

The United Reformed Church
Minutes of a meeting of Mission Council held 12-14 May 2017
at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire

FRIDAY 12 MAY

Session 1

The meeting of Mission Council began at 1400, with worship led by the Moderators and their Chaplains. The Moderator, Mr Alan Yates, was in the chair and declared Mission Council open.

17/1 Paper M1 Minute Secretary May 2017

The Clerk, the Revd Michael Hopkins, proposed, and Mission Council agreed, unanimously, to appoint Andy Braunston as Minutes Secretary for this meeting of Mission Council.

17/2 Paper M1 Minute Secretary November 2017 onwards

The Clerk further proposed, and Mission Council agreed, unanimously, to appoint the Revd Ken Forbes as Minutes Secretary from November 2017, for the time being.

The Moderator welcomed everyone, identifying new members, and anyone attending as an alternate.

People attending for the first time were as follows:

Mr Bill Gould	<i>Mersey Synod Representative</i>
Mr Jake Convery	<i>URC Youth - Representative</i>
Mrs Soo Webster	<i>In Attendance - C&YW</i>
Ms Hannah Jones	<i>URC Youth - Moderator Elect</i>
Ms Kay Parris	<i>In Attendance - Communications Officer</i>
The Revd Charles Mather	<i>Eastern Synod Representative</i>
The Revd John Smith	<i>In Attendance - Windermere</i>
The Revd Nigel Adkinson	<i>North Western Synod Representative</i>
The Revd Mitchell Bunting	<i>In Attendance - Windermere</i>
Ms Laura Jones	<i>Technical staff</i>
The Revd Alison Micklem	<i>Yorkshire Synod Representative</i>
Mrs Maria Mills	<i>South Western Synod Representative</i>
Mr Mark Kirkbride	<i>Synod of Scotland Representative</i>
Dr Jacqui Philips	<i>Church of England Observer</i>
Ms Maureen Shepherd	<i>Northern Synod Representative</i>

People attending in a new role were as follows:

Mr Dan Morrell	<i>URC Youth - Moderator</i>
Mr Andy Braunston	<i>In Attendance - Minute Secretary</i>

Apologies were received and accepted by the Moderator as follows:

Ms Heather Raistrick	<i>Yorkshire Synod Representative</i>
Mrs Wilma Frew	<i>Convenor of Pastoral Reference & Welfare</i>
Ms Rachel Lampard	<i>Methodist Church Observer</i>
The Revd Craig Bowman	<i>In Attendance - Ministries</i>
The Revd Dr Andrew Prasad	<i>Thames North Synod Moderator</i>
The Revd Dr James Coleman	<i>Yorkshire Synod Representative</i>
The Revd Elizabeth Clark	<i>In Attendance - National Rural Officer</i>
The Revd Helen Mee	<i>Convenor of Equalities Committee</i>
Mr Peter Knowles	<i>Convenor of Communications Committee</i>
Mrs Barbara Jones	<i>Synod of Wales Representative</i>

17/3 Facilitation Group

The General Secretary, the Revd John Proctor, proposed and Mission Council unanimously appointed the Revds Derrick Dzandu-Hedidor, David Herbert, Jenny Mills and Ruth Whitehead to be a Facilitation Group.

17/4 Minutes of the Meeting of Mission Council held 19-21 October 2016

These were unanimously accepted as an accurate record, and signed by the Moderator. There were no matters arising.

The General Secretary announced that it would soon be the 90th birthday of the Revd Bernard Thorogood, a former General Secretary, and Mission Council was invited to congratulate him by signing a card.

17/5 Paper X1 Our context for mission: The Scottish Church Census

The Revd Dr David Pickering, Moderator of the National Synod of Scotland, gave a presentation on the Scottish Church Census which gave a snapshot of Scottish Church life in 2016, showed trends in Scottish Church life between 2002 and 2016 and presented key outcomes of the census to Mission Council. Dr Pickering presented some selected insights for the URC arising from this report.

Mission Council adjourned at 3.20pm.

Session 2

Mission Council resumed at 4.05pm. The Moderator, the Revd Kevin Watson, was in the Chair.

The General Secretary noted that paper I9 was no longer to be tabled. Instead Ms Grace Pengelly would address Mission Council on the General Election.

17/6 Paper F1 The Wider Fold

Mission Council called for the report of the Faith and Order Committee. The Convenor, the Revd Elizabeth Welch, proposed the resolution in Paper F1. Following discussion, Ms Welch agreed to work with the Clerk, the Revd Professor Thompson, and Mr John Ellis to bring revised wording back to Mission Council later in the meeting, and the business was adjourned.

17/7 Paper F2 The Future of Membership

Ms Welch proposed the resolution in Paper F2. During discussion the General Secretary and the Revd James Breslin suggested removing the words "accepts the broad principles set out therein". However, this was not agreed, and the business was adjourned.

17/8 Paper I10 Our Context for Mission: The General Election

The Moderator invited the Mission Committee to address Mission Council. The Revd Bernie Collins, Convenor of the Mission Committee, introduced the Secretary for Church and Society, Ms Grace Pengelly, who gave a briefing about issues Christians should reflect upon in the run up to the 2017 General Election.

Mission Council warmly thanked Ms Pengelly for her work and that of the Joint Public Issues Team.

17/9 Paper H1 Further Thinking About Call

Mission Council called the report of the Ministries Committee. The Convenor, the Revd Paul Whittle, proposed the resolution in Paper H1.

Following discussion, Mission Council was unable to reach consensus, but was able to pass the resolutions recognising disagreement:

- 1. Mission Council supports the suggestion of a wider calling group and concurrence to specific spheres of responsibility as normal practice, noting that in some cases ministerial responsibilities will be reviewed and may be varied by mutual agreement and so with a fresh concurrence, while in others the same responsibilities will be held for the duration of the ministry.**

2. **Mission Council instructs the Ministries Committee to consult widely, and to prepare proposals with regard to the required changes to the Basis of Union and to the Structure.**
3. **Mission Council instructs Ministries Committee to do further work on the practicalities of a change in the locus of call and concurrence, in particular with reference to manse provision and the vacancy candidating process.**

17/10 Paper M3 Youth Representation in the Councils of the Church

The General Secretary formally proposed the resolution in paper M3. Mr Proctor noted that this had been agreed unanimously by General Assembly, and that no Synod had resolved that the matter be not proceeded with, so it now returned to Mission Council for a final vote.

Mission Council agreed the Resolution unanimously:

Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council gives final approval to the amendments to the Structure of the URC set out in Paper M3 of Mission Council May 2017.

The General Secretary reminded Mission Council that if members wished to remove any item from en bloc they should sign the appropriate form at the back of the hall.

Mission Council adjourned at 6.21pm.

Session 3

Mission Council reconvened at 8pm. The Moderator, Mr Alan Yates, was in the chair.

17/11 Paper Z1 Where is God calling the URC?

The Moderator invited the Revd Nicola Furley-Smith and the Revd Peter Meek to present paper Z1 on behalf of the Synod Moderators. Mission Council then broke into groups for discussion.

Mission Council adjourned at 9.15 pm with evening prayers led by the Chaplain.

