

GS 1756

Agenda

February Group of Sessions 2010

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2010
AT CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Monday 8 February	4.15 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday 9 February	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday 10 February	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday 11 February	9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Friday 12 February	9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

SERVICES

Tuesday 9 February

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
9.30 a.m.	Morning Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday 10 February

9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall
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Thursday 11 February

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
9.30 a.m.	Morning Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel

Friday 12 February

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
9.30 a.m.	Morning Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel

GENERAL NOTES

NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Save where a special note is included in the Agenda the following rules apply under the Standing Orders of the General Synod to notice of motions and amendments other than procedural motions:

1. The period of notice of new business has expired, save for urgent or other specially important business included by the direction of the Presidents.
2. Notice of motions and amendments arising out of business on the Agenda (other than amendments to legislative business or to amendments of Standing Orders and notice of motions for re-committal of liturgical business) shall be delivered to the Clerk to the Synod as follows (SO 10(a), 11 and 26(a)):

Business appointed for the *first day of the Group of Sessions* (8 February) –
5.30 p.m. on 7 February

Business appointed for the *remaining days of the Group of Sessions*:
Business appointed for a morning sitting – **10 a.m. the day before**;
Business appointed for an afternoon sitting – **4 p.m. the day before**.

Under Standing Orders 10(a) and 26(a), such notice shall be accompanied by evidence of support from two or more members of the Synod in addition to the member giving the notice. (This provision does *not* apply to amendments to legislative business, or to amendments of Standing Orders and notice of motions for re-committal of liturgical business.)

Notice of amendments to legislative business or to amendments of Standing Orders must be given in accordance with the notes accompanying the relevant item in this Agenda. Please note in particular that notice of amendments to items 509 and 510 (Codes of Practice under Section 8 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009 (GS 1774 and GS 1775) must be given by **5.30 p.m. on Thursday 4 February 2010**.

Notice of motions for re-committal of liturgical business to the Revision Committee (item 600) must be given by **5.30 p.m. on Monday 8 February 2010**.

3. An amendment of which due notice has not been given may only be moved by permission of the Chair (SO 26(b)(i)).
4. Notice of Questions under Standing Orders 105-106 shall be delivered **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 27 January 2010** (SO 10(b)(i)), with an indication of whether an oral or written answer is required (SO 105(c)).
Members are reminded that, unless notice is given that an oral answer is required, it will be assumed that a written answer is required.

5. Notice of amendments and questions shall be in writing signed by the member giving notice and delivered to the Clerk to the Synod by hand, post, fax or e-mail. The postal address is Church House, Great Smith St, London SW1P 3AZ. The fax number is 020 7898 1369. The e-mail address is:

in respect of Questions: **questions@c-of-e.org.uk**

in respect of amendments: **amendments@c-of-e.org.uk**

in respect of other business: **david.williams@c-of-e.org.uk**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

6. Business set out in the Timetable and the Agenda will be taken on the day and at the times shown there. If business set down for a particular day is completed before the next timed business is due to be called, the Chair will take the opportunity to complete business already partly considered at this Group of Sessions.

MEETINGS OF THE HOUSE OF CLERGY AND HOUSE OF LAITY

7. The House of Clergy and the House of Laity will meet on Monday **8 February at 2 p.m.** (in the Harvey Goodwin suite and the Assembly Hall respectively).

Monday 8 February 2010

4.15 p.m. to 7 p.m.

1. **INTRODUCTIONS**

2. **PROGRESS OF MEASURES AND STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS**

**DRAFT BISHOPS AND PRIESTS (CONSECRATION AND
ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE AND DRAFT AMENDING
CANON No. 30**

3. Presentation by the Bishop of Manchester under SO 97.

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 1757)

The Reverend Prebendary Kay Garlick (Hereford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

4. 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'

5. **QUESTIONS**

Tuesday 9 February 2009

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I) will be taken:

