

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY 2015 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 7 P.M.
ON TUESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2015

WORSHIP

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

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

1 The following introductions were made:

New members

The Rt Revd Andrew Watson, the Bishop of Guildford (who had replaced the Rt Revd Christopher Hill)

The Rt Revd Jonathan Gibbs, the Bishop of Huddersfield (Northern Suffragans) (who had replaced the Rt Revd John Goddard)

The Ven David Picken, the Archdeacon of Newark (Southwell & Nottingham) (who had replaced the Ven Peter Hill)

The Rt Revd Martyn Snow (Bishop of Tewkesbury) acting for the Bishop of Gloucester during the vacancy in See

The Synod also welcomed the following new Church of England Youth Council Representatives:

Miss Leah Bell

Miss Alexandra Podd

Mr Elliot Swattridge

The Synod also welcomed the following new Ecumenical Representative:

The Revd Canon John O'Toole (National Ecumenical Officer of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Roman Catholic Church).

ADDRESS BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE CHALDEAN DIOCESE OF ERBIL, IRAQ

- 2 At the invitation of the Presidents, the Most Revd Bashar Warda CSsR, Archbishop of the Chaldean Diocese of Erbil, Iraq, addressed the Synod under Standing Order 112.

PROGRESS OF MEASURES AND STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

- 3 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY reported that:

the Parochial Fees and Scheduled Matters Amending Order 2014, the Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2014 and the Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2014 had all come into force on 1 January 2015;

paragraphs 16 to 20 of the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2014 had come into force on 1 January 2015. Paragraphs 1 to 15 would come into force on the same date as the coming into force of Amending Canon No. 32;

all the remaining provisions of the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2014 which were not previously in force had come into force on 1 January 2015;

the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction (Amendment) Measure, the Ecclesiastical Property Measure and the Church of England (Pensions) (Amendment) Measure had been laid before Parliament and motions that the Measures be presented to Her Majesty for the Royal Assent had been carried by both Houses. It was hoped that the Measures would receive the Royal Assent later in the month.

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 1974)

- 4 The motion

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

was carried.

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS 2015: SEAT ALLOCATION (GS 1975)

5 The motion

‘That this Synod approve the recommendations set out in paragraphs (i) and (ii) on page 4 of GS 1975.’

was carried.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

6 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY gave a Presidential Address.

REPORT ON IMMERSION EXPERIENCE IN INDIA

7 The Archdeacon of Colchester, the Bishop of Stockport and the Revd Preb Dr Jane Tillier (Diocesan Adviser for Women in Ministry, Diocese of Newcastle) (Regional Representatives to the House of Bishops) gave a presentation under Standing Order 97.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

AMENDING CANON NO. 32 (GS 1902D)

Canon for Enactment (Final Approval July 2014)

The Chair reported that the Royal Assent and Licence to promulge Amending Canon No. 32 had been received and the Registrar read the Instrument of Enactment.

500 The motion

‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 32” be made, promulged and executed.’

was carried.

The Instrument of Enactment was signed by the Archbishops, the Prolocutor of the Convocation of Canterbury, the Senior Deputy Prolocutor for the Convocation of York, and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the House of Laity.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT NAMING OF DIOCESES MEASURE (GS 1935A)

Draft Measure for Revision (First Consideration February 2014)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1935Y)

Clause 1

504 The motion

‘That clause 1 stand part of the Measure.’

was lost after a division by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	10	7
Clergy	34	66
Laity	65	48

3 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 10 in the House of Clergy and 5 in the House of Laity.

Clause 2

505 The motion

‘That clause 2 stand part of the Measure.’

was not moved.

The motion

‘That clause 2 be withdrawn.’

was carried.

Long Title

506 The motion

‘That the Long Title stand part of the Measure.’

was not moved.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 35 (GS 1964B)

(Article 7 Business)

Draft Amending Canon for Final Approval (Revised November 2014)

501 The motion

‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 35” be finally approved.’

was carried after a division by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	25	0
Clergy	94	6
Laity	104	10

4 abstentions were recorded in the House of Laity.

502 The motion

‘That the petition for Her Majesty’s Royal Assent and Licence (GS 1964C) be adopted.’

was carried.

Under Standing Order 14(g), the Chair adjourned the sitting until 4.15 p.m.