SATURDAY 13 MAY

Session 4

Mission Council reconvened at 9.15am with morning prayers led by the Chaplain. The Moderator, the Revd Kevin Watson, was in the chair.

The General Secretary noted that that no requests had been made to remove items from en bloc. However, two items, M5 & J1, had been removed as they had been altered since the papers were circulated, and they would be taken, along with J2, later in the meeting.

17/12 Papers D1 and Y1 The Windermere Centre

The General Secretary noted that two alternative resolutions had been offered to Mission Council, and Mission Council would need to choose whether paper D1 or Y1 provides the substantive resolution.

The Moderator invited the Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship), the Revd Richard Church, to propose the resolutions in Paper D1.

The Moderator then invited the Revd Brian Jolly, Clerk of the North Western Synod, to propose the resolutions in Paper Y1.

After the proposals, members of Mission Council asked various questions for clarification.

Mission Council adjourned at 10.45 am.

Session 5

Mission Council reconvened at 11.15 am. The Moderator, Mr Alan Yates, was in the chair.

17/13 Paper B1 **Our context for mission: commitment to God's creation**

The Moderator invited the Moderator of the URC Youth Assembly, Mr Dan Morrell, to propose the resolution. During discussion, various members proposed, and Mission Council agreed, to amend the resolution so that the Mission and Communications Committees were instructed to work with the URC Youth Executive.

Mr Morrell responded to questions, and Mission Council agreed the resolutions by consensus:

- a) **Mission Council commends the work already carried out by the Children's and Youth Work Committee, Children's and Youth Work Department, and the URC Youth Executive, in reducing the overall carbon footprint of the annual URC Youth programme.**
- b) **Mission Council warmly receives the document *Commitment to God's Creation*, adopted by URC Youth Assembly 2017, as a mandate for change.**
- c) **Mission Council instructs the Mission Committee and the Communications Committee to work collaboratively with the URC Youth Executive to advance this work and develop further ideas to get, particularly, children and young people involved in tackling climate change.**

17/14 Papers J1 and J2 **Nominations Committee Report**

The Moderator invited Mrs Carol Rogers, alternate for the Convenor of the Nominations Committee, to propose the resolutions in papers J1 and J2, as amended on the Order Paper and verbally. The updated list is an appendix to these minutes. Mission Council agreed the resolutions by consensus:

- 1. Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council extends the tenure of the Revd Peter Meek as Moderator of East Midlands Synod for a further five years, until 31st August 2023.**
- 2. Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council appoints the Revd Philip Brooks as Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations from 1st July 2017 for an initial term of five years.**
- 3. Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council appoints the list of nominations, as amended.**

The Moderator thanked Mrs Rogers for her four years of service as Secretary of the Nominations Committee, and Mrs Rogers made suitable reply.

17/15 Paper M5 **Updating Nominations Committee Rubric**

The Clerk sought the permission of Mission Council to move the resolution in paper M5 in an amended form as had been notified on the Order Paper, the last sentence of paragraph 4 to read as follows:

'Any committee may invite other Assembly Officers (or their deputies) or staff members to attend in a non-voting capacity where the business so requires.' Mission Council accepted the amended form of words, and resolved by consensus:

- Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council updates the rubrics of the Nominations Committee as set out in Paper M5 of Mission Council 2017.**

17/16 Paper M4 **Appeal, Reference and Constitutional Review**

The General Secretary acted as Clerk for this item of business.

The Moderator invited the Clerk and the convenor of the Law and Polity Advisory Group, the Revd Professor David Thompson, to propose the resolutions in paper M4.

The Thames North Synod voted that the amendments to the Structure be not proceeded with, and the Clerk of the Thames North Synod, Mr Simon Fairnington, addressed Mission Council outlining their concerns.

The resolutions were put to the vote, and were both carried with one vote against, thus reaching the two-thirds majority needed to change the Structure:

1. Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council adopts the following amendments to the Structure to the URC:

5. Appeal, Reference and Constitutional Review

5.1. Any decision of a Church Meeting within an area of ecumenical experiment may be taken by way of appeal to the area meeting. A decision of any other Church Meeting may be taken by way of appeal to the synod on which the local church concerned is represented. Any decision of an ecumenical area meeting having implications for the United Reformed Church or any part thereof may be taken by way of appeal to the synod on which local churches in the area are represented. Any decision of a synod may be taken by way of appeal to the General Assembly.

5.2. A Church Meeting may itself refer any dispute or difference arising within the local church for resolution by the synod. An ecumenical area meeting may refer any dispute or difference arising within the area for resolution by the synod. A synod may refer any dispute or difference arising within the province or nation under its oversight for resolution by the General Assembly.

5.3. The synod may declare any decision of a Church Meeting within the province or nation under its oversight, or any decision of an ecumenical area meeting within that province or nation having implications for the United Reformed Church or any part thereof, which is (or has been reached by a procedure) incompatible with the Basis of Union, the Structure of the URC, the constitution of the ecumenical area (where applicable) or any rule or resolution of Assembly binding on the local church or the ecumenical area to be a nullity. The General Assembly may declare any decision of a Synod to be a nullity on analogous grounds. The review of any decision with a view to declaring it a nullity shall be known as constitutional review.

5.4. Appeals, references and constitutional review under this paragraph shall be subject to conditions and processes laid down by the Assembly in Rules of Procedure. A wider council determining an appeal or reference may either substitute its own decision for that of the more local council, or remit the issue to the more local council for reconsideration. No procedure governed by this paragraph shall be used to review decisions reached under the ministerial disciplinary process or the incapacity procedure.

5.5. The decision of the General Assembly on any matter which has come before it on appeal, reference or constitutional review shall be final and binding.

2. Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council makes the changes to the Rules of Procedure as set out in paper M4 of Mission Council May 2017.

17/17 Paper H2 Ministries Committee Deployment Formula

The Moderator invited the Revd Paul Whittle to propose the Resolutions. The Moderator explained that two alternative proposals are offered, and Mission Council was invited to choose Draft A or Draft B as the substantive resolution.

After discussion, Mission Council voted 40 for Draft A, and 23 for Draft B. Therefore, Draft A became the substantive resolution.

After further discussion, Mission Council, by an overwhelming majority, voted in favour of the resolution:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, agrees that stipendiary ministry posts, excluding those identified by General Assembly for CRCWs and Special Category Ministry, shall be allocated to

synods on the basis of a formula with a weighting of 60% for the number of members in each synod and 40% for the number of congregations in each synod. This formula shall be reapplied annually on the basis of the latest information available.

17/18 Paper X2 West Midlands Synod: Ministry in the Church

The Moderator invited the Revd Steve Faber, Moderator of West Midlands Synod, to propose the resolution in Paper X2. After discussion, the debate was adjourned.

The Moderator greeted Dr Jacqui Philips, the Clerk of the Church of England's General Synod, before she left the meeting, and Dr Philips made suitable reply.

Mission Council adjourned at 1 pm.

Session 6

Mission Council reconvened at 4 pm. The Moderator, the Revd Kevin Watson, was in the chair.

Mr Dan Morrell addressed Mission Council about the need to support Reform magazine.

