

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2017 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 7 P.M.
ON FRIDAY 7TH JULY 2017

WORSHIP

The Revd Michael Gisbourne led the Synod in an act of worship.

INTRODUCTIONS

1 The following introductions were made:

New members

The Revd Caroline Ralph (Bath & Wells) (who had replaced the Ven. Andy Piggott)

The Revd Canon Martyn Neale (Guildford) (who had replaced the Revd Dr Philip Plyming)

Mr Richard Jones (Salisbury) (who had replaced Mrs Christine Corteen)

Ms Tracey Byrne (Southwell & Nottingham) (who had replaced Canon Pam Bishop)

Ecumenical Representative

The Revd Dr Andrew Prasad (United Reform Church), who was attending his first meeting of the Synod.

WELCOME TO ANGLICAN AND ECUMENICAL GUESTS

2 The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK welcomed the following Anglican and ecumenical guests:

The Rt Revd Dr Matti Repo (Bishop of Tampere, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland)

The Rt Revd Dr John Armes (Bishop of Edinburgh, Scottish Episcopal Church)

The Most Revd Ralf Meister (Landesbischof, Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Hanover, Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland).

At the invitation of the Presidents, the Bishop of Tampere addressed the Synod under Standing Order 120.

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2060)

3 The motion

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

was carried.

VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Under Standing Order 9(1)(a), the order of business for the sitting was varied by the Chair with the general consent of the Synod so that the rubric preceding Item 7 (Questions) in the Agenda be amended to read “Not later than 6.00 p.m.”; and that Items 506 (Draft Amending Canon No. 36 (GS 2029B) and Draft Amending Canon No. 37 (GS 2029BB) (draft Amending Canons for Final Drafting)) and 511(Special Amendment to draft Amending Canon No. 36) be taken immediately before Item 46 (After the General Election, a Still Small Voice of Calm).

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 36 (GS 2029B) DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 37 (GS 2029BB)

Article 7 Business (both Canons)

Draft Amending Canons for Final Drafting (Revised February 2017)

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2029Z)

506 The motion

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

was carried.

511 The Special Amendment

‘In paragraph 1(6)(a), *leave out* “on a Sunday”.

was carried.

The Chair reported that draft Amending Canons Nos. 36 and 37, being Article 7 business, stood committed to the House of Bishops.

AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION, A STILL SMALL VOICE OF CALM

46 The motion

‘That this Synod, mindful that the recent General Election has left many questions unanswered about the shape and priorities of our government at a critical time in the nation’s history:

- a) give thanks, nonetheless, for the increased turnout and call upon all parties to build on this by addressing the causes of voter apathy and non-participation;
- b) pray for all those elected to Parliament that they will prioritise the common good of all people in everything they do, especially in negotiations between parties to secure support for a legislative programme;
- c) pray for courage, for our political leaders as they face the constraints and opportunities of uncertainty and weakness, and for the people of the nation as they too face unprecedented questions about the future;
- d) call upon Christians everywhere to maintain pressure on politicians of all parties to put the cohesion of the nation and its communities at the heart of their programmes;

- e) commend the continuing work of the churches serving the poor and vulnerable, at home and worldwide, as an example of the priorities which we hope to see in the programmes of government; and
- f) commit the Church of England to maintaining strong and generous international relations, through our dioceses, the Anglican Communion and ecumenical links, as relationships within the United Kingdom, across Europe and worldwide face new tensions and challenges.’

was moved.

The motion

‘That the debate be now adjourned.’

was lost.

47 The amendment (Order Paper I) was lost.

48 The amendment (Order Paper I) was lost.

49 The amendment (Order Paper I) was lost.

52 An amendment by the ARCHBISHOP OF YORK to

‘After paragraph (d), *insert* —

“(–) invite our co-dwellers in the United Kingdom of their own free will to top up their income tax from their net monthly pay to supplement public expenditure on education, health and social care, and request HMRC to consult all tax payers on whether they would be willing to do this”’,

moved with the permission of the Chair under Standing Order 26(4)(a),

was lost.

