

GENERAL SYNOD
NOVEMBER 2014 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 7.15 P.M.
ON MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2014

WORSHIP

Dr Philip Giddings led the Synod in an act of worship.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

1 The following introductions were made:

New members

The Rt Revd Robert Innes, the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe (who had replaced the Rt Revd Geoffrey Rowell)

The Rt Revd Richard Frith, the Bishop of Hereford (who had replaced the Rt Revd Anthony Priddis)

The Rt Revd Paul Bayes, the Bishop of Liverpool (who had replaced the Rt Revd James Jones)

The Ven. Sarah Bullock, the Archdeacon of York (who had replaced the Revd Jeremy Fletcher)

Mr Paul Tapp (Exeter) (who had replaced Mrs Judith Ayers)

Mr Martin Sewell (Rochester) (who had replaced Mr Jim Cheeseman)

Air Vice-Marshal Malcolm Brecht (Armed Forces Synod) (who had replaced Colonel Peter McAllister)

The Ven. Michael Kavanagh, Chaplain-General of Prisons (*ex officio*) (who had replaced the Ven. William Noblett).

The Synod also thanked the following outgoing Church of England Youth Council Representatives:

Mr Samuel Magorrian

Miss Charlotte Cook

Miss Heather Pritchard.

PROGRESS OF MEASURES AND STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY reported that:

the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 had been laid before Parliament and would come into force on 30 November 2014;

the Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2014 had been laid before Parliament and would come into force on 1 January 2015;

the Payments to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 2014 had been laid before Parliament and would come into force on 1 April 2015;

the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2014 had been laid before Parliament. Paragraphs 16 to 20 of the Resolution would 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 yet in force would come into force on 1 January 2015;

the Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure 2014 had been laid before Parliament and received the Royal Assent. Section 1(1) and (so far as not already in force) section 4 of the Measure had come into force on 14 November. It was intended that the remaining provisions of the Measure would be brought into force from the date of the making, promulgating and executing of Amending Canon No. 33.

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 1967)

3 The motion

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

was carried.

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

AMENDING CANON No. 33 (GS 1926D)

(Article 7 and 8 Business)

Canon for Enactment (Final Approval July 2014)

500 The motion

‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 33” be made, promulgated and executed.’

was carried.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

4 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY gave a Presidential Address.

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT CARE OF CHURCHES AND ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION (AMENDMENT) MEASURE (GS 1919B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval (Revision July 2014)

Report of the Steering Committee (GS 1919Z)

501 The motion

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

was carried.

509 The special amendment (Order Paper I) was carried.

510 The special amendment (Order Paper I) was carried.

502 The motion

‘That the Measure entitled “Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction (Amendment) Measure” be finally approved.’

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

	AYES	NOES
Bishops	17	0
Clergy	102	0
Laity	101	0

One abstention was recorded in the House of Clergy.

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

SPECIAL AGENDA I LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT CHURCH OF ENGLAND (ECCLESIASTICAL PROPERTY) MEASURE (GS 1921B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval (Revision July 2014)

Report of the Steering Committee (GS 1921Z)

503 The motion

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

was carried.

504 The motion

‘That the Measure entitled “Ecclesiastical Property Measure” be finally approved.’

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

	AYES	NOES
Bishops	20	0

Clergy	75	0
Laity	90	0

One abstention was 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 AMENDING CANON No. 35 (GS 1964A)

(Article 7 Business)

Draft Amending Canon for Revision (First Consideration July 2014)

Paragraph 1

511 The motion

‘That paragraph 1 stand part of the Canon.’

was carried.

The Chair reported that the Canon automatically stood committed to the House of Bishops under Article 7 of the General Synod’s Constitution.

**SPECIAL AGENDA I
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

**DRAFT SCHEME AMENDING THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE
CONSTITUTION 1995 (GS 1968)**

Draft scheme for approval

508 The motion

‘That the draft scheme amending the Diocese in Europe Constitution 1995 be approved.’

was carried.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF THE CLERGY (GS 1970)

5 The motion

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

was carried.

