

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2017
AT CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Monday 13 February	3.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 14 February	10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 15 February	9.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. <i>Group Work 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.</i> 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Thursday 16 February	9.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

SERVICES

Monday 13 February	
3.00 p.m.	Opening Worship in the Assembly Hall
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall
Tuesday 14 February	
9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in Assembly Hall
Wednesday 15 February	
9.15 a.m.	Morning Worship in the Assembly Hall
1.05 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Chapel
7.00 p.m.	Evening Worship in the Assembly Hall
Thursday 16 February	
9.15 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

1. 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:

NEW BUSINESS

2. The period of notice of new business **has expired**, save for urgent or other specially important business included by the direction of the Presidents.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS ARISING OUT OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

3. Notice of motions and amendments arising out of business on the Agenda (other than amendments to legislative business) must be delivered to the Clerk to the Synod as follows (SOs 10-12 and 27):

Business appointed for the first day of the group of sessions (Monday 13 February):

5.30 p.m. on Friday 10 February

Business appointed for the remaining days of the group of sessions:

Business appointed for a *morning* sitting:

10.00 a.m. the day before

Business appointed for an *afternoon* sitting:

4.00 p.m. the day before

Contingency business:

10.00 a.m. on Monday 13 February

4. Under Standing Orders 10 and 27, such notice must be accompanied by evidence of support from two or more members of the Synod in addition to the member giving the notice.
5. Notice of amendments to legislative business must be given in accordance with the notes accompanying the relevant item in the Agenda.
6. An amendment of which due notice has not been given may only be moved by permission of the Chair (SO 26(4)(a)).

QUESTIONS

7. Notice of Questions under Standing Orders 112-113 must be delivered **not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 1 February 2017**

NOTICE

8. Notice must be in writing signed by the member giving notice and delivered to the Clerk to the Synod either by hand or by 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 email addresses are:

in respect of questions:

questions@churchofengland.org

in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda:

amendments@churchofengland.org

in respect of submissions to Revision Committees:

revisioncommittee@churchofengland.org

ORDER OF BUSINESS

9. Business set out in the Agenda will be taken on the day and at the times shown. If business set down for a particular day is completed before the next timed business is due to be called, the opportunity will be taken to complete any business already partly considered at this group of sessions.

CONTINGENCY BUSINESS

10. If there is no uncompleted business and a gap appears in the Agenda during this group of sessions, contingency business will be taken as follows:

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

MISSION AND ADMINISTRATION (GS 2057A AND GS 2057B)

Mr Gavin Oldham (Oxford) to move:

'That this Synod, considering the ratio of time and money spent in administration to that spent in mission to be too high throughout the Church of England, and noting the very effective facilities provided for parish statistics collection and clergy payroll:

- (a) confirm that the principle of subsidiarity should not be applied to purely administrative functions; and
- (b) request the Archbishops' Council to consult with the Church Commissioners and dioceses, with the objective of establishing centralised administrative facilities so that other functions which can be handled more efficiently thereby are transferred accordingly.'

11. The deadline for amendments to this item of business is **10.00 a.m. on Monday 13 February** (SO 27(5)).

CONTACT

12. Please address queries or other matters not covered in these notes to the Clerk to the Synod as follows:

jacqui.philips@churchofengland.org

MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2017

3.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

WORSHIP

1 WELCOME

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2043)

The Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

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

REVISED DATES OF GROUPS OF SESSIONS IN 2018

The Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

3 'That this Synod meet on the following dates in 2018:

Monday-Saturday 5-10 February

Friday-Tuesday 6-10 July

Monday-Wednesday 19-21 November (contingency dates)'

Note: *The dates for the group of sessions to be held in February 2018 are in substitution for those previously determined by the Synod at the February 2014 group of sessions. This is so that sittings can take place on Saturday 10 February in accordance with the proposal of the Business Committee to hold London sittings to include a Saturday on a trial basis. The remaining dates for 2018 are unchanged.*

DATES OF GROUPS OF SESSIONS IN 2019-2020

The Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

4 'That this Synod meet on the following dates in 2019-2020:

2019 Monday-Saturday 18-23 February

Friday-Tuesday 5-9 July

Monday-Wednesday 25-27 November (contingency dates)

2020 Monday-Saturday 10-16 February

Friday-Tuesday 10-14 July

Monday-Wednesday 23-25 November (Inauguration)

ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION (GS 2044)

The Bishop of Coventry to move:

- 5** 'That this Synod, in the context of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the European Reformation and the Church of England's understanding of the doctrine of justification as expressed in our historic formularies:
- (a) welcome signs of convergence between the churches on the doctrine of salvation, noting Resolution 16.17 of the Anglican Consultative Council in 2016 regarding the *Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification* and its relation to the Helsinki Report and ARCIC II's *Salvation and the Church*; and
 - (b) commend initiatives in this anniversary year to foster mutual understanding and reconciliation between churches, for the sake of our deeper renewal in the grace of God and our ability to share the gospel of salvation with all the world.'

Not later than 5.00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 6** *The Archbishop of Canterbury will give a Presidential Address.*
Presentation under SO 107.

Note: *The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should not include an opportunity for questions*

7 QUESTIONS

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2017

A service of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Assembly Hall at 9.15 a.m.

10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

8 FAREWELL TO THE FIRST CHURCH ESTATES COMMISSIONER

SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

PRELIMINARIES TO MARRIAGE (GS 2045A and GS 2045B)

The Revd Stephen Trott (Peterborough) to move:

- 9** 'That this Synod, noting the Registration of Marriages Regulations 2015 and the growing burden and complexity of the legal requirements imposed on members of the clergy who conduct weddings in the Church of England, invite the Archbishops' Council to bring forward draft legislation to replace ecclesiastical preliminaries to marriage by universal civil preliminaries, such as those which have been in operation in Scotland since 1977, when banns were replaced by a Marriage Schedule issued by the civil registrar.'
-

Not later than 12 noon

SPECIAL AGENDA I: LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see pages 9-13) will be taken:

- 500-501** Draft Mission and Pastoral etc. (Amendment) Measure (**GS 2014B**)
- *Draft Measure for Final Drafting/Final Approval*
- 502-503** Draft Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure (**GS 2031A**)
- *Draft Measure for Final Drafting/Final Approval*
- 504** Draft Legislative Reform Measure (**GS 2027A**)
- *Draft Measure for Revision*
- Draft Statute Law (Repeals) Measure (**GS 2030**)
- *Draft Measure for Revision*

Tuesday 14 February

- 505** Draft Pensions (Pre-consolidation) Measure (**GS 2032A**)
- *Draft Measure for Revision*
- 506** Draft Church Representation, Ecumenical Relations and Ministers Measure (**GS 2046**)
- *Draft Measure for First Consideration*
- 507** Draft Amending Canon No. 38 (**GS 2047**)
- *Draft Amending Canon for First Consideration*
- 508** The Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 (**GS 2048**)
- *Draft Regulations for approval*
- 509** The Church of England Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 2017 (**GS 2049**)
- *Regulations for approval*
- 510** The Safeguarding (Clergy Risk Assessment) Regulations 2016 (**GS 2050**)
- *Regulations for approval*
- If a debate is required on the Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2016 (**GS 2051**) it will be taken at this point.
- 511** Draft Amending Canon No. 36 (**GS 2029A**)
Draft Amending Canon No. 37 (**GS 2029AA**)
- *Draft Amending Canons for Revision*

2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Items of legislative business included in the Agenda for the morning sitting on 14 February (see above) will be taken at this point if not completed or not reached previously.

