Methodist Council report for Circuit Meeting November 2021

I am highlighting parts of 2 papers that I felt to be particularly important. These are

Looking to the Future MC/21/75

Rethinking the funding of stipends. There was a discussion to consider some radical alternatives to the current system of stationing. There was a suggestion that ministers should be sent where the need is greatest rather than to circuits which can afford them. It was agreed that this would be a sensible way forward.

Action for Hope - a path to net zero MC/21/84

Quote from MC/21/84

{Within the focus area, "Faith-consistent use of assets", the following aims are proposed:

- (i) All travel directly funded by MCB to have net zero emissions by 2030. This will involve reducing travel, choosing forms of travel that have lower associated carbon emissions, and carbon offsetting travel.
- (ii) All electricity directly funded by MCB to have net zero emissions by 2030. This will involve reducing electricity consumption and choosing electricity from renewable sources (eg wind, solar, tidal, etc.)
- (iii) All gas directly funded by MCB to have net zero emissions by 2030. This will involve reducing the amount of gas used, choosing 'green gas' (biomethane), and carbon-offsetting gas used.
- (iv) Methodist members and leaders equipped with other resources to reduce the carbon emissions related to Methodist properties and activities, including but not limited to: guidance on listed buildings, new property projects and use of other fuel sources (eg oil, coal).}

I did point out that we don't have any choice in the Isle of Man where we buy electric. Maybe we need to be targeting the government to insist that Manx Utilities produce electricity using renewable energy e.g. wind or wave power; there is plenty of both on/around the Island. We also decided to cut the number of Council Meetings attended in person and instead to use Zoom meetings more instead. We need to be looking at our buildings to ensure they are as efficient as possible.