50 The amendment (Order Paper I) was lost.

51 The amendment (Order Paper I) was lost.

‘That this Synod, mindful that the recent General Election has left many questions unanswered about the shape and priorities of our government at a critical time in the nation’s history:

- a) give thanks, nonetheless, for the increased turnout and call upon all parties to build on this by addressing the causes of voter apathy and non-participation;
- b) pray for all those elected to Parliament that they will prioritise the common good of all people in everything they do, especially in negotiations between parties to secure support for a legislative programme;
- c) pray for courage, for our political leaders as they face the constraints and opportunities of uncertainty and weakness, and for the people of the nation as they too face unprecedented questions about the future;
- d) call upon Christians everywhere to maintain pressure on politicians of all parties to put the cohesion of the nation and its communities at the heart of their programmes;
- e) commend the continuing work of the churches serving the poor and vulnerable, at home and worldwide, as an example of the priorities which we hope to see in the programmes of government; and
- f) commit the Church of England to maintaining strong and generous international relations, through our dioceses, the Anglican Communion and ecumenical links, as relationships within the United Kingdom, across Europe and worldwide face new tensions and challenges.’

was carried.

QUESTIONS

- 7 Supplementary questions in respect to questions 1 to 48, as set out on the Questions Paper, were answered.

EVENING WORSHIP

Mr Justin Brett led the Synod in an act of worship.

The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK dismissed the Synod with the blessing at 7.15 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT CHURCH OF ENGLAND (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) MEASURE (GS 2064)

Draft Measure for First Consideration

Under Standing Order 51(5) the draft Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure was deemed to have been given first consideration by the General Synod, 25 members not having given notice of a wish to have the draft Measure debated. The draft Measure accordingly stood committed to a Revision Committee.

PAYMENTS TO THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST ORDER 2017 (GS 2065)

Order for Approval

Under Standing Order 71(2) the draft Payments to the Churches Conservation Trust Order was deemed to have been approved by the General Synod, no member having given notice of a wish to have the Order debated.

LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2017 (GS 2066)

Order for Approval

Under Standing Order 71(2) the Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2017 was deemed to have been approved by the General Synod, no member having given notice of a wish to have the Order debated.

ECCLESIASTICAL JUDGES, LEGAL OFFICERS AND OTHERS (FEES) ORDER 2017 (GS 2067)

Order for Approval

Under Standing Order 71(2) the Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2017 was deemed to have been approved by the General Synod, no member having given notice of a wish to have the Order debated.

52ND REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 2068)

Under Standing Order 40(5) the proposed amendments to Standing Orders set out on the First Notice Paper were deemed to have been approved by the General Synod, 5 members not having given notice of a wish to have a proposed amendment debated.

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2017 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 12.20 P.M.
ON SATURDAY 8TH JULY 2017

MORNING WORSHIP

The Revd Jason Roach led the Synod in an act of worship.

A group of young adult observers was welcomed by the Synod.

PRESENTATION FROM THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS ON THE PROPOSALS FOR THE PASTORAL ADVISORY GROUP ON HUMAN SEXUALITY AND THE TEACHING DOCUMENT (GS Misc 1158)

8 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY led a presentation under Standing Order 107.

PRESENCE AND ENGAGEMENT: REPORT FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL'S MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL (GS 2063)

9 The motion

‘That this Synod, recognising the Church’s continued presence and engagement in parishes, chaplaincies and new missional communities in multi-religious contexts:

- a) commend the national Presence and Engagement (P&E) programme and offer prayerful support for its work over the next five years, requesting that the fruit of this be made available to the whole Church through the P&E Centres and that the programme report back to Synod at the end of this period;
- b) recognise the cultivation of relationships with other faith communities as a vital component of the Church’s

mission in today's society, and encourage dioceses to incorporate this into their mission plans; and

- c) re-affirm the Synod report "Sharing the Gospel of Salvation" (GS Misc 956) and call on the P&E Task Group to continue supporting parishes in bearing faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ with sensitivity and confidence among people of other faiths.

was moved.