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2017

9.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

WORSHIP

CREATION OF SUFFRAGAN SEE FOR THE DIOCESE OF LEICESTER (GS 2052)

Proposal under section 18 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007

The Bishop of Leicester to move:

- 10 'That this Synod approve the proposal to petition Her Majesty in Council to direct under the Suffragan Nominations Act 1888 that the town of Loughborough be taken and accepted for a see of a suffragan bishop as if it had been included in the Suffragan Bishops Act 1534.'
-

APPOINTMENT TO THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2053)

The Archbishop of York to move:

- 11 *Details of the motion to be moved under this item will be given in a Notice Paper.*
-

SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

FIXED ODDS BETTING TERMINALS: REDUCTION OF MAXIMUM STAKE (GS 2054A and GS 2054B)

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to move on behalf of the London Diocesan Synod:

- 12 'That this Synod, mindful of
- (a) the destructive impact which accessible, high-stake machine gambling can have on families and whole communities and
 - (b) the widespread public concern about the very large amounts being wagered at fixed odds betting terminals located in high street betting shops,

call on Her Majesty's Government as a matter of urgency to bring forward proposals for the amendment of existing legislation to reduce very substantially from £100 the maximum amount which may be wagered on a single game at such terminals in order to reduce the risk of harm to large numbers of vulnerable people.'

Wednesday 15 February

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Items of legislative business included in the Agenda for the morning sitting on 14 February (see above) will be taken at this point if not completed or not reached previously.

Not later than 12.00 noon

13 MARRIAGE AND SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS AFTER THE SHARED CONVERSATIONS: INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE BISHOPS' REFLECTION GROUP ON SEXUALITY

Presentation under SO 107.

Note: The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should not include an opportunity for questions

2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Group Work

5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

MARRIAGE AND SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS AFTER THE SHARED CONVERSATIONS: A REPORT FROM THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS (GS 2055)

The Bishop of Norwich to move:

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

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2017

9.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

WORSHIP

15 FAREWELL TO THE BISHOP OF LONDON

16 ADDRESS FROM THE MOST REVD DR JOSIAH ATKINS IDOWU- FEARON, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

Presentation under SO 107.

Note: The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should not include an opportunity for questions.

SETTING GOD'S PEOPLE FREE: REPORT FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2056)

Canon Mark Russell (Sheffield) to move on behalf of the Archbishops' Council:

17 'That this Synod:

- (a) welcome the report from the Archbishops' Council, *Setting God's People Free* (GS 2056); and
 - (b) call on the Archbishops' Council to develop the implementation plan referred to in section 5 of the report and to work closely with the House of Bishops and the dioceses in taking it forward.'
-

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Items of legislative business included in the Agenda for the morning sitting on 14 February (see above) will be taken at this point if not completed or not reached previously.

Thursday 16 February

2.30 p.m to 5.00 pm

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Items of legislative business included in the Agenda for the morning sitting on 14 February (see above) will be taken at this point if not completed or not reached previously.

Not later than 5.00 p.m.

18 PROROGATION

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT MISSION AND PASTORAL ETC. (AMENDMENT) MEASURE (GS 2014B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

(Revised at the July 2016 group of sessions)

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2014Z)

The Bishop of Willesden (Chair of the Steering Committee) to move:

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

Note: *If item 500 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 61(8)).*

501 'That the Measure entitled "Mission and Pastoral etc. (Amendment) Measure" be finally approved.'

DRAFT ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION AND CARE OF CHURCHES MEASURE (GS 2031A)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

(First Consideration at the July 2016 group of sessions)

Consolidation Measure

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2031Y)

The Rt Worshipful Timothy Briden (*ex officio*) (Chair of the Steering Committee) to move:

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

Note: *If item 502 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 61(8)).*

The Rt Worshipful Timothy Briden (*ex officio*) (Chair of the Steering Committee) to move:

503 'That the Measure entitled "Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure" be finally approved.'

