

General Assembly 2026

(resolutions in bold are carried, in normal font did not)

Friday 3 July

Session One

1 Constitution of Assembly

The Assembly met at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. The General Secretary, the Revd Dr John Bradbury, welcomed members, laid the Roll of Assembly on the table, and invited the Moderator, Ms Cartriona Wheeler, through her chaplain to constitute the Assembly with prayer. The Chaplain, the Revd Jane Wade, led Assembly in a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

2 Roll Of Assembly 2026

Moderator

Clerk

Assistant Clerk

General Secretary

Deputy General Secretary (Faith in Action)

Deputy General Secretary (Ministries)

Chief Operating Officer

Treasurer

Deputy Treasurer

1. Ms Catriona Wheeler
2. The Revd Sarah Moore
3. The Revd Dr Alex Clare-Young
4. The Revd Dr John Bradbury
5. The Revd Jenny Mills
6. The Revd Nicola Furley-Smith
7. Mrs Victoria James
8. Mr Alan Yates
9. Mr Vaughan Griffiths

Convenors of General Assembly Standing Committees, except the Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee

10. Business Committee – Mrs Irish Sirmons
11. Faith in Action – Mrs Sarah Lane Cawte
12. Ministries – The Revd Mary Thomas
13. Resources – The Revd Dr Michael Hopkins
14. Worship, Faith and Order – The Revd Dr Robert Pope
15. Nominations – Ms Victoria Blunt
16. Safeguarding – The Revd Roger Jones

Convenor of the United Reformed Church Trust

17. vacant

Immediate Past Moderator

The Revd Timothy Meadows

Former Moderators (4 places)

18. The Revd David Grosch-Miller
19. The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe
20. The Revd Nigel Uden
21. The Revd Dr Elizabeth Welch

Resource Centres for Learning

22. Luther King Theological College Staff – The Revd Dr Adam Scott
23. Luther King Theological College Student – Mr Alex Mabbott
24. Scottish College Staff – The Revd Dr John McNeil Scott
25. Scottish College Student – Dr Ann Sinclair
26. Westminster College Staff – The Revd Dr Robert Pope
27. Westminster College Student – Mrs Machrina Ejaz

United Reformed Church Youth (3 places)

28. Youth Assembly Moderator – Miss Kacie Hodgson
29. Youth Assembly Moderator-Elect – Mr Alex Clements
30. Youth Assembly GA/AE rep – Miss Jay Tynan

United Reformed Church Chaplain to HM Forces (1 place)

31. vacant

Northern Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

32. The Synod Moderator – The Revd Kim Money
33. The Synod Clerk – Mrs Lucy Cooke
34. The Synod Clerk – Ms Lisa McAvoy
35. The Revd Sally Bateman
36. The Revd Joan Grindrod-Helmn
37. The Revd Peter Rand
38. The Revd Louise Sanders
39. Mr Andrew Cooke
40. Mr David Dick
41. Ms Pamani Christy Gondeli*
42. Mr Mathew Hall
43. Mr Alvin Ponnudurai*

North Western Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

44. The Synod Moderator – The Revd Mike Thomason
45. The Synod Clerk – Mr Tim Hopley
46. The Revd Maria Lee
47. The Revd Noma Marambi
48. The Revd Dong Il Barnabas Shin
49. Mrs Barbara Aspinall
50. Mr Chris Burton
51. Mr Jed Garside
52. Ms Gina Gibson
53. Mrs Hilary Grierson
54. Ms Blessed Mutimwii*
55. Miss Beth Tynan*

Mersey Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

56. The Revd Geoff Felton
57. The Synod Clerk – Mrs Lorna Griffiths
58. The Revd Juan Cruz
59. The Revd Dr Susan Durber+
60. The Revd Russell Furley-Smith+
61. The Revd Murray George
62. Mrs Patricia Cansfield
63. Mr Noah Dockar*
64. Miss Monica Mason
65. Ms Felicity Peers
66. Ms Charlotte Samson*
67. Ms Wendy Steven