17/19 En Bloc

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to move the various items which the Moderators had placed en bloc, which were passed by consensus:

Paper B2 Pilots Advocate

Mission Council supports the Children's and Youth Work Committee's decision to appoint a Pilots Advocate, which will be funded from the C&YW budget, and resolves that this post be filled through the Nominations Committee in the usual way.

Paper B3 Review of Children's and Youth Work

Mission Council accepts the need for a full review of children's and youth work in the URC, and directs the Children's and Youth Work Committee, the Head of Children's and Youth Work, and the DGS (Discipleship) to undertake such a review, the cost being met from the C&YW budget.

Paper F3 Faith and Order Committee - Report of ongoing work

No resolution.

Paper H3 Ministries updates

No resolution.

Paper G1 Financial Outcome 2016

No resolution.

Paper I2 Partnership Re-Commitment – Presbyterian Church of Ghana

1. Mission Council welcomes and affirms the Partnership Recommitment between the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, London and Europe Presbytery, and the United Reformed Church.

2. Mission Council recommends as good practice, and requests Church Meetings to consider seriously, the principle that an individual should not serve as an Elder in both of these churches simultaneously. This would not prevent an individual serving as an Elder in one denomination, and at a later time serving as an Elder in the other.

Paper I3 Mission Committee - The Kingston Declaration

Mission Council endorses the direction of travel of CWM's NIFEA process, and commends the Kingston Declaration to URC congregations for prayers, study, reflection and action.

Paper I4 **New Framework for Local Unity in Mission - A response from the United Reformed Church**
No resolution.

Paper I5 **Issues for the URC arising from the consultation on the document 'A New Framework for Local Unity in Mission'**
No resolution.

Paper I6 **United Reformed-Roman Catholic dialogue**
No resolution.

Paper I8 **Walking the Way – update**
No resolution.

Paper M2 **Standing Orders consultation**
No resolution.

Paper O1 **Human Resources Advisory Group (HRAG) - report on Recent Work**
No resolution.

Paper R1 **Safeguarding Update**
No resolution.

Paper R2 **Past Case Review Update**
No resolution.

Paper T1 **Ministerial Disciplinary Process**
On the recommendation of the MIND Advisory Group and on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council approves the changes to the Disciplinary Process set out in paper T1 of Mission Council May 2017 with immediate effect.

Paper U1 **Task Group on the future of General Assembly – report**
No resolution.

Mission Council expressed its appreciation of the people behind each of these resolutions and recognised the amount of time that had been involved in their preparation.

17/20 Paper D2 **Westminster College Appointment of Tutor in Church History and Doctrine**
The Moderator invited the Convenor of the Westminster College Board of Governors, the Revd Nigel Uden, to speak to the report. Mission Council noted that the Revd Dr Robert Pope had been appointed at Westminster College

17/21 Paper G4 **Finance Committee New Treasurer Arrangements**
The Moderator invited the honorary Treasurer, Mr John Ellis, to propose the resolution on paper G4.

Mission Council agreed by consensus:

Mission Council resolves to amend 2(a) (iii) of the URC Investment Committee's Terms of Reference to read: "the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer of the United Reformed Church."

17/22 Paper I7 **Mission Committee: World Council of Churches Glasgow Assembly Bid**
The Moderator invited the Convenor of the Mission Committee and the Secretary for Ecumenical Relations to address Mission Council. Mission Council was informed that the AGM of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland had withdrawn their support for the bid for the WCC 2021 General Assembly to be in Glasgow. It was noted that the Churches in Germany were putting in a bid to host the Assembly in 2021.

17/23 Papers D1 & Y1 Future of the Windermere Centre

The proposers and seconders of the resolutions responded to questions and comments. Having ascertained that Mission Council was ready to vote on which was to provide the substantive resolution, the Moderator put it to the vote. There voted for Paper D1 41, and there voted for paper Y1 19. Mission Council had, therefore, chosen paper D1 as the substantive paper.

Following further discussion, the Moderator proposed that the resolutions be sent to the Facilitation Group so that a proposal based upon the discussion could be formulated.

17/24 Paper M6 Marriage of Same-sex Couples in Guernsey

The General Secretary proposed the Resolution in paper M6. Mission Council agreed by consensus:

Following the passing of Resolution 7 of the Assembly of 2016, Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly:

- a) notes that under the Same-sex Marriage (Guernsey) Law 2016, the marriage of same-sex couples is now lawful in Guernsey;**
- b) recognises that the competence and functions of the Church Meeting in Guernsey is no different from those of any other Church Meeting in the United Reformed Church;**
- c) accepts that the definition and role of a “governing authority” in the Same-sex Marriage (Guernsey) Law 2016 are in essentials the same as those of a “governing authority” under section 26(A)(1) of the Marriage Act 1949 in England and Wales; and therefore**
- d) declares, for the avoidance of doubt, that paragraph B of Resolution 7 applies to Church Meetings in Guernsey in the context of Guernsey legislation as it does to Church Meetings in England and Wales; and further**
- e) directs that, in Guernsey, paragraphs C, E and F of Resolution 7 shall apply with the necessary modifications.**

17/25 Paper Z1 Where is God Calling the URC?

The Moderator invited the Synod Moderators to give feedback from the small groups that met on Friday evening. The Synod Moderators noted that there were many and varied responses about what is or has been important to people: and a particularly positive response to things which allow churches to pick materials from a bank of ideas which meet a need when the time is right for them. Members of Mission Council had, however, found it harder to identify what we should give up, except for the fear of giving up itself. The Synod Moderators felt there was a need to establish some criteria to help shape our decision-making about what we should give up so we identify what is vital to our Church's life and what is a luxury or something which has served its purpose. Ecumenical engagement allows us to access a wider range of materials to support mission, focussed on Jesus - again we hear the words 'come back to my Son'. We can only engage where partners are willing – so ecumenism will look different in different places. The Synod Moderators felt there is a need to continue a conversation about these strategic questions.

Mission Council adjourned at 6.18 pm.

Session 7

Mission Council reconvened at 8 pm. The Moderator, Mr Alan Yates, was in the Chair.

17/26 Paper X2 West Midlands Synod: Stipendiary Ministry Numbers

Discussion resumed on Paper X2. During discussion, the Treasurer intimated that the sums required from reserves, were such a policy eventually to be agreed and implemented, would certainly take reserves below the minimum safe level agreed in the reserves policy within about five years, and would expend more than the totality of available reserves if continued for ten years. Upon being put to the vote, there were almost all blue cards shown, and only a handful of orange cards, so the resolution fell:

Mission Council asks the Finance and Ministries Committees to examine the implications of releasing sufficient money from reserves in order to maintain stipendiary ministry at the 2017 levels for the next

five years and the next ten years in order to promote growth, and to bring proposals to the November 2017 meeting of Mission Council.

17/27 Paper F1 Faith and Order: The Wider Fold

Discussion resumed upon paper F1. The Clerk reported some possible alternative wording to replace paragraph 2.3 of the draft scheme:

Isolated members may make their financial contribution to the URC through the church where their isolated membership is held or by direct gifts to the Ministry and Mission Fund.

Mission Council agreed this change.

After further discussion, the business was again adjourned.

17/28 Papers D1 & Y1 The future of the Windermere Centre

The Facilitation Group brought a suggested new resolution, which Mission Council was asked to reflect on overnight.