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE REFORM MEASURE (GS 2027A)

Draft Measure for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2016 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 2027Y)

The Rt Worshipful Charles George QC (*ex officio*) (Chair of the Revision Committee) to move:

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

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Notes:

1. *In the debate on item 504 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 57(6)).*
2. *When the debate is concluded on item 504, the Synod will proceed to consider the draft Measure clause by clause, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 58(1) and (2)).*
3. *Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 59(1) to the draft Measure must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 8th February 2017.***

DRAFT STATUTE LAW (REPEALS) MEASURE (GS 2030)

Draft Measure for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2016 group of sessions)

Notes:

1. *No proposals for amendment were received and there are no other matters for the Revision Committee to report.*
2. *The Synod will consider the draft Measure clause by clause.*

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

Draft Measure for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2016 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 2032Y)

The Rt Worshipful Charles George QC (ex officio) (Chair of the Revision Committee) 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 57(6)).*
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 58(1) and (2)).*
3. *Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 59(1) to the draft Measure must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 8th February 2017.***

**DRAFT CHURCH REPRESENTATION, ECUMENICAL RELATIONS AND
MINISTERS MEASURE (GS 2046)**

Draft Measure for First Consideration

A member of the Steering Committee to move:

- 506** ‘That the Measure entitled “Church Representation, Ecumenical Relations and Ministers Measure” be considered for revision in committee.’

Note:

*If item 506 is carried, any member who wishes to submit proposals for amendment to the revision committee must send them in writing to the Clerk to the Synod so as to reach her **not later than Monday 20th March 2017** (SO 55).*

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 38 (GS 2047)

Draft Amending Canon for First Consideration

A member of the Steering Committee to move:

- 507** ‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 38” be considered for revision in committee.’

Note:

*If item 507 is carried, any member who wishes to submit proposals for amendment to the revision committee must send them in writing to the Clerk to the Synod so as to reach her **not later than Monday 20th March 2017** (SO 55).*

**THE ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICES (TERMS OF SERVICE) (AMENDMENT)
REGULATIONS 2017 (GS 2048)**

Draft Regulations under section 2 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009

A member of the Archbishops’ Council to move:

- 508** ‘That the draft Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 be approved.’

Notes:

- 1. The Archbishops’ Council has laid the draft Regulations (GS 2048) before the General Synod under section 2 of the 2009 Measure.*
- 2. The Business Committee has determined that the draft Regulations are to be considered under the One Motion Procedure (SO 72).*
- 3. Amendments to the draft Regulations are permissible. Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 10th February 2017.***

**THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS
2017 (GS 2049)**

**Regulations under section 6 of the Clergy Pensions (Amendment)
Measure 1972**

Dr Jonathan Spencer (ex officio) (Chair of the Church of England Pensions Board) to move:

- 509** 'That the Church of England Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 2017 be approved.'

Notes:

1. *The Church of England Pensions Board has prepared the Regulations (GS 2049) and has laid them before the General Synod under sections 6(4) of the 1972 Measure.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined that the Regulations are to be considered under the One Motion Procedure (SO 72).*
3. *Amendments to the Regulations are permissible. Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment must do so in accordance with SO 13 not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 10th February 2017.*

**THE SAFEGUARDING (CLERGY RISK ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS
2016 (GS 2050)**

Regulations under Canon C 30

The Bishop of Bath and Wells to move:

- 510** 'That the Safeguarding (Clergy Risk Assessment) Regulations 2016 be approved.'

Notes:

1. *The House of Bishops has made the Regulations (GS 2050) and has laid them before the General Synod under paragraph 3(3) of Canon C 30.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined that the Regulations are to be considered under the One Motion Procedure (SO 72).*
3. *Amendments to the Regulations are not permissible.*

THE LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2016 (GS 2051)

Order made under the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986

Notes:

1. *The Fees Advisory Commission has laid the Order (GS 2051) before the General Synod for approval under section 5 of the 1986 Measure.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by the 1986 Measure) that the Order does not need to be debated.*
3. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the Order must give notice in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 13th February 2017.***
4. *Amendments to the Order are not permissible.*

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 36 (GS 2029A)

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 37 (GS 2029AA)

Article 7 business (both Canons)

Draft Amending Canons for Revision

(First Consideration at the July 2016 group of sessions)

Report by the Revision Committee (GS 2029Y)

The Ven. Gavin Kirk (Lincoln) (Chair of the Revision Committee) to move:

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

Notes:

1. *In the debate on item 511 it will not be in order to debate any matter which is the subject of an amendment to either of the draft Amending Canons which appears on a Notice Paper for this group of sessions (SO 57(6)).*
2. *When the debate is concluded on item 511, the Synod will proceed to consider each of the draft Amending Canons paragraph by paragraph, first considering any amendments of which due notice has been given (SO 58(1) and (2)).*
3. *Any member who wishes to give notice of an amendment under SO 59(1) to either draft Amending Canon must do so in accordance with SO 13 **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 8th February 2017.***

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 12 May 2016.