Yorkshire Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

68. The Synod Clerk - Mr Tim Crossley
69. The Revd David Coote
70. The Revd Dr Simon Cross
71. The Revd Jason McCullagh
72. The Revd Johnny O’Hanlon
73. Mr John Eveleigh
74. Mrs Kath Lonsdale
75. Mrs Claire Nutt
76. Mr Jason Raddings*
77. Mrs Terasa Raddings
78. Mrs Claire Westgarth
79. Vacancy

East Midlands Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

80. The Synod Moderator – The Revd Geoffrey Clarke
81. The Synod Clerk – Dr Graham Jennings
82. The Synod Treasurer – Mr David Greatorex
83. The Revd Elizabeth Adams
84. The Revd Solomon Aryee-Brown
85. The Revd Clare Davison
86. The Revd Alison Termie
87. Mrs Naomi Baldwin
88. Mr Billy Logan*
89. Mr Geoff Milnes
90. Ms Liz Sharples
91. Mr Michael Watkinson*

West Midlands Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

92. The Synod Moderator – The Revd Steve Faber
93. The Synod Clerk – Mrs Rachel Wakeman
94. The Synod Treasurer – Mr Steve Powell
95. The Revd Anji Barker
96. The Revd Dr Ashley Barker
97. The Revd Debbie Brown
98. The Revd Elaine Hutchinson
99. The Revd Melanie Smith
100. Mr Andrew Evans
101. Mr Isaac Irvine*
102. Mrs Liz Swanwick
103. Mr Reuben Watt*

Eastern Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

104. The Synod Moderator – The Revd Lythan Nevard
105. The Synod Clerk – The Revd David Coaker
106. The Revd Andrew Mudharara
107. The Revd Phil Nevard
108. The Revd Anne Sardeson
109. The Revd Tina Wilson
110. Mrs Ann Barton
111. Ms Alison Jiggins
112. Mr Richard Lewney
113. Mr Casper Martin*
114. Mr Bola Oshisanwo
115. vacancy

South Western Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

116. The Synod Clerk – Mrs Rachel Leach
117. The Revd Jessica Ashcroft-Townsley
118. The Revd Sue Cossey
119. The Revd Tracey Darling
120. The Revd Dick Gray
121. The Revd Richard Pope
122. Miss Jessica Gough*
123. Mrs Christine Hyland
124. Mr Clive Illman
125. Mrs Maggie Skyrme
126. Mrs Suzanne Weston
127. vacancy

Wessex Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

128. The Synod Clerk – Miss Karen Bell
129. The Revd Helen Everard
130. The Revd Wayne Hawkins
131. The Revd Dr Romilly Micklem
132. The Revd Christopher Parker
133. The Revd Ray Stanyon
134. Ms Chrissie Chevasutt
135. Miss Laura Everard*
136. Mr Jamie Laird*
137. Mr Mark Phillips
138. Mrs Karen Smith
139. Mrs Anne Wood

Thames North Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

140. The Synod Moderator - The Revd George Watt
141. The Synod Clerk – Ms Nneoma Chima
142. The Revd Stanslous Chatikobo
143. The Revd Aled Jones
144. The Revd Sujeeth Kumar
145. The Revd Sally Thomas
146. Mr Chris Akinyeye
147. Mr Stephen Burton
148. Mr Stan Jr Chatikobo*
149. Miss Isabel Cortes*
150. Mr Peter Knowles
151. Mrs Rhona Lawrenson

Southern Synod

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

152. The Synod Clerk – The Revd Dr Elaine Colechin
153. The Synod Treasurer –Mr John Denison
154. The Revd Ruth Armstrong
155. The Revd Rodolphe Blanchard-Kowal
156. The Revd Martin Knight
157. The Revd Anne Lewitt
158. The Revd Maurice Omorojie
159. Mr Frank Liddell
160. Mrs Nicola Martin
161. Mr Tawonga Mtika*
162. Pamela Tolhurst
163. vacancy

National Synod of Wales

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

164. The Synod Moderator – The Revd David Salsbury
165. The Synod Clerk – Ms Megan Price
166. The Revd Martha McInnes
167. The Revd Zaidie Orr
168. The Revd Simon Walkling
169. Ms Claire Boot
170. Mrs Julie Davies
171. Mrs Donna Jones
172. Ms Maggie Kirkbride
173. Mrs Bethan Trott
174. vacancy
175. vacancy