- 53 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost following a counted vote of the whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR	153
AGAINST	168

17 abstentions were recorded.

- 54 The amendment (Order Paper II) was carried.

Under Standing Order 15(7)(b) the Chair adjourned the debate at 11 a.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE REFORM MEASURE (GS 2027B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval (Revision February 2017)

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2027Z)

- 500 The motion

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

was carried.

- 501 The motion

‘That the Measure entitled “Legislative Reform Measure” be finally approved.’

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	16	0
Clergy	92	0
Laity	96	0

No abstentions were recorded.

The Chair reported that the Measure automatically stood committed to the Legislative Committee.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT STATUTE LAW (REPEALS) MEASURE (GS 2030B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval (Revision February 2017)

Consolidation Measure

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2030Z)

502 The motion

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

was carried.

503 The motion

‘That the Measure entitled “Statute Law (Repeals) Measure” be finally approved.’

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	18	0
Clergy	98	0
Laity	106	0

2 abstentions were recorded in the House of Laity.

The Chair reported that the Measure automatically stood committed to the Legislative Committee.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT PENSIONS (PRE-CONSOLIDATION) MEASURE (GS 2032B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval (Revision February 2017)

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2032Z)

504 The motion

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

was carried.

505 The motion

‘That the Measure entitled “Pensions (Pre-consolidation) Measure” be finally approved.’

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	21	0
Clergy	109	0
Laity	123	0

No abstentions were recorded.

The Chair reported that the Measure automatically stood committed to the Legislative Committee.

INTRODUCTORY SESSION ON FORMS OF NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CHURCHES

10 Mrs Rebecca Salter made a presentation under Standing Order 107.

PRESENCE AND ENGAGEMENT: REPORT FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL'S MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL (GS 2063)

Resumed debate

9 The motion as amended

‘That this Synod, recognising the Church’s continued presence and engagement in parishes, chaplaincies and new missional communities in multi-religious contexts:

- a) commend the national Presence and Engagement (P&E) programme and offer prayerful support for its work over the next five years, requesting that the fruit of this be made available to the whole Church through the P&E Centres and that the programme report back to Synod at the end of this period;
- b) recognise the cultivation of relationships with other faith communities as a vital component of the Church’s mission in today’s society, and encourage dioceses to incorporate this into their mission plans;
- c) re-affirm the Synod report “Sharing the Gospel of Salvation” (GS Misc 956) and call on the P&E Task Group to continue supporting parishes in bearing faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ with sensitivity and confidence among people of other faiths; and
- d) noting the importance of relationships between churches and people of other faiths in maintaining community peace and solidarity in many P&E

parishes, encourage churches and Christian people throughout the nation to reach out to neighbours and colleagues of other faiths to offer solidarity and friendship in times of tension, condemning the attempts of extremists to divide us, and challenging all hatred.

was carried.

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2017 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 7.15 P.M.
ON SATURDAY 8TH JULY 2017

**NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CHURCHES: REPORT FROM
THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2069)**

11 The motion

That this Synod:

- a) welcome the range of evangelism and growth resources provided by the national church in support of local churches;
- b) note the progress made to support Life Events ministry since it was commissioned by the Archbishops' Council in 2012;
- c) agree to encourage dioceses and parishes to engage with these areas of work through prayer and practical action; and
- d) call on the Archbishops' Council and the House of Bishops to report back to the Synod on a regular basis on the progress of these areas of support.

was carried.

SPECIAL AGENDA III
PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

CONVERSION THERAPY (GS 2010A and GS 2070B)

12 The motion

That this Synod:

- a) endorse the statement of 16 January 2017 signed by The UK Council for Psychotherapy, The Royal College of General Practitioners and others that the practice of conversion therapy has no place in the modern world, is unethical, harmful and not supported by evidence; and
- b) call upon the Archbishops' Council to become a co-signatory to the statement on behalf of the Church of England.

was moved.