PRELIMINARIES TO MARRIAGE

The Revd Stephen Trott (Peterborough) to move:

'That this Synod, noting the Registration of Marriages Regulations 2015 and the growing burden and complexity of the legal requirements imposed on members of the clergy who conduct weddings in the Church of England, invite the Archbishops' Council to bring forward draft legislation to replace ecclesiastical preliminaries to marriage by universal civil preliminaries, such as those which have been in operation in Scotland since 1977, when banns were replaced by a Marriage Schedule issued by the civil registrar.'

130 signatures

November 2015

MISSION AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr Gavin Oldham (Oxford) to move:

'That this Synod, considering the ratio of time and money spent in administration to that spent in mission to be too high throughout the Church of England, and noting the very effective facilities provided for parish statistics collection and clergy payroll:

(a) confirm that the principle of subsidiarity should not be applied to purely administrative functions; and

(b) request the Archbishops' Council to consult with the Church Commissioners and dioceses, with the objective of establishing centralised administrative facilities so that other functions which can be handled more efficiently thereby are transferred accordingly.'

115 signatures

November 2015

FIXED ODDS BETTING TERMINALS: REDUCTION OF MAXIMUM STAKE

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to move:

'That this Synod, mindful of (a) the destructive impact which accessible, high-stake machine gambling can have on families and whole communities and (b) the widespread public concern about the very large amounts being wagered at fixed odds betting terminals local in high street betting shops, call on Her Majesty's Government as a matter of urgency to reduce very substantially from £100 the maximum amount which may be wagered on a single game at such terminals in order to reduce the real risk of harm to large numbers of vulnerable people.'

99 signatures

February 2016

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

CANON C 4

The Revd Prebendary Simon Cawdell (Hereford) to move:

'That this Synod request the Business Committee to bring forward legislation to amend Canon C 4 so as to repeal paragraphs 3 and 3A relating to those who have previously been remarried following divorce, or who have married spouses whose previous marriage has ended by divorce, and whose former spouse is still living, mindful that paragraph 1 already places upon bishops the obligation to ensure those who are presented for ordination are "of virtuous conversation and good repute and such as to be a wholesome example and pattern to the flock of Christ".'

41 signatures

February 2016

OPEN PROCESS AND JUSTICE IN INVESTIGATIONS

Mr Martin Sewell (Rochester) to move:

That this Synod regret that it can have no confidence in the investigation conducted on behalf of the Church of England into the allegations against the late Bishop Bell, by reason of its lack of transparency and accountability, and affirm that:

- (a) openness of process is the cornerstone of confidence in all such investigations;
- (b) a Church of Justice must hold rigorously to the principle of equal fairness to accuser and accused alike; and
- (c) there is no dissonance in logic or in law between:
 - (i) the preservation of individual accuser anonymity; and
 - (ii) the public interest in ensuring fair procedures and a transparent system of justice which clearly explains its processes, discloses the substance of the evidence, and the reasons for its conclusions.

40 signatures

July 2016

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

NB: Chelmsford, Oxford and St Albans Diocesan Synods have now withdrawn their DSM on the Anglican Communion

... to move on behalf of the Bath & Wells Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England’s involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);
 - (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
 - (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. ’

March 2012

[The Lincoln, London, Manchester, Newcastle, and Worcester Diocesan Synods passed a motion in identical terms.]

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Southwark Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason, all as set out in Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the draft Anglican Communion Covenant;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

- (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);
- (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
- (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference.'