National Synod of Scotland

(12 places – at least 4 of which shall be Ministers of Word and Sacrament or Church Related Community Workers, and at least 4 of which shall be Elders or “lay”. Any 2 within the 12 places are reserved for representatives aged under 26 at the time of appointment)

176. The Synod Moderator – The Revd Lindsey Sanderson
177. The Revd John Bremner
178. The Revd Susan Henderson
179. The Revd Liz Johnson Blythe
180. Miss Tofunmi Adewale*
181. Mr Johnnie Burgoyne
182. Ms Rose Kumbanga
183. Mr Douglas Maxwell
184. Miss Emma McDonald*
185. Mr Steven Smillie
186. Miss Maya Withall*
187. vacancy

British and Irish Ecumenical representatives (5 places)

188. The Revd Gordon Kennedy (*Church of Scotland*)
189. The Revd Tom Osborne (*Methodist Church of Great Britain*)
190. Fr Marc Homsey (*Catholic Church in England and Wales*)
191. The Revd David Warboys (*Baptist Union of Great Britain*)
192. The Revd Charlie Bączyk-Bell (*Church of England*)

International Ecumenical representatives (5 places)

193. The Right Revd Dr Collin Cowan (*The United Church in Jamaica & the Cayman Islands*)
194. The Revd Dr Najla Kassab (*Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon*)
195. Pfarrer Martin Henninger (*Evangelische Kirche der Pfalz, Germany*)
196. Dr Joanna Simpson (*University of West Indies, Jamaica*)
197. vacancy

Council for World Mission (1 place)

198. Ms Janet McConnell

**indicates those Synod representatives aged 25 or under at the time of their appointment.*

+indicates those appointed to a vacant place from another Synod under Rule 1.5.

3 Introductions and Greeting of Ecumenical Guests

The Moderator invited Ms Lindsey Brown, Head of Ecumenical Relations and Evangelism to introduce the Ecumenical Guests: Fr Marc Homsey (*Catholic Bishop Conferences of England and Wales*), the Rt Revd Gordon Kennedy (*Moderator of the General Assembly of Church of Scotland*), the Revd Tom Osborne (*Methodist Church of Great Britain*), the Revd David Warboys (*Baptist Union of Great Britain*). Ms Brown noted that the Revd Charlie Bączyk-Bell (Church of England) would join GA tomorrow.

The Moderator invited Ms Karen Campbell, Head of Intercultural and Global Church to welcome international guests: The Revd Janet McConnell from the Council for World Mission, Pfarrer Martin Henninger (*Evangelische Kirche der Pfalz, Germany*) and Dr Joanna Simpson (*University of West Indies, Jamaica*). The Revd Dr Najla Kassab (*Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon*). Sadly the Right Revd Dr Collin Cowan (*The United Church in Jamaica & the Cayman Islands*) is unable to join us. Ms Campbell also greeted the Revd Dr Peter Green, an Anglican priest who is leading our Bible studies.

The Moderator greeted each guest personally and gave them each a small gift.

Fr Homsey bought greetings from the Catholic Bishops' Conference and on behalf of the ecumenical guests. Dr Kassab brought greetings on behalf of the international guests.

4: Mock Resolution

To help members of Assembly understand how it conducts business, the Assistant Clerk, the Revd Dr Alex Clare-Young, led Assembly through a mock resolution.

5: Administrative Matters

Resolution 100

General Assembly appoints

Karen Bell, Tim Crossley, Murray George, Michael Hopkins, Anne Lewitt, Richard Lewney, Zaidie Orr, Lindsey Sanderson, Anne Sardeson, John McNeil Scott, Reuben Watt, and Maya Withall to serve as members of the Facilitation Group for its meeting between 3-6 July 2026 in accordance with Standing Order 7.7.

Proposed by the Business Committee

/Carried

Resolution 101

General Assembly appoints the Revds Wayne Hawkins and Sally Thomas to serve as tellers for the 2027-2028 election of the Moderator of the General Assembly.

Proposed by the Business Committee

/Carried

Resolution 102

General Assembly appoints Morag McLintock to serve as Convenor of Tellers for its meeting 3-6 July 2026.