Mission Council adjourned at 9.15 pm after prayers led by the Chaplain.

SUNDAY 14 MAY

Session 8

Mission Council reconvened at 9.30 am. The Moderators and their chaplains led Mission Council in worship, which included the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Mission Council adjourned at 10.35 am.

Mission Council reconvened at 11 am. The Moderator, the Revd Kevin Watson was in the chair.

17/29 Paper F1 Faith and Order: The Wider Fold

After further discussion, during which compatibility with the Basis of Union was raised, the Moderator ruled under Standing Order 2.5.9.1 that the matters in paper F1 be adjourned to another time and place, authorising the Faith and Order Committee, either to bring back revised proposals to a future meeting, or not, as they might see fit.

17/30 Papers D1 & Y1 The future of the Windermere Centre

The Moderator invited the Revd Ruth Whitehead to present the Facilitation Group's resolutions.

After further discussion, Mission Council passed, recognising disagreement:

1. Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, resolves to close the Windermere Centre with effect from 25th May 2017.

The following eleven members of Mission Council recorded their dissent:

The Revd Nigel Adkinson

Mr Jake Convery

The Revd Jacky Embrey

Mr Bill Gould

Ms Rita Griffiths

The Revd Andrew Mills

The Revd Jenny Mills

Mr Dan Morrell

Mr Chris Reed

The Revd Chris Parker

Mr Vic Russell.

Mission Council agreed, by consensus:

2: Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, expresses its gratitude to God and to all who have worked at the Windermere Centre for the contribution of the Centre over thirty years to the life, learning and fellowship of the United Reformed Church, and for its continuing legacy. It instructs the Education and Learning Committee to make appropriate arrangements for an act of thanksgiving and celebration for the life of the Centre.

Mission Council agreed, by consensus:

3. Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, directs the Education and Learning Committee to ensure that the staff of the Windermere Centre are offered practical and pastoral support at this time of change and loss.

Mission Council agreed, by consensus:

4. Mission Council sets a budget for the Windermere Centre's support from denominational funds for 2017 of £100,000.

Mission Council agreed, by consensus:

5. Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, supports in principle the sale of the Windermere Centre premises.

The honorary Treasurer assured Mission Council that the costs arising from physically separating the Centre part of the Windermere site from the Carver Uniting Church part of the site would be borne by the URC Trust.

After discussion, Mission Council passed, recognising disagreement:

6. Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, supports in principle the use of the proceeds of any disposal for lay development, and it:

- a) believes that there is an increasingly apparent and urgent need for a viable, costed strategy for lay training and congregational development across the URC, and calls for the development of such a strategy;**
- b) agrees that this strategy needs to take account of existing lay training and development resources and opportunities available within and beyond the URC and needs to be sensitive to the varied geography and the uneven distribution of financial and human resources across the Synods;**
- c) asks the Education and Learning Committee to facilitate the development of this strategy, with the active involvement of relevant people from the Synods and the URC Resource Centres for Learning;**
- d) recognises that such training and development needs to be delivered in a variety of ways which are likely to include on-line, face to face and residential components; it must be easily accessible to all in the URC;**
- e) therefore, instructs the Education and Learning Committee to bring to Mission Council in March 2018 proposals for these proceeds to be used as a designated Lay Development Fund which will enable an outworking of the developed strategy.**

The following member of Mission Council recorded their dissent to this resolution:

Ms Morag McLintock

17/31 Paper F2 Faith and Order Committee: The Future of Membership

The Convenor brought an amended resolution, the wording of which was accepted for debate:

Mission Council receives the report of the Faith and Order committee on the future of Church membership in paper F2 of Mission Council May 2017, affirms the work that has been done to date and requests that the Faith and Order Committee undertake further work to develop these ideas, consulting with others as necessary, with the aim of working toward a common practice across the church in order to establish clarity and reduce current inconsistencies over how church membership is handled.

After discussion, further concerns were raised, and the Moderator ruled that Mission Council was not yet ready to make a decision on this business.

17/32 Paper I1 Greenbelt

The Moderator invited Mr Steve Summers to address Mission Council about the URC presence at the Greenbelt festival.

17/33 The URC Buildings Forum

The Moderator invited the Revd David Tatem to address Mission Council about the launch of the new URC Buildings Forum website: urcbuildings.forum.myfreesites.net

17/34 Church House Redevelopment

The Moderator proposed, and the Clerk formally seconded, and it was agreed unanimously that:

Mission Council

- a) records the debt of the whole United Reformed Church to our Church House staff;**
- b) recognises the many extra demands placed on the staff as a result of the redevelopment of their offices;**
- c) expresses its profound gratitude for the dedication of our staff, highlighted again by the last few months; and**
- d) instructs the General Secretary to convey this appreciation to all staff.**

17/35 Farewells

The Moderator thanked all those who had helped in the preparation and delivery of Mission Council, and paid particular thanks to those who worked at High Leigh.

The Moderator bade farewell to those who were attending Mission Council for the last time and thanked them for their service:

The Revd Mitchell Bunting	<i>In Attendance - Windermere</i>
The Revd Timothy Meachin	<i>Convenor of Children's and Youth Work Committee</i>
Mrs Carol Rogers	<i>In Attendance - Nominations</i>
The Revd Edward Sanniez	<i>Thames North Synod Representative</i>
The Revd David Tatem	<i>In Attendance - Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations</i>
The Revd Elizabeth Welch	<i>Convenor of Faith and Order</i>

The Moderator also thanked Mr John Ellis for his excellent and wise service as URC Treasurer over many years, noting that Mr Ellis would remain a member of Mission Council as immediate past Moderator.

The General Secretary thanked the Moderators.

17/36 Adjournment

Mission Council closed with prayers at 12.45 pm, to meet again from 7 to 9 November 2017 at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Appendix – updated list of Nominations

Current List of Committees and Representatives

Notes:

1. The Moderators, the Moderators elect, the immediate past Moderators, and the General Secretary are members *ex officio* of every standing committee. The Deputy General Secretaries are members *ex officio* of every standing committee within their department. Any *ex officio* member may arrange for an appropriate deputy, such as any Deputy General Secretary or an Officer of Assembly, to attend on their behalf. Any committee may invite other Assembly Officers (or their deputies) or staff members to attend in a non-voting capacity where the business so requires.
2. Symbols have been used as follows: ** denotes those whom General Assembly is invited to appoint for the first time; † denotes those who have been invited to extend their periods of service;
3. The number in round brackets following the name indicates the member's synod: (1) Northern, (2) North Western, (3) Mersey, (4) Yorkshire, (5) East Midlands, (6) West Midlands, (7) Eastern, (8) South Western, (9) Wessex, (10) Thames North, (11) Southern, (12) Wales, (13) Scotland. This numbering is not shown where it is not relevant.
4. When a member of a committee is there as a representative of another body or a particular category this is indicated in round brackets following the name.
5. Committee membership is normally for a period of four years, though this may sometimes exceptionally be renewable. Committee convenors serve an additional preliminary year as convenor elect. In sections 1-4 of the report, appointments with a different term are noted.
6. The date in square brackets following the name indicates the date of retirement, assuming a full term.
7. In accordance with the decision of General Assembly 2000 some nominations are made directly by the National Synods of Wales and Scotland.
8. In years when General Assembly meets, new committee members normally take up their roles at the conclusion of Assembly. In years when General Assembly does not meet, they normally begin on 1 July.
9. Nominations to Assembly committees and their sub-committees, and to advisory and task groups serving Assembly and Mission Council, should be of members of the United Reformed Church, or of Youth representatives who meet the criteria for membership of the General Assembly. A term of service may normally be completed if someone ceases to be a member of the URC during their term.
10. Nominations of URC representatives to external bodies should either be of members of the United Reformed Church, or of Youth representatives who meet the criteria for membership of the General Assembly, or of staff of the United Reformed Church who have relevant expertise. The nomination of a staff member would automatically lapse if the person concerned ceased to hold a post in the URC.

