Church of the Caribbean and Americas)
The Revd Musi Losaba (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
- 48/10. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 138(1), appointed the Memorials Committee for the 2018 Conference as follows:**
Dr Richard Vautrey (Chair), the Revd Michaela A Youngson, Mr Bala Gnanapragasam, the Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, Mr Doug Swanney, Mr Martin Harker, the Revd Simon C Sutcliffe, Mrs Sheridan Pengelly, Mrs Liz Hudson, the Revd R Margaret K Mwailu, Ms Laura Gallery, Mr Chris Finbow, the Revd Canon Helen D Cameron, Mrs Sue Marshall-Jennings, Mr Keith Norman, the Revd Melinda T Bell, Mr Michael Noble, Mr Craig Price, the Revd Gavin R Hume, Mr John Heard, Mr Keith Walton
In attendance: the Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler, the Revd Jennifer M Dyer, Mr David Ridley, the Revd Dr Nicola V Price-Tebbutt, representatives of the Connexional Team
- 48/11. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 136A, appointed the Financial Committee for the 2018 Conference as follows:**
The Revd Timothy A Swindell, Mr Doug Swanney, the Revd Eleanor Jackson, the Revd Philip J Jackson, Mrs Carolyn Lawrence.
- 48/12. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 107, directed that the following twenty other autonomous conferences, other Methodist churches and united churches in which Methodists have joined be invited to appoint a representative to be an associate member of the 2019 Conference:**
Opera per le Chiese Evangeliche Metodiste in Italia, UMC Germany Central Conference, UMC Central and Southern Central Conference, UMC Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference, Igreja Evangelica Metodista Portuguesa, Methodist Church Ghana, Presbyterian Church in Cameroon, Methodist Church Kenya, Eglise Méthodiste du Togo, Methodist Church in Zimbabwe, Iglesia Metodista de Puerto Rico, Iglesia Metodista de Chile, Iglesia Evangelica Metodista de Nicaragua, Iglesia Evangelica Metodista Argentina, Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, The Methodist Church, Upper Myanmar, The Church of North India, Gereja Methodist Indonesia, The United Church of Christ in Japan, The Methodist Church of New Zealand.
- 48/13. The Methodist Council, acting under Standing Order 105(1A), approved the following rota for diaconal representation at the Conference of 2019:**
Synod Cymru, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle upon Tyne, Lancashire, Northampton, Plymouth and Exeter, Southampton, London, South East.
Reserves: Yorkshire West, Nottingham and Derby, East Anglia
- 48/14. The Council, on behalf of the Conference, appointed the following to accompany the President and the Vice-President as its representatives to the Irish Conference:**
The Revd Dr Jennifer A Hurd, Mr Bob Bartindale
- 48/15. The Council appointed the Rt Hon the Lord Beith as the Chair of the Methodist Heritage Committee.**
- 48/16. The Council appointed Prof Ann Sumner as the Chair of the Methodist Modern Art Collection Management Committee.**
- 48/17. The Council appointed the Revd Henry Lewis as Chair of the Safeguarding Committee with effect from 1 September 2018.**
- 48/18. The Council appointed Ms Jane Stacey and the Revd Anne E Brown to the Safeguarding Committee with immediate effect.**

- 48/19. The Council renominated Mr Andrew Gibbs as its representative on the Leech Boards for a further year commencing 1 October 2018.**
- 48/20. Pursuant to SO 341, the Council appointed the Cliff College Committee for 2018/19:**
The Revd Rachel Deigh (Chair), Mr Stephen Holliday, the Revd Alistair Sharp, the Revd Ashley Cooper, Mr Mathew Lee, Mrs Joan Ryan, Mr Ashley France, the Revd Dr Roger L Walton, the Revd Loraine N Mellor (Chair from 2019)
Participant Observers: Dr Justin Thacker (Academic Director); Mr Paul Taylor (Operations Director); Mr John Newton (Financial Registrar); Student President (TBC); Ms Jude Levermore (DMLN)
- 48/21. The Council appointed Mrs Barbara Easton to the Cathedrals Group.**
- 48/22. The Council appointed Mrs Louise C Wilkins as a trustee of Central Buildings, Manchester.**
- 48/23. The Council appointed a scrutiny group to consider presbyteral and diaconal extensions which are the responsibility of the Council:**
The Revds Dr Jennifer A Hurd, Philip J Jackson, Rachel E Parkinson, David Shirtliff; Deacon Jonathan Miller; Mr Timothy J Baker, Mrs Sue Draper, Mrs Aileen Fox, Professor Ken Mortimer.
- 48/24. The Council appointed the Revd Dr Richard N Clutterbuck as representative to the 8th General Assembly of the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE): 13-18 September 2018.**

18.2.26 Matters arising [MC/18/49]

- 49/1. The Council received the report.**
- 49/2. The Council appointed RSM UK Audit LLP as external auditors for the connexional year 2017/18 at a fee to be agreed with the Audit Committee.**