QUESTIONS

8 Questions 1 to 52, as set out on the Questions Paper, were answered.

INTRODUCTION TO WEDNESDAY'S GROUP WORK AND DEBATES (GS 1976-GS 1982)

9 Canon John Spence (*ex officio*), the Bishop of Sheffield, the Bishop of Ely, the Bishop of Willesden and the First Church Estates Commissioner led a presentation under Standing Order 97.

EVENING WORSHIP

The Ven Christine Hardman led the Synod in an act of worship.

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY 2015 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 7 P.M.
ON WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2015

DISCIPLESHIP (GS 1977)

10 The motion

‘That this Synod, mindful that the Church of Jesus Christ is called to be a community of missionary disciples:

- (a) commend the Ten Marks for Developing Discipleship for further study and reflection with a view to the development in each diocese of an action plan for implementation at diocesan, deanery and parochial level; and
- (b) invite the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to prepare a new Revised Catechism with a view to its approval by the General Synod under Canon B 2; and
 - (ii) to identify and commission other resources to help the whole Church to live out our common discipleship.’

was moved.

78 The amendment (Order Paper II) was carried.

79 The amendment (Order Paper II) was carried.

80 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.

81 The amendment (Order Paper II) was not moved.

82 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.

10 The motion (as amended by Items 78 and 79)

‘That this Synod, inspired by the glory and grace of God shown in the face of Jesus Christ and mindful that the Church of Jesus Christ is called to be a community of missionary disciples and in view of its resolution of November 2013 which highlighted the priority of evangelism and making new disciples:

- (a) commend the Ten Marks for Developing Discipleship for further study and reflection with a view to the development in each diocese of an action plan for implementation at diocesan, deanery and parochial level; and
- (b) invite the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to prepare a new Revised Catechism with a view to its approval by the General Synod under Canon B 2; and
 - (ii) to identify and commission other resources to help the whole Church to live out our common discipleship.’

was carried.

RESOURCING THE FUTURE (GS 1978) AND RESOURCING MINISTERIAL EDUCATION (GS 1979)

11 The motion

‘That this Synod,

welcoming the objective set out in paragraph 4 of GS 1978 of investment focused on dioceses’ strategic plans for growth, and with a strong bias to the poor; and

the vision set out in paragraph 8 of GS 1979,

invite the Archbishops’ Council and the House of Bishops to reach early decisions on the specific recommendations in the two reports once the current consultation period with dioceses, theological training institutions and others is concluded.’

was moved.

83 The amendment (Order Paper II) was not moved.

- 84 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.
- 85 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.
- 86 The amendment (Order Paper II) was carried.
- 11 The motion (as amended by Item 86)

‘That this Synod,

welcoming the objective set out in paragraph 4 of GS 1978 of investment focused on dioceses’ strategic plans for growth, and with a strong bias to the poor; and

the vision set out in paragraph 8 of GS 1979,

invite the Archbishops’ Council and the House of Bishops to reach early decisions on the specific recommendations in the two reports once the current consultation period with dioceses, theological training institutions and others is concluded and bring those decisions back to Synod for more detailed scrutiny before implementation.’

was carried.

SIMPLIFICATION (GS 1980)

- 12 The motion

‘That this Synod, welcoming the proposals in GS 1980 and noting the support that the Archbishops’ Council, the Church Commissioners and the House of Bishops have given them, invite the Archbishops’ Council and the Business Committee, in the light of any comments from dioceses and others, to bring the necessary amending legislation to the Synod for more detailed scrutiny.’

was moved.

- 87 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.
- 12 The motion

‘That this Synod, welcoming the proposals in GS 1980 and noting the support that the Archbishops’ Council, the Church Commissioners and the House of Bishops have given them, invite the Archbishops’ Council and the Business Committee, in the light of any comments from dioceses and others, to bring the necessary amending legislation to the Synod for more detailed scrutiny.’

was carried.

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS’ FUNDS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL EQUITY (GS 1981)

13 The motion

‘That this Synod,

welcoming GS 1981; and

noting that the funds of the Church Commissioners are a permanent endowment, held in perpetuity to support the Church of England as it seeks to proclaim the faith afresh in each generation,

support the Commissioners, in consultation with the House of Bishops and the Archbishops’ Council, giving consideration to the basis on which they might, for a limited period, release additional funds in order to support changes that will equip the Church of England more effectively for sustainable mission and ministry over the coming generations.’

was moved.