Proposed by the Business Committee

/Carried

Resolution 103

General Assembly authorises the Officers of the Assembly to formally agree all unadopted minutes following the close of this meeting.

Proposed by the Business Committee

/Carried

6: Conflicts of Interest

The Moderator noted that those members of Assembly who have a conflict are requested to state this when they speak. She noted that a record of those who have registered a conflict is at the Minute Takers' desk and is available for view. The Moderator stated that a question had been raised concerning the invitation that those who have a direct conflict in the debate concerning the Resource Centres for Learning to recuse themselves from the debate. She observed that those Assembly members seen as having a direct conflict are those on the academic staff of the colleges or serving members of governing bodies of the RCLs.

The Moderator explained that General Assembly does not, at present, have a conflicts of interest policy. Its funds are held by the United Reformed Church Trust, a registered charity whose charitable purposes are such that it holds the funds for the strategy of the URC as resolved by General Assembly. The Trust does need to ensure that it complies with charity law so far as conflicts are concerned and, therefore, if the Trust became aware that a decision was made by those who are conflicted it might be put in the position of having to take guidance from the Charity Commission. The Moderator stated that advice has not been sought from the Charity Commission in this instance, as had happened on the questions of pensions as at that time a large proportion of members of Assembly were in a position of conflict, which is not the case in relation to the Colleges. The register of conflicts will be appended to the minutes.

7: En Bloc Items

The Clerk moved the following reports and resolutions which had not been removed from En Bloc business. Assembly agreed the following reports and resolutions:

i (Extra) Ordinary Hope – Synod Moderator's Report

- ii **Senior Leadership Team Report**
- iii **A1 – Business Committee Report**
- iv **AD1- Business/Resources - Church Life Fund Progress Update**

Resolution 5

Assembly approves and adopts the Terms of Reference of the Church Life Fund Committee, as set out in Appendix Five, and directs Business Committee to review and appoint co-opted members to the Church Life Fund Committee where appropriate.

- v **B1 – Faith in Action Committee Report**
- vi **B4 – Faith in Action - Future of Greenbelt**

Resolution 10

General Assembly:

- a. **Welcomes a continuing presence at, and partnership with, Greenbelt Festival for three more years, recognising the positive impact of the URC presence at Greenbelt on festival goers and URC volunteers.**
 - b. **Instructs the Faith in Action and Resources Committees to facilitate this engagement through an appropriate allocation of funds and staff time in keeping with 2026 costs, adjusted for inflation.**
 - c. **Instructs the Faith in Action Committee to measure and report on the impact of this engagement annually, using qualitative and quantitative data.**
- vii **B5 – Faith in Action – Net-Zero Task Group Report**
 - viii **B6 – Faith in Action - Net-Zero Terms of Reference**

Resolution 11

General Assembly adopts the terms of reference for the Net Zero Task Group as set out in paper B6.

- ix **C4 – Ministries - Active Ministers Policy**

Resolution 20

General Assembly adopts the revised *Active Ministers Policy – Fitness to Practise* and directs its implementation.

- x **C5 – Ministries - Inactive Ministers Policy**

Resolution 21

General Assembly adopts the Inactive Ministers Policy and directs its implementation.

- xi **C6 – Ministries - Review of Ministers Retirement Age**

Resolution 22

General Assembly affirms that:

- A. the normal retirement age of 68 for Ministers of Word and Sacraments and Church Related Community Workers remains an appropriate and proportionate policy within the present life of the United Reformed Church;**
- B. the existing Procedure for Extension to Stipendiary Ministerial Service beyond the normal retirement age remains the proper and sufficient mechanism for discerning continued stipendiary ministry beyond 68;**
- C. requests Ministries Committee:**
- D. to keep under review the pastoral and practical support offered to ministers approaching retirement, including matters relating to wellbeing, deployment and transition into later forms of ministry;**
- E. to further consider the relationship between the normal retirement age and fixed-term appointments with a report to Assembly Executive 2027.**

xii **C7 – Ministries - Process for ill-health early retirement**

Resolution 23

General Assembly adopts the process for the Ill-Health Early Retirement of Office Holders (from the buy-out of the Ministers' Pension Fund – expected in summer 2026)

xiii **C8 – Ministries - Competencies and Expected Standards**

Resolution 24

General Assembly adopts the framework of Competencies and Expected Standards of Conduct and Behaviour for Ministers of the Word and Sacraments as set out in this paper.