1 Mission Council

Mission Council acts on behalf of General Assembly. It consists of the Officers of Assembly, the Synod Moderators and three representatives from each synod, one of whom is usually, but not necessarily, the Synod Clerk, together with the Convenors of Assembly committees, the Chair of the United Reformed Church Trust and three members for URC Youth, including the URC Youth Moderator. In attendance are Staff Secretaries, Moderators' Chaplains and others as appropriate.

1.1 Mission Council Advisory Group

Convenor: Moderators of General Assembly

Secretary: General Secretary

The Revd Ruth Whitehead [2020]

Mr Peter Knowles [2020]

Moderators elect and immediate past Moderators of General Assembly

In attendance: The Clerk

Honorary Treasurer

Mrs Helen Lidgett [2020]

The Revd Derrick Dzandu-Hedidor [2019]

1.2 Human Resources Advisory Group

Convenor: Mr Geoff Shaw [2021]

Mr Mike Gould [2017]

Mr Alistair Forsyth [2017]

Vacancy

General Secretary

Mr Peter Pay [2017]

Mrs Bridget Fosten [2019]

Deputy GS (Admin and Resources)

1.3 Law and Polity Group

Convenor: The Revd Prof David Thompson [2018]

Secretary: Mr Neil Mackenzie [2020]

Ms Morag McLintock [2020]

Mr George Faris [2020]

General Secretary

[*ex officio*: Clerk to General Assembly

Ms Denise FitzPatrick [2021]

Vacancy (PLATO)

Legal Adviser]

1.4 Listed Buildings Advisory Group

Convenor: Mr Peter West [2019]

Secretary: The Revd James Mather

The Revd Ray Anglesea (1)

Ms Alison Lee (3)

Mrs Judith Booth (5)

Mr Peter West (7)

Mr Gerry Prosser (9)

Mr Guy Morfett (11)

General Secretary, Clerk to Assembly, Secretary for Ministries, Legal Adviser

Mr Michael Williams (2)

The Revd David Figures (4)

Mrs Rachel Wakeman (6)

Mr Roger James (8)

Mr Christopher Buckwell (10)

Mrs Sue Cole (12)

1.6 Resource Sharing Task Group

Convenor: The Revd Paul Whittle [2017]

Secretary: Mr Chris Atherton

Miss Margaret Atkinson

[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer]

Treasurer: The Revd Dick Gray

Mr Mike Gould

1.7 The Church's Engagement with 20 to 40 year olds Task Group

Mr Stewart Cutler

Ms Sabrina Groeschel

Ms Emma Pugh

The General Secretary

The Revd David Downing

Ms Victoria Paulding

The Revd Mike Walsh

1.11 Methodist/United Reformed Church Faith and Order Conversations:

These conversations are not presently active.

1.12 General Assembly Task Group

Convenor: Mrs Val Morrison

The Revd Adrian Bulley

The Revd Dick Gray

Mrs Margaret Marshall

together with the Clerk to General Assembly.

1.13 Environmental Task Group

Convenor: The Revd Rob Weston

The Revd Trevor Jamison

Ms Charis Ollerenshaw

Mr Tom Veitch

2 General Secretariat

2.1 Faith and Order Committee

(Members normally serve for six years)

Convenor: The Revd Dr Alan Spence [2023]

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

The Revd Dr Malachie Muneyeza (6) [2018]

The Revd Tim Meadows (3) [2018]

The Revd Dr Catherine Ball (7) [2020]

Ms Anna Briggs (13) [2020]

The Revd Samuel Silungwe [2023]

2.2 Nominations Committee

(Synods appoint and decide terms for their representation)

Convenor: The Revd Ray Adams [2021]

Secretary: Mr George Faris [2021]

Mrs Melanie Campbell (1)

The Revd Martin Smith (2)

Mr Bill Gould (3)

Mr Chris Reed (4)

Mrs Helen Lidgett (5)

Mrs Margaret Marshall (6)

The Revd Paul Whittle (7)

vacant

Mrs Sue Brown (9)

Mr Simon Fairnington (10)

The Revd Derrick Sena Dzandu-Hedidor (11)

The Revd Shelagh Pollard (12)

Miss Morag Donaldson (13)

The General Secretary

In attendance: Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries, advising on BAME nominations

2.2.1 Panel for General Assembly Appointments

(Members usually serve for five years as training is required)

Retiring 2018

The Revd Viv Randles (10)

Mrs Helen Renner (3)

Mr Bill Robson (13)

Mrs Lesley Richmond (13)

The Revd Liz Shaw (10)

The Revd Mike Shrubsole (9)

The Revd Martin Smith (2)

The Revd Geoffrey Clarke (5)

Retiring 2019

Mrs Sue Brown (9)

The Revd Nick Adlem (9)

The Revd Paul Bedford (9)

The Revd Sohail Ejaz (7)

The Revd Raymond Singh (11)

The Revd Reginald Mudenda (11)

Retiring 2020

Mrs Sheana Dudley (4)

Mr Clive Curtis (12)

Mrs Gwen Jennings (8)

The Revd Dick Gray (8)

The Revd Samuel Silungwe (5)

The Revd Bill Young (6)

Retiring 2021

The Revd David Sebley (7)

Mrs Val Morrison (4)

Mrs Kate Yates (10)

Retiring 2022

Mr John Ellis (11)

The Revd Mary Irish (7)

Ms Angela Coxon

2.3 MIND (Ministerial Incapacity and Discipline) Advisory Group

Convenor: The Revd John Durrell [2020]

Secretary: Dr Jim Merrilees [2018]

Convenor of the Assembly Commission

Secretary of the Assembly Commission

Convenor of the Review Commission of the Incapacity Procedure

Secretary of the Review Commission of the Incapacity Procedure

Consultant for Ministers and CRCWs: The Revd Ken Chippindale

Consultant for Mandated Groups: The Revd Alison Davis

Training Coordinator: Mr Keith Webster

Co-opted: Mr Hartley Oldham; General Secretary; Clerk to Assembly;

Secretary for Ministries; Legal Advisor.