- 500-502** Amending Canon No 29 (**GS 1639B**) – *Draft Amending Canon for Final Drafting and Final Approval; Approval of Petition for the Royal Assent and Licence*
- 503-504** Ecclesiastical Fees (Amendment) Measure (**GS 1715B**) – *Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval*
- 505** Mission and Pastoral Measure (**GS 1740A**) – *Draft Measure for Revision*
- 508** Care of Cathedrals Measure (**GS 1727A**) – *Draft Measure for Revision*
- 511-512** Codes of Practice under Section 8 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009 (**GS 1774** and **GS 1775**) – *Codes of Practice for Approval*
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2.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

6. *The Archbishop of Canterbury* will give a Presidential Address.
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CLERGY PENSIONS: PROPOSED SCHEME CHANGES: A REPORT FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 1758)

7. Presentation under SO 97.

The Bishop of Ripon and Leeds to move:

8. 'That this Synod:
- (a) endorse the recommendations at paragraph 2 of GS 1758, subject to the necessary statutory and other consultations that the Archbishops' Council now needs to conduct; and

- (b) in the light of those consultations invite the Archbishops' Council to submit to the Synod in July final proposals, including such changes as are necessary to the funded scheme rules.'

CLERGY PENSIONS: ILL-HEALTH RETIREMENT: A REPORT FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 1759)

The Bishop of Dudley to move:

- 9. 'That this Synod
 - (a) endorse the recommendations at paragraph 1 of GS 1759;
 - (b) subject to consultation with scheme members, invite the Pensions Board to submit to the Synod in July such changes as are necessary to the funded scheme rules; and
 - (c) ask the Archbishops' Council to report to the Synod in 2011 on progress with arrangements for implementing national occupational health standards.'

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS 2010: REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 1760)

The Reverend Prebendary Kay Garlick (Hereford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

- 10. 'That this Synod approve the recommendations set out in paragraphs (i) and (ii) on page 4 of GS 1760.'

MISSION-SHAPED CHURCH: REPORT FROM THE MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL (GS 1761)

Dr Philip Giddings (Oxford), Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council, to move:

- 11. 'That this Synod:
 - (a) affirm the mixed economy of traditional churches and fresh expressions of church, working in partnership, as the most promising mission strategy in a fast changing culture;

- (b) encourage those responsible for vocations and training in dioceses and parishes to promote the imaginative recruitment, training and deployment of ordained and lay pioneer ministers in and beyond title posts;
 - (c) commend the making of Bishops' Mission Orders to integrate suitable fresh expressions of church in the life of the dioceses; and
 - (d) request the Mission and Public Affairs Division and the Research and Statistics Unit to gather evidence on the spiritual and numerical growth of the mixed economy church in general and fresh expressions of church in particular, and to bring a further report or reports to Synod in the next quinquennium.'
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Wednesday 10 February 2009

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS TV COVERAGE OF RELIGIOUS AND ETHICAL ISSUES (GS 1762A and GS 1762B)

Mr Nigel Holmes (Carlisle) to move:

12. 'That this Synod, call upon the BBC and Ofcom to explain why British television, which was once exemplary in its coverage of religious and ethical issues, now marginalizes the few such programmes which remain and completely ignored the Christian significance of Good Friday 2009.'
-

44TH REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 1763)

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall (Manchester) to move:

13. 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'

If item 13 is carried the motions for amendments to the Standing Orders contained in the First Notice Paper will be moved, in so far as they need to be debated. Any member wishing to move an amendment to any of those motions must give notice in accordance with Standing Order 10(c) **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 8 February.**

2.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA (GS 1764A and GS1764B)

14. *Mrs Lorna Ashworth* (Chichester) to move:

'That this Synod express the desire that the Church of England be in communion with the Anglican Church in North America.'

MILITARY CHAPLAINCY

- 15.** Presentation under SO 97.
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LITURGICAL BUSINESS

The following item (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda II) will be taken:

- 600** Additional Weekday Lectionary and Amendments to Calendar, Lectionary and Collects (**GS 1724A**) – *Report of the Revision Committee (GS 1724Y)*
-

**SPECIAL AGENDA IV
DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS
CONFIDENCE IN THE BIBLE (GS 1765A and GS 1765B)**

The Revd John Dunnett (Chelmsford) to move on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Synod:

- 16.** ‘That this Synod request Dioceses, Deaneries and Parishes to adopt some symbol of our confidence in the Bible for our nation (such as “The Year of the Bible” recently in France), noting that the 400th anniversary in 2011 of the Authorised Version would be an obvious opportunity.’
-
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Thursday 11 February 2009

9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE METHODIST CONFERENCE

17. *The Archbishop of Canterbury* will invite the President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd David Gamble, and the Vice-President, Dr Richard Vautrey, to address the Synod under SO 112.
-

FRESH EXPRESSIONS (GS 1766)

18. Presentation under SO 97.
-

BREAD OUT OF MILLSTONES: REALIZING THE POTENTIAL OF CHURCH BUILDINGS: PRESENTATION BY THE CATHEDRAL AND CHURCH BUILDINGS DIVISION (GS 1767)

19. Presentation under SO 97.
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SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS REPAIR OF CHURCH BUILDINGS (GS 1768)

The Venerable Peter Burrows (Ripon and Leeds) to move on behalf of the Ripon and Leeds Diocesan Synod:

20. ‘That this Synod, recognizing that:
- (a) church buildings are an important part of our national heritage and provide not only a spiritual focus for worship and pilgrimage but in many cases also play a vital role as community meeting places, visitor centres and spaces for the wider celebration of the arts;
 - (b) many volunteers raise large sums of money to help sustain this heritage;
 - (c) English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund and grant making trusts make a valuable contribution towards the cost of repairing church buildings; but

- (d) the national backlog of church building repairs is still of great magnitude,

call on HM Government to:

- (i) substantially increase the amount of money available for the repair of listed church buildings; and
- (ii) fully fund the repair of Grade I listed church buildings.

The Lichfield Diocesan Synod has passed a motion in identical terms.

2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

**GOING FOR GROWTH: TRANSFORMATION FOR CHILDREN,
YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE CHURCH: A REPORT FROM THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION / NATIONAL SOCIETY COUNCIL
(GS 1769)**

The Bishop of Lincoln to move:

- 21.** ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’
-

**SPECIAL AGENDA III
PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS
PARITY OF PENSION PROVISION FOR SURVIVING CIVIL
PARTNERS (GS 1770A and GS 1770B)**

The Revd Mark Bratton (Coventry) to move:

- 22.** ‘That this Synod request the Archbishops’ Council and the Church of England Pensions Board to bring forward changes to the rules governing the clergy pension scheme in order to go beyond the requirements of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 and provide for pension benefits to be paid to the surviving civil partners of deceased clergy on the same basis as they are currently paid to surviving spouses.’
-

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I) will be taken:

- 506-507** Mission and Pastoral Measure (**GS 1740A**) – *Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval*
- 509-510** Care of Cathedrals Measure (**GS 1727A**) – *Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval*
-

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS VIOLENT COMPUTER GAMES (GS 1771A and GS 1771B)

Mr Thomas Benyon (Oxford) to move:

- 23.** 'That this Synod,
- (a) express concern about the potentially desensitising and damaging effects upon children and young people of computer games containing gratuitous violent and sexual content;
 - (b) request changes to the classification system for video games in the United Kingdom to strengthen appropriate age rating and effective enforcement;
 - (c) call upon HM Government to review the regulatory system for advertising video games to prevent the targeting of children and young people with unsuitable material; and
 - (d) support programmes of education for both parents and children in managing access to video games.'
-

Friday 12 February

9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP

SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS COMPATIBILITY OF SCIENCE AND CHRISTIAN BELIEF (GS 1772A and GS 1772B)

Dr Peter Capon (Manchester) to move on behalf of the Manchester Diocesan Synod:

- 24.** ‘That this Synod, concerned at the promotion of a perceived need to choose between the claims of science and belief in God:
- (a) affirm the compatibility of belief in God and an understanding of science; and
 - (b) urge the House of Bishops and all dioceses robustly to promote a better public understanding of the compatibility of science and Christian belief.’
-

SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS DEANERY SYNODS (GS 1773A and GS 1773B)

The Revd Mark Beach (Coventry) to move on behalf of the Coventry Diocesan Synod:

- 25.** ‘That this Synod request the Archbishops’ Council to convene a working party:
- (a) to consider the case for legislation (i) conferring incorporated status on deanery synods and (ii) amending their functions so that, whilst they retain their deliberative function, they are also able to take a more executive role in promoting in the deanery the whole mission of the Church; and
 - (b) to report to the Synod on its findings with, if appropriate, proposals for the introduction of legislation.’
-

26. FAREWELLS

27. PROROGATION

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT AMENDING CANON No. 29 (GS 1639B)

**Draft Amending Canon for Final Drafting and Final Approval
(Revised at the February 2008 Group of Sessions)**

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 1639Z)

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC (Manchester) to move:

500 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Note: If item 500 is carried, the special amendments set out in the Second Notice Paper will be moved (SO 59(d)).

501 ‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 29” be finally approved.’

And, if item 501 is carried:

502 ‘That the petition for Her Majesty’s Royal Assent and Licence (GS 1639C) be adopted.’

**DRAFT ECCLESIASTICAL FEES (AMENDMENT) MEASURE
(GS 1715B)**

**Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval
(Revised at the July 2009 group of sessions)**

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 1715Z)

The Chair of the Steering Committee (the Rt Revd John Packer (Bishop of Ripon and Leeds)) to move:

503 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Note: If item 503 is carried, the special amendments set out in the Second Notice Paper will be moved (SO 59(d)).

504 ‘That the Measure entitled “Ecclesiastical Fees (Amendment) Measure” be finally approved.’

DRAFT MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE (GS 1740A)

Draft Measure for Revision

(Deemed First Consideration at the July 2009 Group of Sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1740Y)

The Chair of the Revision Committee (the Ven Timothy Atkinson (Archdeacon of Leicester) (Leicester)) to move:

505 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Notes:

1. In the debate on item 505 it will not be in order to debate any matter which is the subject of an amendment to the draft Measure which appears on a Notice Paper for this group of sessions (SO 54(c)).

2. When the debate is concluded on item 505, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 55(a)).

*3. Any member wishing to move an amendment pursuant to SO 56(a) must give notice to the Clerk to the Synod **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 5th February 2010.***

DRAFT MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE (GS 1740A)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 1740Z)

The Chair of the Steering Committee (Mr James Humphery (Salisbury)) to move:

506 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Note: *If item 506 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 59(d)).*

The Chair of the Steering Committee (Mr James Humphery) (Salisbury)) to move, subject to the provisions of SO 61(b):

507 ‘That the Measure entitled “Mission and Pastoral Measure” be finally approved.’

DRAFT CARE OF CATHEDRALS MEASURE (GS 1727A)

**Draft Measure for Revision
(Deemed First Consideration at the July 2009 Group of Sessions)**

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1727Y)

The Chair of the Revision Committee (the Ven Timothy Atkinson (Archdeacon of Leicester) (Leicester)) to move:

508 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Notes:

1. *In the debate on item 508 it will not be in order to debate any matter which is the subject of an amendment to the draft Measure which appears on a Notice Paper for this group of sessions (SO 54(c)).*

2. *When the debate is concluded on item 508, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 55(a)).*

3. *Any member wishing to move an amendment pursuant to SO 56(a) must give notice to the Clerk to the Synod **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 5th February 2010.***

DRAFT CARE OF CATHEDRALS MEASURE (GS 1727A)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 1727Z)

The Chair of the Steering Committee (Mr James Humphery (Salisbury)) to move:

509 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Note: *If item 509 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 59(d)).*

The Chair of the Steering Committee (Mr James Humphery) (Salisbury)) to move, subject to the provisions of SO 61(b):

510 ‘That the Measure entitled “Care of Cathedrals Measure” be finally approved.’

CODE OF PRACTICE UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICES (TERMS OF SERVICE) MEASURE 2009 (GS 1774)

Code of Practice for approval

The Bishop of Hull (Northern Suffragans) to move:

- 511** ‘That the Code of Practice issued under section 8 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009 for the purposes of Regulation 31 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Regulations 2009 be approved’.