March 2012

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

... to move on behalf of the Guildford Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

- (a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;
- (b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and
- (c) call on the House of Bishops:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks;
 - (ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and
 - (iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. '

April 2012

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

FOSSIL FUELS DISINVESTMENT

...to move on behalf of the Oxford Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

- (a) urge the national investing bodies to disinvest from all coal companies (except those investing in carbon capture) and tar sand companies at the earliest opportunity;
- (b) urge the national investing bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from oil companies but not before three years from now;
- (c) urge the national investing bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from natural gas companies but not before five years from now; and
- (d) call on parishes and individual Christians to take steps to encourage Her Majesty's Government and political parties to act quickly on climate change.'

December 2014

WELCOMING TRANSGENDER PEOPLE

...to move on behalf of the Blackburn Diocesan Synod:

'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.'

April 2015

FIXED ODDS BETTING TERMINALS: REDUCTION OF MAXIMUM STAKE

...to move on behalf of the London Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod, mindful of

(a) the destructive impact which accessible, high-stake machine gambling can have on families and whole communities and

(b) the widespread public concern about the very large amounts being wagered at fixed odds betting terminals located in high street betting shops,

call on Her Majesty's Government as a matter of urgency to bring forward proposals for the amendment of existing legislation to reduce very substantially from £100 the maximum amount which may be wagered on a single game at such terminals in order to reduce the risk of harm to large numbers of vulnerable people.'

April 2016

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

REVIEW OF THE ROLE OF THE CROWN NOMINATIONS COMMISSION

...to move on behalf of the Oxford Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod invite the Archbishops to initiate a review into the role of the Crown Nominations Commission, including consideration of alternative methods of appointment for diocesan bishops.'

April 2016

COST OF APPLYING FOR CITIZENSHIP

... to move on behalf of the Birmingham Diocesan Synod:

'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.'

May 2016

THE ENVIRONMENT

...to move on behalf of the London Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

(a) recognise the escalating threat to God's creation from global warming and climate change, and the suffering caused, particularly that caused to the poor;

(b) recall the previous resolution of Synod, including 'to develop Shrinking the Footprint to enable the whole Church to address the issue of climate change';

(c) call on the Environmental Working Group, supported by the national Shrinking the Footprint team and the Mission & Public Affairs Division:

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

- (i) to compile and submit a progress report to Synod upon action so far at national level;
 - (ii) to prepare and submit a framework plan to the Archbishops' Council for the promotion, co-ordination and rapid acceleration of nationwide action by the Church to reduce its energy use and CO2 emissions;
 - (iii) to establish and sustain a national system, operational by 2018, for annual reporting by parishes and dioceses of the energy consumption of cathedrals, churches and church halls as a minimum; for calculation from data thus reported of the annual total of CO2 emissions; and for monitoring progress towards the Shrinking the Footprint targets for savings of 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050; and
- (d) call on the Archbishops' Council, urgently to assess and furnish such human and financial resources as may be proper and necessary to enable the aforesaid work by the Shrinking the Footprint team and Mission & Public Affairs Division."

August 2016

DIOCESAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME

... to move on behalf of the Truro Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

- (a) call on every diocese to have an environmental programme with a designated member of the bishop's staff team to lead and advocate for the programme; and
- (b) ask the Environment Working Group to establish a peer review scheme between individual dioceses as a means of sharing good practice in the areas of:
 - (i) environmental policy, with special reference to investments, property and land use; and
 - (ii) activities supporting the Shrinking the Footprint and Eco Church initiatives'.

August 2016

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

FOOD WASTAGE

... to move on behalf of the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod:

mindful of the problems of food poverty in Britain today and the excessive tonnage of edible food wasted by retail outlets –

(a) affirm the Biblical principle of ensuring that the poor and vulnerable are not excluded from the harvest;

(b) commend those retailers who are working creatively with food banks to distribute food that might otherwise be wasted;

(c) urge all dioceses and parishes to work with other voluntary initiatives to lobby for all local food retailers to review their policy on waste food so that the amount made available to combat food poverty is maximized;

(d) request Her Majesty's Government to consider bringing forward legislation that would effectively minimize food waste by food retailers; and

(e) call upon all church members to use food resources responsibly and minimize waste in their own homes.'

November 2016