

## 51. Appreciations

### **The Revd Tim Swindell**

Tim Swindell has served as the Connexional Treasurer and as a member of the Strategy and Resources Committee (SRC) since 2015. As the Chair of the SRC's Finance Sub-Committee, he has overseen the detail of the budget work and the preparation of the accounts; members of both the Council and the Conference will long remember his capacity to explain complicated financial narratives through inventive analogies (such as lines of buses). As chair of the Conference Financial Committee he has helped the Conference to measure the financial impact of the proposals before it.

Mr Swindell has not only demonstrated mastery of the detail of the Church's financial affairs, he has also been instrumental in much of the work developing the financial strategy and in developing the finance function within the Connexional Team that has brought a greater level of professionalism to the handling of the Church's monies. Marrying his callings as a presbyter and as an accountant, he has helped the SRC, the Council and the Conference to think about the raising and expending of its financial resources in the light of the Church's mission and his ability to link financial strategy to the pastoral office has been apparent in his work on the Church's pension schemes in extremely challenging circumstances.

The Conference is very grateful for Mr Swindell's many gifts in the various areas of finance and his ability to remind the Church of the resources at its disposal.

### **\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**51/1. The Conference expresses its gratitude to the Revd Timothy A Swindell for his service as Connexional Treasurer and wishes him well in the future.**

### **The Revd Loraine Mellor**

Loraine Mellor has served as the Chair of the Conference Business Committee since 2020. Mrs Mellor took over the position unexpectedly and held the role in the difficult circumstances of the Coronavirus lockdown, chairing the committee remotely as the Conference met online. Over four Conferences, she has brought to the role her wide connexional experience as President of the Conference and District Chair, chairing the committee with efficiency and dealing with the unexpected events at the Conference with good-humoured calmness. Mrs Mellor has faced the challenges that the Business Committee has had to address sensitively and ensured that the work of the Conference has been completed with its mission at its centre. The Conference has great cause to be thankful to Mrs Mellor for her skill, grace and pastoral integrity in serving the Church.

### \*\*\*RESOLUTION

- 51/2. The Conference thanks the Revd Loraine Mellor for her service as Chair of the Conference Business Committee and wishes her well in her future life and ministry.**

#### **Mrs Pamela Lavender**

Pamela Lavender has served as Chair of the Stationing Committee since 2017. Bringing to the role her experience as a lay stationing representative, she has led the committee through challenging times as the number of appointments has consistently and by some distance been greater than the number of ministers available to fill them. Mrs Lavender has brought to the Committee the need to be alert to changing societies and circumstances, a deep understanding of the needs of the wider church and the communities ministers are called to serve, and a pastoral awareness of the strains of ministry and the demands that stationing makes on ministers and their households. She has endeavoured to ensure that the committee responds not only to the present moment, but also to the longer-term needs of the Methodist Church, and has contributed her wisdom from the work of the committee in the Connexional Leaders' Forum and other reflective groups.

The Conference is very thankful for the grace and pastoral integrity with which Mrs Lavender has served the Connexion as Chair of the Stationing Committee.

### \*\*\*RESOLUTION

- 51/3. The Conference expresses its gratitude to Mrs Pamela Lavender for her service as Chair of the Stationing Committee and wishes her well for the future.**