- 55 The amendment (Order Paper III) was lost following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	10	26
Clergy	64	110
Laity	88	97

2 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 2 in the House of Clergy, and 6 in the House of Laity.

- 57 The amendment (Order Paper III) was lost following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	16	16
Clergy	117	46
Laity	108	73

5 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 12 in the House of Clergy, and 11 in the House of Laity.

- 56 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	35	1
Clergy	142	25
Laity	165	20

2 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 7 in the House of Clergy, and 5 in the House of Laity.

Under Standing Order 15(6) the sitting was extended by not more than 15 minutes by the Chair with the general consent of the Synod.

58 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	28	2
Clergy	121	34
Laity	120	52

5 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 16 in the House of Clergy, and 18 in the House of Laity.

12 The motion as amended

That this Synod:

- a) endorse the Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy in the UK of November 2015, signed by The Royal College of Psychiatrists and others, that the practice of gay conversion therapy has no place in the modern world, is unethical, potentially harmful and not supported by evidence;
- b) call upon the Church to be sensitive to, and to listen to, contemporary expressions of gender identity; and
- c) call on the government to ban the practice of Conversion Therapy.

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	36	1
Clergy	135	25
Laity	127	48

No abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 13 in the House of Clergy, and 13 in the House of Laity.

EVENING WORSHIP

The Revd Jane Morris led the Synod in an act of worship.

The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK dismissed the Synod with the blessing at 7.40 p.m.

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2017 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 7 P.M.
ON SUNDAY 9TH JULY 2017

VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Under Standing Order 9(1)(a), the order of business was varied by the Chair with the general consent of the Synod so that Item 4 be taken immediately before Item 13.

APPOINTMENT TO THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2061)

4 The motion

‘That the appointment of Mrs Mary Chapman as a member of the Archbishops’ Council for a term ending on 31 December 2019 be approved.’

was carried.

SPECIAL AGENDA IV
DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

WELCOMING TRANSGENDER PEOPLE (GS 2071A and GS 2071B)

13 The motion

‘That this Synod, recognising the need for transgender people to be welcomed and affirmed in their parish church, call on the House of Bishops to consider whether some nationally commended liturgical materials might be prepared to mark a person's gender transition.’

was moved.

59 The amendment (Order Paper IV) was lost following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	11	19
Clergy	64	103
Laity	75	108

2 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 4 in the House of Clergy, and 3 in the House of Laity.

13 The motion

‘That this Synod, recognising the need for transgender people to be welcomed and affirmed in their parish church, call on the House of Bishops to consider whether some nationally commended liturgical materials might be prepared to mark a person's gender transition.’

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	30	2
Clergy	127	28
Laity	127	48

2 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 16 in the House of Clergy, and 8 in the House of Laity.

**INTERIM REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE CROWN
NOMINATIONS COMMISSION (GS Misc 1159)**

14 The Revd Prof. Oliver O’Donovan (Chair of the Review Group) and the Revd Prof. Morwenna Ludlow (member of the Review Group) made a presentation under Standing Order 107.

**CLERGY WELLBEING: REPORT FROM THE HOUSE OF CLERGY
(GS 2072)**

15 The motion

‘That this Synod:

- (a) welcome and support the proposal to establish a Covenant for Clergy Wellbeing as laid out in GS 2072; and
- (b) invite the Appointments Committee to appoint a Clergy Wellbeing Working Group to bring proposals for such a Covenant back to this Synod by July 2019.’

was carried.

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS CODE (GS 2073A and GS 2073B)

16 The motion

‘That this Synod:

- (a) call upon the Secretary of State to include provision in the Schools Admission Code requiring admission authorities to allocate places to children of clergy and other workers who are required to live in tied accommodation, and are moving into the authority’s area, in advance of the family arriving in the area; and
- (b) call on all admissions authorities to accept letters of appointment as proof of residence ahead of the children of clergy and other workers who are required to live in tied accommodation moving to the area.’

was carried.

EVENING WORSHIP

Mr Tim Hind led the Synod in an act of worship.