18.2.27 Decisions made, Documents signed and Action taken by the Council since its last meeting [MC/18/50]

- 50/1. The Council received the report.**

18.2.28 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring of the Council [MC/18/51]

- 51/1. The Council noted the report.**

18.2.29 Southlands College Annual Report [MC/18/52]

- 52/1. The Council received the report.**

18.2.30 The work of the Faith and Order Committee [MC/18/53]

- 53/1. The Council received the report.**

18.2.31 Safeguarding Committee: Review of Terms of Reference [MC/18/54]

- 54/1. The Council received the report.**
- 54/2. The Council adopted the proposals for amending the terms of reference for the Safeguarding Committee (paragraph 3.3) and directed that the necessary amendments to Standing Order 232 are prepared for presentation to the Conference.**

18.2.32 Methodist Schools Committee: Annual Report [MC/18/55]

- 55/1. The Council received the report.**
- 55/2. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that the Methodist Schools Committee be directed to develop a schools' educational strategy for the Church, reporting to the Conference in 2020.**

18.2.33 Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee [MC/18/56]

- 56/1. The Council approved the constitution of the nominations committee and the processes outlined in this report in order to bring to the Council a nomination as the next chair of the SRC.**

56/2. The Council agreed that, if necessary, an evote be used to ensure that a Council nominated name can be brought to the Conference of 2018.

The Council appointed the Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, the Revd Ruth M Gee, Mr Ted Awty and Mrs Heather Shipman to the nominations committee.

18.2.34 Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd appointments [MC/18/57]

57/1. The Council approved the nomination by the Board of Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd for appointment by the 2018 Conference of Mrs Anne Bolton as a Director, for a three year period from 1 September 2018.

57/2. The Council approved the nomination by the Board of Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd for appointment by the 2018 Conference of the following persons as Directors, each for a further three year period from 1 September 2018: Dr Cliff Marshall, the Revd Dr Martin Wellings, and further agreed to recommend to the Conference that it should resolve, under Article 36 of the Articles of Association of WCOT Ltd, that a period of one year's non-service upon the Board should not be required in relation to these appointments.

18.2.35 Training for Ordained Ministries in the Methodist Church 2017-18 [MC/18/58]

58/1. The Council received the report.

18.2.36 Ecumenical Associate Members of the 2019 Conference [MC/18/59]

59/1. The Council received the report and noted the addition to the list of churches and Christian bodies eligible to be invited to appoint associate members of the Conference as detailed in paragraph 2.1.

59/2. The Council agreed to recommend to the 2018 Conference those churches and Christian bodies listed in paragraph 3.2 as those to be invited to appoint associate members of the 2019 Conference.

18.2.37 Synod Cymru/The Wales Synod [MC/18/60]

60/1. The Council received the report.

60/2. The Council appointed Ms Janet Baker, the Revd Beverly Hollings and the Revd Peter Sheasby to form a scrutiny group to work, if appropriate, on its behalf in the fulfilment of SO 401(2).

18.2.38 M22 (2016) Safeguarding Records [MC/18/61]

61/1. The Council received the report.

18.2.39 Follow-up to M21 (2016) Accounting Software [MC/18/62]

62/1. The Council received the report.

18.2.40 Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Guidance – GDPR Amendments [MC/18/63]

63/1. The Council received the report.

63/2. The Council approved the amendments to the Safeguarding Policy in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).

18.2.41 Risk Assessment Policy and Procedures – GDPR Amendments [MC/18/64]

64/1. The Council received the report.

64/2. The Council approved the amendments to the Risk Assessment Policy and Procedures in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).

18.2.42 Methodist Schools – Appointments [MC/18/65]

65/1. The Council adopted the nomination by the Methodist Independent Schools Trustees of the Revd Stephen Burgess for a period of two years concluding 31 August 2020.

65/2. The Council appointed Mrs Elaine Cleland, Mrs Heather Wheelhouse, Mrs Barbara Easton, Mr Tony Harris, Mr Thomas Cadman and Mr David Kershaw as Trustees of the Wesley Trust for a period of three years concluding 31 August 2020.

18.2.43 Record Keeping Guidance for purposes of SO 1104(4A), 1121(7)(b) and (c)

66/1. The Council received the report.

66/2. The Council approved the Guidance contained in this report.

66/3. The Council authorised the Chair of the Council and the Secretary of the Council to approve any necessary amendments that need to be made to the guidance following scrutiny by the Law and Polity Committee.

18.2.44 The President and Vice-President

The Council heard some reflections from the President and Vice-President on their year of office.

18.2.45 The Journal of the Conference

The Journal of the 2017 Conference was duly attested.

Thanks were expressed to those for whom this was their last meeting of the Council. In particular, the Secretary expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Revd Ruth Gee, for her period of service as Chair of the Council.