Notes:

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(a) that the Code of Practice shall be considered on one motion.*
2. *Amendments to the Code of Practice are permissible. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with SO 11 that any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment should do so in writing to the Clerk to the Synod not later than 5.30 p.m. on Thursday 4th February 2010.*

CODE OF PRACTICE UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICES (TERMS OF SERVICE) MEASURE 2009 (GS 1775)

Code of Practice for approval

The Bishop of Hull (Northern Suffragans) to move:

- 512** “That the Code of Practice issued under section 8 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009 for the purposes of Regulation 32 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Regulations 2009 be approved’.

Notes:

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(a) that the Code of Practice shall be considered on one motion.*
2. *Amendments to the Code of Practice are permissible. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with SO 11 that any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment should do so in writing to the Clerk to the Synod not later than 5.30 p.m. on Thursday 4th February 2010.*

<p style="text-align: center;">SPECIAL AGENDA II – LITURGICAL BUSINESS</p>

**ADDITIONAL WEEKDAY LECTIONARY AND
AMENDMENTS TO CALENDAR, LECTIONARY AND COLLECTS
(GS 1724A)**

Article 7 Business

Consideration of a Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1724Y)

The Bishop of Gloucester (Chairman of the Revision Committee) to move:

600 ‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

Notes:

1. Notice of motions for re-committal under the provisions of Standing Order 77(a) must be given in writing to the Clerk to the Synod by **not later than 5.30 pm on Monday 8th February 2010** (Standing Order 10(c)). Any such motions will appear on a Notice Paper.
2. If no such motion is carried, the liturgical business will automatically stand committed to the House of Bishops under Standing Order 77(f).

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

FRESH EXPRESSIONS RESOURCES

The Revd Richard Moy (Lichfield) to move:

‘That this Synod invite the Fresh Expressions team in consultation with the Liturgical Commission to produce an on-line library of visual and video resources for worship, so that hard-pressed local worship leaders may access and use them in both mission and congregational contexts.’

176 signatures

(July 2008)

TV COVERAGE OF RELIGIOUS AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Mr Nigel Holmes (Carlisle) to move:

‘That this Synod call upon the BBC and Ofcom to explain why British television, which was once exemplary in its coverage of religious and ethical issues, now marginalizes the few such programmes which remain and completely ignored the Christian significance of Good Friday 2009.’

171 signatures

(July 2009)

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

Mrs Lorna Ashworth (Chichester) to move:

‘That this Synod express the desire that the Church of England be in communion with the Anglican Church in North America.’

126 signatures

(July 2009)

PARITY OF PENSION PROVISION FOR SURVIVING CIVIL PARTNERS

The Revd Mark Bratton (Coventry) to move:

‘That this Synod request the Archbishops’ Council and the Church of England Pensions Board to bring forward changes to the rules governing the clergy pension scheme in order to go beyond the requirements of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 and provide for pension benefits to be paid to the surviving civil partners of deceased clergy on the same basis as they are currently paid to surviving spouses.’

123 signatures

(July 2008)

VIOLENT COMPUTER GAMES

Mr Thomas Benyon (Oxford) to move:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) express concern about the potentially desensitising and damaging effects upon children and young people of computer games containing gratuitous violent and sexual content;
- (b) request changes to the classification system for video games in the United Kingdom to strengthen appropriate age rating and effective enforcement;
- (c) call upon HM Government to review the regulatory system for advertising video games to prevent the targeting of children and young people with unsuitable material; and
- (d) support programmes of education for both parents and children in managing access to video games.’

103 signatures

(July 2008)

DEAF ANGLICANS TOGETHER

The Revd Sister Rosemary CHN (Religious Communities) to move:

‘That this Synod, recognizing both the contribution made by deaf people to the life of the Church and the particular difficulties they face in participating in the usual processes leading to elections, request the Business Committee to bring forward legislation under which Deaf Anglicans Together become a special constituency electing three members to the General Synod.’

87 signatures

(February 2009)

CELEBRATION OF ASCENSION DAY

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to move:

‘That this Synod, recognising the profound importance for Christian faith and experience of the Ascension and Heavenly Rule of our Lord Jesus Christ but noting that relatively few members of the Church of England attend services on Ascension Day, request the House of Bishops to consider how the widespread celebration of Ascensiontide might be encouraged and in particular to consider making provision to permit Ascension Day to be celebrated on the Seventh Sunday of Easter instead of or in addition to the fortieth day after Easter Day.’