xiv **C9 – Ministries - Reasonable Adjustments**

Resolution 25

General Assembly adopts the URC Reasonable Adjustments Policy for Ministers of the Word and Sacraments, Church Related Community Workers, and those in training.

xv **C10 – Ministries - Sickness and Ill-health**

Resolution 17

General Assembly adopts the revised *URC Sickness and Ill Health Policy* for Ministers of the Word and Sacraments and Church Related Community Workers.

xvi **C11 – Ministries - Accreditations Sub-Committee Terms of Reference**

Resolution 18

General Assembly adopts the revised Terms of Reference for the Accreditations sub-committee of the Ministries Committee.

- xvii **CD1 – Ministries/Resources - Ministry & Mission Review Task Group update**
- xviii **CH1 – Ministries/Pastoral References and Welfare - Creation of a Ministries Support & Wellbeing Sub-committee**

Resolution 26

General Assembly creates a single Ministries Support and Wellbeing Committee, bringing together the work of the Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee (PRWC) and the Maintenance of the Ministry Sub-Committee (MoM), and adopts its Terms of Reference.

- xix **G1 – Nominations Committee Report**

Resolution 32

General Assembly adopts the recommendations for ‘good practice’ for Synods in selecting representatives to attend General Assembly, as set out in section 2.4 of the report, and commends these to Synods.

Resolution 33

General Assembly instructs the Nominations Committee to work with the Business Committee and those responsible for communications in the Offices of General Assembly to produce and distribute the relevant resources to support these recommendations, including promotional media and application templates, in preparation for General Assembly 2027.

Resolution 34

General Assembly resolves that there be two co-opted ordinary members of the Church Life Fund Committee in order to ensure that there is diversity on the committee.

Resolution 35

General Assembly gives thanks for all who have served on General Assembly committees and as representatives of the Church. Where terms of service have ended, or resignations have been received, General Assembly discharges these volunteers with thanks for their service.

Resolution 36

General Assembly appoints members of committees and representatives of the Church as set out in paragraph 7 of this Report, subject to the adoptions and corrections contained in supplementary Reports to Assembly.

Resolution 37

General Assembly thanks the Revd Dr John Bradbury for his service thus far and appoints him to serve as General Secretary for a further term of 5 years from General Assembly 2027 to General Assembly 2032.

Resolution 38

General Assembly reappoints the Revd Jamie Kissack to serve as Moderator of the Yorkshire Synod until 30th September 2032.

xx H1 – Pastoral References and Welfare Committee Report

xxi I1 – Safeguarding Committee Report

xxii J1 – Worship Faith and Order Committee Report

xxiii J4 – Worship Faith and Order - Assisted Dying

Resolution 44

General Assembly commends to the churches *A Theological Resource on Assisted Dying* for prayerful thought and discussion.

xxiv J5 – Worship Faith and Order – Permission to Co-opt members

Resolution 45

General Assembly grants the Worship, Faith, and Order Committee permission to coopt members who currently represent the United Reformed Church in ecumenical or international bodies, or who can bring specialisms for particular piece of work.

xxv P1 – Wessex Synod - New Synod Name

Resolution 52

General Assembly changes the name of the Wessex Synod to the Wessex and Islands Synod, with effect from 1 January 2027.

/Carried

8 Appointment of the Southern Synod Moderator

Resolution 104

General Assembly appoints the Revd Paul Robinson to serve as Moderator of the Southern Synod from 1st October 2026 until 30th September 2033.

Proposed by the Business Committee

/Carried unanimously

9 Greeting Those Newly Appointed to Assembly Roles

The Moderator thanked and congratulated the Revd Dr John Bradbury as General Secretary. Assembly thanked Dr Bradbury for his service.

Dr Bradbury noted that the Revd Jamie Kissack, had been reappointed as the Moderator of the Yorkshire Synod but is currently on sabbatical. Dr Bradbury recorded Assembly's thanks for Mr Kissack's service over the previous 7 years as Moderator.

