

## Agenda for the 96th meeting of the Synod to be held on Saturday, 17th October 2020 via Zoom

**\*\*PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE WITH THE SYNOD OFFICE BY FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER TO OBTAIN THE LINK TO JOIN THE MEETING\*\***

Theme: Supporting one another in a time of pandemic	
	<i>Committee reports are available on the website so please contact the author of the report if you have any questions as they are <u>not</u> on the agenda.</i>
9.30 am	<b>Welcome</b>
9.35 am	<b>Opening Worship:</b> Revd Dr Susan Durber
10.15 am	<b>The Constitution of Synod</b> Apologies for absence received Minutes of the last Synod held in October 2019 [March 2020 cancelled] Welcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to those attending for the first time and guests</li> <li>- to those taking up and relinquishing responsibilities within the Synod</li> <li>- movements within the Synod and out of the Synod</li> <li>- church changes</li> </ul>
10.30 am	<b>Mission Council matters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rules of procedure for virtual attendance</li> <li>- Safeguarding Strategic plan</li> </ul>
10.35 am	<b>Finance:</b> <a href="#">paper on the website</a> <b>M&amp;M:</b> <p><b>Resolution 1:</b> The South Western Synod of the URC agrees the factors quoted as the rates to be used for the calculation of the 2021 M&amp;M Local Church Guided Contribution, and commits to a total giving of £1,230,000 to the M&amp;M fund</p>
10.45 am	<b>Deputy Treasurer</b> <b>Pensions situation update:</b> <a href="#">paper on the website</a> <b>Annual data:</b> <p><b>Resolution 2.</b> Synod notes the following to be applicable until further notice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The synod agreed minimum ministerial housing allowance is either £4,000 per year grossed up to take account of income tax and national insurance or by annual application of the formula set down in the plan for partnership.</li> <li>2. Mileage rate on synod business is 25 pence per mile or the costs of public transport.</li> <li>3. Where the ownership of a manse is shared between the Synod Trust and the local church (i.e. there is an Equity Share) the local church is responsible for all expenses and repairs unless agreed otherwise. When the manse is occupied by a minister, this is in accordance with the Plan for Partnership (which is available on the URC website).</li> <li>4. The Default Minimum Apportionment of the proceeds from the sale of buildings where there is a continuing local church is 60:40 between the Synod and the local church.</li> </ol> <p><b>Nominations list:</b> <a href="#">paper on the website</a>  <b>Resolution 3:</b> Synod accepts the nominations listed, with thanks to all those who have agreed to serve.</p>
11.00 am	<b>Moderator of General Assembly – nominations for 2022-2023</b> <b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11.30 am	<b>BREAK OUT ROOMS:</b> How has life been for you and your church since March 2020?
12.00	<b>Back together – thoughts and ideas for how Synod could give more support</b>
12.45	<b>Closing prayer.</b>