2.4 Disciplinary Process – Commission Panel

(Members serve for five years as regular training is required. They may be invited to continue serving beyond this as experience is especially valuable on this panel)

Convenor: Ms Judith Haughton BEM

Deputy Convenor: The Revd Dr Janet Tollington

Secretary: Mr Philip Laws [2023]

Members

Retiring 2018

The Revd Pauline Calderwood (4) The Revd Bill Bowman (11)
Mr Peter Campbell-Smith (11) Mr Roger Tucker (1)
Mrs Wendy Dunnett (9)

Retiring 2019

The Revd Debbie Brown (3) Mrs Sue Bush (1)
Mrs Mary Cummings (6) Mr Peter Etwell (1)
The Revd Peter Flint (11) Mrs Barbara Goom (8)
Mr Andrew Harvey (8) The Revd Naison Hove (10)
The Revd Graham Maskery (2) The Revd Deborah McVey (7)
The Revd Sue McCoan (6) The Revd Sarah Moore (2)
Mrs Pat Poinen (1) The Revd Wendy Swan (9)

Retiring 2020

The Revd Martha McInnes (6) The Revd Rachel Poolman (1)
The Revd Hilary Collinson (1) The Revd Peter Stevenson (11)
Mr Patrick Smyth (13) Mr Andy Braunston (2)

Retiring 2021

The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe (2) The Revd David M Miller (6)
Mrs Diane Moverley (12) Mrs Janet Virr (4)
Mr David Jones (5) Mr Ian Corless (9)

Retiring 2022

Mr Alan Kirby The Revd Ian Kirby (8)
Mrs Cathy Glazier Mrs Irene Hudson
The Revd Craig Muir (6) The Revd Jane Campbell
Mr Keith Webster (10)

Retiring 2023

Mrs Mary Kelly

2.5 Standing Panel for the Incapacity Procedure

(This panel is normally convened by the member with legal experience)

Secretary: Dr Augur Pearce (7) [2022]
The Revd Ruth Whitehead (Synod Moderator) [2018]
Past Moderator of General Assembly: The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe (2)
David Nash (Legal experience) [2018] Dr Ewen Harley (GP) [2018]
Commission Office for the Incapacity Procedure: Dr David Westwood [2018]

2.6 Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee

Convenor: Mrs Wilma Frew [2018]
Secretary: Deputy General Secretary, Discipleship
The Revd Clare Downing (Synod Moderator) [2018]
Mrs Pam Sharp (9) [2019]
The Revd Camilla Veitch (6) [2020] 1 vacancy
[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer; General Secretary; Secretary for Welfare]

3 Mission Department

3.1 Mission Committee

Convenor: The Revd Bernie Collins [2020]
Secretary: Deputy General Secretary for Mission
The Revd Ron Forster (1) The Revd Stuart Nixon (2) [2018]
The Revd Hilary Smith (3) Mr John Cornell (4) [2019]
The Revd Leslie Moseley (5) [2019] Mr John Davey (6) [2018]
The Revd David Sebley (7) [2019] The Revd Stephen Newell (8) [2019]
The Revd Ray Stanyon (9) Ms Vivian Andrews (10) [2019]
Mr Martin Hayward (11) [2015] The Revd Sue Fender (12) [2021]
Mr John Collings (13) [2019]

3.1.1 International Exchange Reference Group

Convenor: Mrs Judith North (5) [2020]

Members: The Revd Paul Whittle (Synod Moderator)
Ms Angela Bogg [2019]
Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries

3.1.2 Commitment for Life Reference Group

Convenor: The Revd Alan McGougan [2020]
At least 2 CfL Advocates Representative of Mission Team
Representative of Mission Committee Representative from Christian Aid
Representative of Global Justice Now Mrs Linda Mead (Programme Coordinator, CfL)

3.1.3 Methodist/URC Interfaith Reference Group

(Members normally serve for six years in parallel with Methodist terms)
Co-Convenor: The Revd Clare Downing [2019]
Mr John Mellor (4) [2020] The Revd Ann Jack (10) [2021]
The Revd Bob Day (2) [2021]

3.1.4 Joint Public Issues Team Strategy and Policy Group

Deputy General Secretary, Mission, and the Revd Steve Faber.

3.1.5 Rural Strategy Group (United Reformed Church/Methodist)

Co-Chair: The Revd Ruth Whitehead The Revd Ron Forster

4 Discipleship Department

4.1 Ministries Committee

Convenor: The Revd Paul Whittle [2020]
Secretary: Secretary for Ministries
The Revd Dr Martin Camroux (7) [2021] Mr Stuart Dew (9) [2018]
The Revd Sally Thomas (12) [2018] The Revd Allison Claxton (3) [2020]
Mr Sam Elliot (11) [2021]
Leadership in Worship Advocate: Mrs Jenny Sheehan
The Revd Peter Meek (Synod Moderator) [2018]
Convenor, Assessment Board

4.1.1 Ministries – Accreditation Sub-committee

Convenor: The Revd Fran Ruthven [2017]
Convenor-elect: The Revd Russell Furley-Smith [to serve as Convenor 2018-22]
Secretary: Secretary for Ministries The Revd Mark Robinson (4) [2018]
The Revd Dr Andrew Prasad (Synod Moderator) [2020] The Revd Dr Susan Durber (8) [2021]

4.1.2 Ministries – CRCW Programme Sub-committee

Convenor: Mr Simon Loveitt [2020]
Secretary: CRCW Development Worker
Mrs Rosie Buxton (12) [2018] Mr Derek Estill (2) [2019]
The Revd Ruth Maxey (5) [2020] The Revd Leonora Jagessar Visser t’Hooft (10) [2021]
One vacancy The Revd Simon Walkling (Synod Moderator) [2018]

4.1.3 Ministries - Maintenance of Ministry Sub-committee

Convenor: The Revd Pamela Ward [2018]
The Revd Sue Kirkbride(13) [2018] Mr David Black (6) [2018]
Mr Keith Berry (7) 2019 1 vacancy

4.1.4 Ministries – Retired Ministers’ Housing Sub-committee

(Members normally serve four years but appointments may be extended for two more years)
Convenor: The Revd Anne Bedford [2020]
Secretary: Secretary of Retired Ministers’ Housing Society Ltd
Mr Peter West (7) [2019] Mr Malcolm Lindo (10) [2018]
The Revd Ken Summers (3) [2020] The Revd Nicola Furley-Smith (Synod Mod) [2018]
ex-officio: Honorary Treasurer

(Properties are managed by a company, **Retired Ministers' Housing Society Ltd**,
Details of the members of its board etc may be obtained from the Company Secretary at Church House)

4.1.5 Assessment Board

(Members usually serve for five years as training is required)

Convenor: Dr Ewen Harley [2019]

Retiring 2018

The Revd Ruth Allen (5)

The Revd Kim Plumpton (11)

The Revd Mary Thomas (9)

Retiring 2019

The Revd Stuart Radcliffe (2)

The Revd Sohail Ejaz (7)

The Revd Peter Rand (1)

Ms Pat Oliver (9)

Retiring 2020

The Revd Lesley Charlton (11)

Mrs Jill Shelton (12)

Retiring 2021

Ms Karen Campbell (10)

The Revd Sue McCoan (6)

Retiring 2022

Mrs Bridget Akinyombo

The Revd Jamie Kissack (4)

Mrs Faith Paulding (7)

The Revd Lis Mullen (2)

Mr Keith Reading

4.2 Education and Learning Committee

Convenor: The Revd Dr Neil Messer [2020]

Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning

Mrs Sheila Telfer (4) [2018]

The Revd Ros Lyle (10) [2018]

The Revd Jennifer Millington (11) [2018]

The Revd Dr Jill Thornton (9) [2020]

Mr Robert Pettigrew (3) [2020]

Mr Rudolph Wontumi (10) [2021]

The Revd Dr Jack Dyce (Resource Centre)

The Revd Mary Thomas (Synod Devt Officer)

4.2.1 Windermere Management Committee

This Committee has now been dissolved.