Dr Bradbury noted that the Revd Nicola Furley-Smith had been reappointed as Deputy General Secretary (Ministries) and Ms Karen Campbell reappointed as Head of Global and Intercultural Church. Assembly greeted and thanked both Ms Furley-Smith and Ms Campbell.

Dr Bradbury noted that the Revd Dr Phil Wall had been appointed as Head of Ministries Learning and Discipleship.

Dr Bradbury congratulated the Revd Mike Thomason retrospectively on his appointment as the Moderator of the North Western Synod.

10 Keynote Address

The Moderator invited Dr Krish Kandiah to address Assembly. Dr Kandiah's address "The Surprising Power of Hospitality - how to respond to the rise of Christian Nationalism with grace and truth" was warmly received.

11 Paper B3 – Faith in Action - Inter Faith

The Moderator invited Ms Sarah Jane Cawte, Convenor of the Faith in Action Committee and the Revd Kevin Snyman, Head of World Justice and Interfaith, to present Paper B3 and the following Resolutions individually.

Ms Cawte drew Assembly's attention to the Interfaith Toolkit referred to in the paper. This can be found at <https://urc.org.uk/who-we-are/what-we-do/inter-faith/>

Resolution 7 General Assembly warmly commends the journey towards a joint Christian-Muslim declaration, encouraging the Faith in Action Committee through the Inter Faith Enabling Group to deepen these ongoing inter faith efforts, tasking them to report back to General Assembly in 2027 on progress and action.

/Carried

Resolution 8 General Assembly commends the prayerful study of the *Kairos* // document across the URC and tasks the Faith in Action Committee to keep under review ways in which deep solidarity might be expressed to our partners in the region.

/Carried unanimously

Resolution 9

General Assembly instructs the Business Committee to establish a task group to address issues surrounding antisemitism within the life of the United Reformed Church, in consultation with the Inter Faith Enabling Group, the Worship, Faith and Order Committee, The Faith in Action Committee, and the Ministries Committee, and to bring terms of reference, membership, and budget to Assembly Executive in February 2027 for approval.

/Carried unanimously

12 B2 – Faith in Action - Five Marks of Faith in Action

The Moderator invited Ms Cawte and the Revd Jenny Mills Deputy General Secretary (Faith in Action) to introduce paper B2 and Resolution 6.

Resolution 6

General Assembly commends this paper and encourages next steps to be taken in developing this work within the Faith in Action Team and beyond, as appropriate.

/Carried unanimously

13 P6 – Mersey Synod - Evangelism

The Moderator invited the Revd Geoff Felton, Moderator of the Mersey Synod to address assembly on Paper P6 and to move Resolution 61

Resolution 61

General Assembly:

- a: Affirms that evangelism is integral to the life and mission of the United Reformed Church, arising from confidence in the living God revealed in Jesus Christ and present through the Holy Spirit.**
- b: Encourages GA and its committees, Synods, local churches, ministers, elders and lay leaders to prioritise evangelism understood as both invitation to encounter God within worshipping communities and to discover God in everyday life.**
- c: Recognises the central role of worship in evangelism and calls the Church to sustained attention to the quality, depth, and expectancy of worship.**
- d: Commends the outcomes of the Church Life Review (CLR) as providing structural and resource support that enables evangelistic renewal, while acknowledging that renewal itself depends upon spiritual attentiveness and faithfulness.**

/Carried unanimously

Session Two

14 Presentation and Group discussions on B7 – Faith in Action - Legacies of Slavery

The Moderator invited Ms Karen Campbell, Head of Intercultural and Global Church and Ms Lesley Brown Head of Ecumenical Relations and Evangelism to address Assembly on Paper B7. Members of the Legacies of Slavery Task Group present (Professor David Reynolds, Karen Campbell and Lindsey Brown) introduced themselves along with Dr Joanna Simpson of the University of West Indies, Jamaica who was present. The Rt Revd Colin Cowan addressed Assembly via a video presentation. The themes of the report and resolution were presented, after which Assembly broke into small groups to discuss further.

The Moderator invited the Chaplain to lead Assembly in evening prayer.