The motion

‘That the debate be now adjourned and resumed at the July group of sessions.’

was lost.

13 The motion

‘That this Synod,

welcoming GS 1981; and

noting that the funds of the Church Commissioners are a permanent endowment, held in perpetuity to support the Church of England as it seeks to proclaim the faith afresh in each generation,

support the Commissioners, in consultation with the House of Bishops and the Archbishops’ Council, giving consideration to the basis on which they might, for a limited period, release additional funds in order to support changes that will equip the Church of England more effectively for sustainable mission and ministry over the coming generations.’

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

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	28	1
Clergy	112	6
Laity	128	7

6 abstentions were recorded in the House of Clergy and 3 in the House of Laity.

EVENING WORSHIP

The Revd Canon Dr Rosemarie Mallett 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
FEBRUARY 2015 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 1 P.M.
ON THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2015

EUCHARIST

The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY presided at a celebration of Holy Communion.

SPECIAL AGENDA I
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT SAFEGUARDING AND CLERGY DISCIPLINE MEASURE (GS 1952A)

Draft Measure for Revision (First Consideration July 2014)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1952-3Y)

503 The motion

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

was carried.

With the permission of the Chair certain items were taken *en bloc* under Standing Order 55(c).

Clauses 1-6

507 The motion

‘That clauses 1-6 stand part of the Measure.’

was carried.

Clause 7

508 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried.

509 The motion

‘That clause 7 as amended stand part of the Measure.’

was carried.

Clauses 8-12

510 The motion

‘That clauses 8-12 stand part of the Measure.’

was carried.

Long Title

511 The motion

‘That the Long Title stand part of the Measure.’

was carried.

The Chair reported that the draft Measure stood committed to the Steering Committee in respect of its final drafting.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 34 (GS 1953A)

Draft Amending Canon for Revision (First Consideration July 2014)

With the permission of the Chair certain items were taken *en bloc* under Standing Order 55(c).

Paragraphs 1-3

512 The motion

‘That paragraphs 1-3 stand part of the Amending Canon.’

was carried.

Paragraph 4

513 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried.

514 The motion

‘That paragraph 4 as amended stand part of the Amending Canon.’

was carried.

Paragraph 5

515 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried.

516 The motion

‘That paragraph 5 as amended stand part of the Amending Canon.’

was carried.

Paragraph 6

517 The motion

‘That paragraph 6 stand part of the Amending Canon.’

was carried.

The Chair reported that the draft Amending Canon stood committed to the Steering Committee in respect of its final drafting.

FIFTIETH REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 1984)

14 The motion

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

was carried.

Under Standing Order 39(b) certain items were taken *en bloc*.

19-77 The motions (First Notice Paper) were carried.

**SPECIAL AGENDA III
PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

CANON B 38 (GS 1972A and GS 1972B)

15 The motion

‘That this Synod call on the Business Committee to introduce legislation to amend Canon B 38 so as to allow those who have taken their own life, whatever the circumstances, to be buried in accordance with the rites of the Church of England.’

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

IN FAVOUR	262
AGAINST	5

6 abstentions were recorded.

The Chair adjourned the sitting at 1 p.m.

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY 2015 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 5.10 P.M.
ON THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2015

SPECIAL AGENDA II
LITURGICAL BUSINESS

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION: ADDITIONAL TEXTS IN ACCESSIBLE
LANGUAGE (GS 1958A)**

(Article 7 Business)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 1958Y)

600 The motion

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

was carried.

601 The motion for recommittal (Order Paper III) lapsed.

602 The motion for recommittal (Order Paper III) lapsed.

The Chair reported that the additional texts stood committed to the House of Bishops under Standing Order 77(f).

**MISSION AND GROWTH IN RURAL MULTI-PARISH BENEFICES:
REPORT FROM THE MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL
(GS 1985)**

16 The motion

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

was carried.

FAREWELLS

- 17 The Secretary General paid tribute to the Revd Judith Egar who had served as one of the Synod's Registrars for 16 years, and was attending her last meeting of the Synod.

The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY paid tribute to the Rt Revd Tim Stevens (Bishop of Leicester), who was attending his last meeting of the Synod.

PROROGATION

- 18 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY prorogued the Synod at 5.10 p.m.