4.2.2 Education for Ministry Phase 2 and 3 (EM2/3) Sub-committee

This Committee has now been dissolved.

4.2.3 Education and Learning Finance Sub-committee

Chair: vacancy

Minutes Secretary: Secretary for Education & Learning

Member: Ms Delyth Doyle

Ex-officio: The Honorary Treasurer, Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship)

Staff in attendance: Chief Finance Officer

4.3 Children's and Youth Work Committee

Convenor: The Revd Jenny Mills [2021]

Secretary: Head of Children's and Youth Work

Mrs Ruth Roddison (4) [2018]

The Revd Heather Cadoux (9) [2018]

Mrs Alison Tansom (12) [2018]

Mr Alan Kendall (4) [2018]

Mr Adam Woodhouse (4) [2019]

Mr Sam Brown (11) [2019]

The Revd Jake Tatton (13) [2020]

The Revd Paul Robinson (12) [2021]

Ms Camilla Quartey [2021]

URC Youth Moderator

URC Youth Moderator Elect

4.3.1 Pilots Management Sub-committee

Convenor: Mrs Soo Webster [2016]

Member: Mr Derek Goodyear [2021]

(Other members of the Sub-committee are appointed by the Children's and Youth Work Committee.)

5 Administration and Resources Department

5.1 Assembly Arrangements Committee

Convenor: The Revd James Breslin [2020]

Secretary: Facilities Manager

Assembly Moderators

Moderators elect

General Secretary

Clerk of General Assembly

Convenor, Local Arrangements Committee

5.2 Communications

Convenor: Mr Peter Knowles [2019]

Secretary: Head of Communications

The Revd Dr Kevin Snyman (6) [2018]

Mrs Heather Carr (1) [2019]

The Revd Kate Gray (2) [2018]

Ms Rebecca Gudgeon (2) [2019]

Mr Tim Llewelyn (9) [2019]

Ms Eilidh Cameron (13) [2020]

Ms Lesley Caddy [2021]

5.3 Equalities Committee

Convenor: The Revd Helen Mee [2018]

Secretary: The Revd David Salsbury (12) [2021]

Mr Clive Curtis (12) [2018]

Mrs Ruth Clarke (2) [2018]

Ms Rosie Martin (9) [2020]

The Revd Anne Lewitt (4) [2021]

1 vacancy

5.4 Finance Committee

Convenor: Honorary Treasurer

Chief Finance Officer

Deputy Treasurer

Chair of URC Trust

The Revd David Walton (6) [2018]

The Revd Iain McLaren (11) [2019]

Mr Brian Hosier (10) [2019]

Mr Gordon Wanless (1) [2020]

Mr William Potter (6) [2021]

Mr Ian Simpson (9) [2019]

1 vacancy

5.4.1 Stewardship Sub-committee

This Committee has now been dissolved.

5.5 United Reformed Church Trust

(Members normally serve for six years. The directors of the Trust appoint new directors from those appointed as members. The members of the Trust elect the chair from among their own number and appoint a secretary and deputy secretary.)

Chair:

The Revd Richard Gray [2018]

Secretary:

Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Deputy Secretary:

Members:

Group 1 (Synods 1, 2, 3, 13)

Mr Neil Mackenzie (3) [2020]

Group 2 (Synods 6, 8, 9, 12)

Mr Peter Pay (9) [2022]

Dr Ian Harrison (8) [2020]

The Revd Richard Gray (8) [2018]

Group 3 (Synods 4, 5, 7, 10, 11)

The Revd Michael Davies (11) [2018]

Mr Andrew Summers (10) [2018]

Mrs Margaret Thompson (7) [2020]

Mr Alastair Forsyth (4) [2020]

URC Youth Appointee:

vacant

GA appointments:

Mr Emmanuel Osae [Dec 2019];

Mrs Val Morrison [2018]

Co-opted member:

Ms Catriona Wheeler [2018]

[*ex officio*: Moderators of General Assembly, Clerk to General Assembly, Treasurer
General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary (Admin and Resources)]
In attendance: Convenor, Investment Committee; Minute Secretary; Chief Finance Officer

5.5.1 Church House Management Group

Convenor: Deputy General Secretary (Administration and Resources)

Mr Mike Gould Mr Derek Jones

Mr Doug Maxwell Mr Robert Buss

[*ex officio*: General Secretary; Chief Finance Officer; Head of Communications]

5.5.2 Remuneration Committee

Convenor: Mr William McVey Secretary: Deputy General Secretary (Admin and Resources)

Ms Sushila Jetha (Methodist HR) Church House Staff representative

Honorary Treasurer Chief Finance Officer

5.6 The United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Trust Ltd

(Members normally serve for six years. Terms run until the AGM in September. The directors of the Trust appoint new directors from those appointed as members. The board members elect the chair from among their own number and appoint the company secretary.)

Chair: Mr Richard Nunn [2018]

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Members of URC:

Miss Margaret Atkinson [2018] Mrs Bridget Micklem [2019]

Members of Fund (appointed by members of Fund; for note by Mission Council):

The Revd James Breslin [2017] The Revd Dr Janet Tollington [2019]

The Revd Paul Bedford [2018] The Revd Derek Wales [2018]

[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer; Convenor, Pensions Executive;

Convenor, Maintenance of the Ministry Sub-Comm; Convenor, Investment Committee]

5.7 Pensions Executive

Convenor: Dr Chris Evans (9) [2021]

Secretary: Mr Rob Seaman

Members: Mrs Madeleine Brand (9) [2020] The Revd Steven Manders (13) [2020]

[*ex officio*: Convenor, Maintenance of Ministry Sub-Committee; Convenor, Investment Committee; Honorary Treasurer]

(The Pensions Executive reports to the United Reformed Church Ministers' Pensions Trust Board, the Maintenance of Ministry Sub-committee and the Finance Committee.)

5.8 Investment Committee

Convenor: Mr David Martin [2018]

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Members: Mr Brian Hosier [2019]

The Revd Dick Gray [2018] The Revd Julian Macro [2020]

[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer Convenor, Pensions Executive

Chair of United Reformed Church Trust or another Director

Chair of United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Trust or another Director

Treasurer, Westminster College] *In attendance*: Chief Finance Officer

6 Representatives to meetings of sister churches

6.1 Presbyterian Church in Ireland The Revd John Proctor

6.2 General Synod of Church of England The Revd Dr Andrew Prasad

6.3 Methodist Conference The Revd Roy Fowler

6.4 Congregational Federation Assembly Moderator

6 Assembly of Church of Scotland Assembly Moderator, Chaplain, & Synod rep

6.6 United Free Church of Scotland Synod Nomination

6.7 Scottish Assembly of the Cong Fed Synod Nomination

6.8 Scottish Episcopal Church Synod Nomination

6.9	Methodist Church in Scotland	Synod Nomination
6.10	Baptist Union of Scotland	Synod Nomination
6.11	Presbyterian Church of Wales	Synod Nomination
6.12	Union of Welsh Independents	Synod Nomination
6.13	Covenanted Baptists	Synod Nomination
6.14	Church in Wales Governing Board	Synod Nomination
6.15	Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church	The Revd Edward Sanniez

7 Representatives on ecumenical church bodies

The following have been nominated as URC representatives at the major gatherings of the Ecumenical Bodies listed.