The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK dismissed the Synod with the blessing at 7.15 p.m.

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2017 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 12.30 P.M.
ON MONDAY 10TH JULY 2017

MORNING WORSHIP

Canon Shayne Ardron led the Synod in an act of worship.

SPECIAL AGENDA IV
DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

COST OF APPLYING FOR CITIZENSHIP (GS 2074A and GS 2074B)

17 The motion

‘That this Synod:

- (a) request the Archbishops’ Council’s Mission and Public Affairs Council to investigate the issues around the cost of applying for citizenship and to make recommendations to HM Government;
- (b) encourage the Lords Spiritual actively to seek opportunities to address the level of citizenship fees in debate;
- (c) urge parishes to raise the issue with their MP; and
- (d) encourage parishes to continue to support those known to them who are struggling with the cost of citizenship fees without incurring debt and to signpost responsible lenders or local credit unions for advice.

was carried following a counted vote of the whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR	310
AGAINST	0

No abstentions were recorded.

THE WORK OF THE ELECTIONS REVIEW GROUP: REPORT FROM THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2075)

18 The motion

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

was carried.

PRESENTATION BY THE ELECTIONS REVIEW GROUP

19 Mr Clive Scowen led a presentation under Standing Order 107.

**SPECIAL AGENDA I
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

**DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 36 (GS 2029B)
DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 37 (GS 2029BB)**

Article 7 Business

Draft Amending Canons for Final Approval (Revised February 2017)

507 The motion

‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 36” be finally approved.’

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	18	3
Clergy	104	5
Laity	116	8

4 abstentions were recorded in the House of Clergy, and 7 in the House of Laity.

508 The motion

‘That the petition for Her Majesty’s Royal Assent and Licence (GS 2029C) be adopted.’

was carried.

509 The motion

‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 37” be finally approved.’

was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	21	0
Clergy	125	0
Laity	132	1

1 abstention was recorded in the House of Clergy.

510 The motion

‘That the petition for Her Majesty’s Royal Assent and Licence (GS 2029CC) be adopted.’

was carried.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

6 The Bishop of Manchester made a presentation under Standing Order 107.

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2017 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 4.20 P.M.
ON MONDAY 10TH JULY 2017

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2058)

- 20 Mrs Mary Chapman and the Revd Dr Ian Paul made a presentation under Standing Order 107.

THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL'S BUDGET AND PROPOSALS FOR APPORTIONMENT FOR 2018 (GS 2076)

- 21 The motion

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

was carried.

- 22 The motion

‘That the Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s expenditure for the year 2018, as shown in its budget, of £15,246,952 in respect of Training for Ministry.’

was carried.

- 23 The motion

‘That the Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s expenditure for the year 2018, as shown in its budget, of £17,562,244 in respect of National Church Responsibilities.’

was carried.

- 24 The motion

‘That the Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s expenditure for the year 2018, as shown in its budget, of £1,244,024 in respect of Grants and provisions.’

was carried.

25 The motion

‘That the Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s expenditure for the year 2018, as shown in its budget, of £806,167 in respect of Mission Agency clergy pension contributions.’

was carried.

26 The motion

‘That the Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s expenditure for the year 2018, as shown in its budget, of £4,805,985 in respect of the CHARM Scheme.’

was carried.

27 The motion

‘That this Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s proposals (set out in the Table of Apportionment contained in GS 2076) for the apportionment amongst the dioceses of the net sum to be provided by them to enable the Council to meet the expected expenditure shown in its budget for the year 2018.’

was carried.

28 The motion

‘That this Synod approve the Archbishops’ Council’s proposals (set out in the Table of Apportionment contained in GS 2076) for the pooling adjustment for 2018 in respect of additional maintenance grants for ordinands.’

was carried.

FAREWELLS

- 29 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY paid tribute to the Rt Revd Mike Hill, Bishop of Bristol; and the Rt Revd Nigel Stock, Bishop at Lambeth, who were both attending their last meeting of the Synod.

PROROGATION

- 30 The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK prorogued the Synod at 4.20 p.m.