33 signatures

(July 2009)

ARCIC REPORT ON *LIFE IN CHRIST*

Mr Jonathan Redden (Sheffield) to move:

‘That this Synod do take note of the report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission “Life in Christ: Morals, Communion and the Church”.’

29 signatures

(July 2009)

GENERAL SYNOD STANDING ORDERS

Mr Tom Sutcliffe (Southwark) to move:

‘That this Synod, considering how the reformed structure of the national church institutions appears to favour unfettered managerialism in the pursuit of delivery and process and to constrain free-ranging debate and members’ scrutiny of business, invite the Standing Orders Committee:

- (a) to examine all the restrictions that have accrued in the wording of Standing Orders which make it harder for ordinary individual members to raise detailed questions and initiate debates, thus fulfilling General Synod’s vital function as a democratic sounding-board in the service of God; and
- (b) in the light of its review to bring forward proposals for the removal of such restrictions, and in particular for the revision of Standing Order 105(a) so that matters relating to the national and international leadership of the Church may be raised directly and individually as questions to the Archbishops for their oral or written reply.’

11 signatures

(July 2009)

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

EPISCOPAL MINISTRY ACT OF SYNOD

to move on behalf of the Southwark Diocesan Synod:

‘That the Episcopal Ministry Act of Synod 1993 be rescinded.’

March 2003

ORDINATION OF WOMEN TO THE EPISCOPATE

to move on behalf of the Rochester Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod

- (a) note that it was resolved in July 2005 that the “process for removing the legal obstacles to the ordination of women to the episcopate should now be set in train”;
- (b) express its wish for suitable pastoral provision to be made for all those, whether clergy or laity, who are unable in conscience to accept this development;
- (c) is particularly aware of the difficulties faced by clergy opposed in conscience to the ordination of women bishops but who currently work, and will continue to do so, in parishes where the Parochial Church Council would otherwise welcome the sacramental ministry of women bishops.’

October 2007

CONFIDENCE IN THE BIBLE

The Revd John Dunnett to move on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod request Dioceses, Deaneries and Parishes to adopt some symbol of our confidence in the Bible for our nation (such as “The Year of the Bible” recently in France), noting that the 400th anniversary in 2011 of the Authorised Version would be an obvious opportunity.’

June 2008

COMPATIBILITY OF SCIENCE AND CHRISTIAN BELIEF

Dr Peter Capon to move on behalf of the Manchester Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod, concerned at the promotion of a perceived need to choose between the claims of science and belief in God:

- (a) affirm the compatibility of belief in God and an understanding of science; and
- (b) urge the House of Bishops and all dioceses robustly to promote a better public understanding of the compatibility of science and Christian belief.’

August 2008

REPAIR OF CHURCH BUILDINGS

The Venerable Peter Burrows to move on behalf of the Ripon and Leeds Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod, recognizing that:

- (a) church buildings are an important part of our national heritage and provide not only a spiritual focus for worship and pilgrimage but in many cases also play a vital role as community meeting places, visitor centres and spaces for the wider celebration of the arts;
- (b) many volunteers raise large sums of money to help sustain this heritage;
- (c) English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund and grant making trusts make a valuable contribution towards the cost of repairing church buildings; but
- (d) the national backlog of church building repairs is still of great magnitude,

call on HM Government to:

- (iii) substantially increase the amount of money available for the repair of listed church buildings; and
- (iv) fully fund the repair of Grade I listed church buildings.’

May 2009

Lichfield Diocesan Synod passed a motion in the same terms in October 2009.

DEANERY SYNODS

The Revd Mark Beach to move on behalf of the Coventry Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod request the Archbishops’ Council to convene a working party to

- (a) consider the case for legislation (i) conferring incorporated status on deanery synods and (ii) amending their functions so that, whilst they retain their deliberative function, they are also able to take a more

Special Agenda IV

executive role in promoting in the deanery the whole mission of the Church; and

- (b) report to the Synod on its findings with, if appropriate, proposals for the introduction of legislation.’

November 2009