7.1 Council for World Mission (CWM) Assembly

The Revd Peter Ball	The Revd Zaidie Orr
Mr Stephen Ball	Mr John Ellis

7.1.1 CWM European Region Meeting

The Revd Peter Ball
Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries

7.2 World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) General Council

Ms Camilla Quartey	The Revd Dr Phil Wall
Programme Officer Global and Intercultural Ministries	

7.3 Conference of European Churches Assembly

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations and one other

7.4 The Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council

The Revd Rowena Francis	The Revd Professor David Thompson
Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries	

7.5 Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) Church Leaders' Meeting

The General Secretary

7.5.1 CTBI Senior Representatives' Forum

The General Secretary	Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations
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7.5.2 CTBI Environmental Issues Network

The Revd Mike Shrubsole

7.5.3 CTBI Stewardship Network

Mrs Faith Paulding

7.5.4 CTBI Consultative Group on Ministry amongst Children (CGMC)

Head of Children's and Youth Work and one other

7.5.5 CTBI Inter-Religious Network

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

7.5.6 CTBI China Forum

The Revd John Scott

7.6.1 CTE Enabling Group

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

7.6.2 CTE Coordinating Group for Local Unity

The Revd Kevin Watson,	Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations
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- 7.6.3 CTE Churches Together for Healing**
The Revd Deborah McVey
- 7.6.4 CTE Churches' Theology and Unity Group**
Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations
- 7.6.5 CTE Group for Evangelisation**
Deputy General Secretary (Mission)
- 7.6.6 CTE Spirituality Coordinating Group**
The Revd Sue Henderson
- 7.6.7 CTE Minority Ethnic Affairs Group**
Secretary for Global and Intercultural Multicultural Ministries
- 7.6.8 CTE Joint Liturgical Group**
The Revd Dr Ana Gobledale
- 7.7 Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) Members Meeting**
Appointed by Synod
- 7.8 National Sponsoring Body for Scotland**
Appointed by Synod
- 7.9 Churches Together in Wales (CYTUN)**
Appointed by Synod
- 7.10 Commission of Covenanted Churches in Wales**
Appointed by Synod
- 7.11 Free Church Education Committee**
Mr Graham Handscombe, Mrs Gillian Kingston
- 7.12 European Churches' Environmental Network**
Mr Charles Jolly
- 7.13 Churches' Refugee Network**
The Revd Fleur Houston
- 7.14 Churches' Committee on Funerals and Crematoria**
The Revd Sally Thomas The Revd Kate Hackett
- 7.15 Churches' Forum for Safeguarding**
- 7.16 Churches' Network for Non-Violence**
Head of Children's and Youth Work
- 7.17 Fresh Expressions**
Deputy General Secretary (Mission)
- 7.18 Churches Visitor and Tourism Association**
Mrs Valerie Jenkins

8 Representatives on formal bi-lateral and multi-lateral committees

- 8.1 Methodist/United Reformed Church Liaison Group**
Co-Convenor: The Revd Nicola Furley-Smith (Synod Moderator) [2020]

The Revd Kay Alberg The Revd Roy Fowler
The Revd Sally Thomas Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

8.1.1 Methodist/ United Reformed Church Strategic Oversight Group

The General Secretary An Assembly Moderator
Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

8.2 Church of England/United Reformed Church Bilateral Dialogue

This dialogue has, for the moment, been completed.

8.3 EMU Partnership (Scottish Episcopal Church, the Methodist Church in Scotland and the United Reformed Church Synod of Scotland) [see note 7]

Appointed by Synod

8.4 Conversations between the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe and the Anglican Communion

The Revd Dr Julian Templeton

9 Reps on governing bodies of theological colleges, etc

9.1 Northern College

The Revd Dr Robert Pope The Revd Brian Jolly
The Revd David Jenkins Mrs Sheila Davies
The Revd Raymond Singh Mr Steve Wood
Secretary for Education and Learning in attendance

9.2 Westminster College: Board of Governors

Convenor: The Revd Nigel Uden
Clerk: Mr Chris Wright
Honorary College Treasurer: Mr Andrew Grimwade
Dr Jean Stevenson Mr Mark Hayes
The Revd Nigel Appleton The Revd Dr Rick Mearkle
Mr John Ellis
The Revd Dr Jane Leach, representing Cambridge Theological Federation
The Revd Professor David Thompson representing the University of Cambridge
Dr Andrew Salmon representing Anglia Ruskin University
Secretary for Education and Learning in attendance
(together with other Governors appointed by other bodies)

9.2.1 Cheshunt Foundation

Mr Guy Morfett

9.2.2 Cambridge Theological Federation

Convenor, Westminster College Governors

10 Governors of colleges and schools with which the United Reformed Church is associated

10.1 Caterham School The Revd Nicola Furley-Smith

10.2 Eltham College Mr Martin Fosten

10.3 Walthamstow Hall Mrs Isabel Heald

10.4 Milton Mount Foundation

The Revd Val Towler The Revd Derek Lindfield
The Revd Richard Wells The Revd Kevin Swaine
Mr Ray Dunnnett

10.5 Silcoates School
Dr Moira Gallagher The Revd Dr Janet Lees
The Revd Steven Knapton Mrs Sue Lee
Mrs Tessa Henry-Robinson

10.6 Taunton School The Revd Ruth Whitehead

10.7 Bishops Stortford College Mr Anthony Trigg

11 Miscellaneous

The United Reformed Church is represented on a variety of other national organisations and committees as follows:

11.1 Arthur Rank Centre
The Revd Elizabeth Caswell

11.2 Churches Legislation Advisory Service
Mrs Sheila Duncan General Secretary

11.3 Congregational Fund Board
Mr Anthony Bayley The Revd Geoffrey Roper
The Revd Eric Allen Mrs Jackie Haws
The Revd Kate Hackett

11.4 Congregational Memorial Hall Trust
The Revd Derek Wales Mrs Margaret Thompson
Mr Graham Stacy Mr Simon Fairnington
Dr Brian Woodhall Mr John Ellis

11.6 English Heritage's Places of Worship Forum
Mr Peter West (Convenor of the Listed Buildings Advisory Group)

11.7 Lord Wharton's Charity
The Revd Derek Lindfield

11.8 Methodist Faith and Order Committee

11.9 Retired Ministers' and Widows' Fund
Mr Ken Meekison The Revd Julian Macro
Mr Anthony Bayley

11.10 Samuel Robinson's Charities
Mr Tony Alderman

11.11 Scout Association – URC Faith Adviser
The Revd David Marshall-Jones

11.12 United Reformed Church History Society Council
The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe The Revd Dr Michael Jagessar

11.13 Women's World Day of Prayer
The Revd Heather Pencavel