WORSHIP

Canon Anne Foreman led the Synod in an act of worship.

QUESTIONS

6 Questions 1 to 46, as set out in the Questions Notice Paper, were answered.

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

GENERAL SYNOD
NOVEMBER 2014 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 1 P.M.
ON TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2014

VIOLENCE AGAINST RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

7 The Bishop of Coventry led a presentation under Standing Order 97.

SPECIAL AGENDA I
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT DIOCESAN STIPENDS FUNDS (AMENDMENT) MEASURE
(GS 1969)

Draft Measure for First Consideration

507 The motion

‘That the Measure entitled “Diocesan Stipends Funds (Amendment) Measure” be considered for revision in committee.’

was carried.

The Chair reported that the draft Measure now stood automatically committed to a Revision Committee and that notice of amendments should be submitted to the Clerk to the Synod not later than 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 23rd December 2014.

SPECIAL AGENDA I
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT NAMING OF DIOCESES MEASURE (GS 1935A)

Draft Measure for Revision (First Consideration February 2014)

Report of the Revision Committee (GS 1935Y)

505 The motion

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

was carried after a division of the Whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR	105
AGAINST	94

Ten abstentions were recorded.

The Chair adjourned the sitting at 1 p.m.

GENERAL SYNOD

NOVEMBER 2014 GROUP OF SESSIONS

BUSINESS DONE AT 4.55 P.M.

ON TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2014

THE ANGLICAN-METHODIST COVENANT: REPORT FROM THE COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Revd Kenneth Howcroft, President of the Methodist Conference, sitting in the public gallery, was welcomed by the Synod.

8 Dr Peter Howdle (Methodist Co-Chair, Joint Implementation Commission on the Anglican-Methodist Covenant) led a presentation under Standing Order 97.

9 The motion

‘That this Synod:

- (a) thank the Joint Implementation Commission on the Anglican-Methodist Covenant for its work in its second phase;
- (b) endorse the three recommendations made in its Final Report (appended to GS 1971);
- (c) invite the Appointments Committee to appoint the Church of England co-chair and two Church of England members of the proposed Joint Covenant Advocacy Group; and
- (d) request the Council for Christian Unity and the Faith and Order Commission to work with the Faith and Order Committee of the Methodist Church to undertake the work set out in Recommendation 1 of the Final Report.’

was carried.

SPECIAL AGENDA IV

DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

SPARE ROOM SUBSIDY (GS 1965A and GS 1965B)

10 The motion

‘That this Synod, noting the rise in the number and seriousness of reported concerns about the impact of the Spare Room Subsidy (the ‘Bedroom Tax’) on the vulnerable and others, call on the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

- (a) to evaluate the findings of research into the effect of removing the Spare Room Subsidy across the country; and
- (b) to promote with Her Majesty’s Government and partners from the social and housing sector ways of ensuring access to suitable local housing for all, especially for those who are vulnerable without increasing levels of debt.’

was moved.

13 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.

10 The motion

‘That this Synod, noting the rise in the number and seriousness of reported concerns about the impact of the Spare Room Subsidy (the ‘Bedroom Tax’) on the vulnerable and others, call on the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

- (a) to evaluate the findings of research into the effect of removing the Spare Room Subsidy across the country; and
- (b) to promote with Her Majesty’s Government and partners from the social and housing sector ways of ensuring access to suitable local housing for all, especially for those who are vulnerable without increasing levels of debt.’

was carried after a division of the Whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR	249
AGAINST	0

Three abstentions were recorded.

FAREWELLS

- 11 The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK paid tribute to the Rt Revd Martin Wharton (Bishop of Newcastle) who was attending his last meeting of the Synod.

PROROGATION

- 12 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY prorogued the Synod at 4.55 p.m.