

GENERAL SYNOD

FEBRUARY 2014 GROUP OF SESSIONS

BUSINESS DONE AT 1.05 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2014

WORSHIP

The Revd Canon Celia Thomson led the Synod in an act of worship.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

11 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY gave a Presidential Address.

**SAFEGUARDING: PROPOSALS FOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGE
IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT OF THE ARCHBISHOP'S
CHICHESTER VISITATION (GS 1941)**

12 The motion

‘That this Synod request that draft legislation be brought forward to give effect to the proposals for legislative change set out in GS 1941.’

was carried.

**SPECIAL AGENDA I
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS
THE CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (AMENDMENT)
RESOLUTION 2014 (GS 1940)**

**Resolution made under Section 7 of the Synodical Government
Measure 1969**

(Resumed Debate)

525 An amendment (Order Paper IV) by the Revd Canon Robert Cotton (Guildford), moved with the permission of the Chair under Standing Order 26(b), was carried.

521 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried.

522 The amendment (Order Paper III) was carried.

523 The amendment (Order Paper III) was lost.

524 The amendment (Order Paper III) lapsed.

505B The motion

‘That the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2014 be approved’

was moved.

ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE

The motion

‘That the debate be now adjourned and resumed at the July 2014 group of sessions’

was carried, and the Chair called the next item of business on the agenda.

DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTION ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (GS 1942A and GS 1942B)

13 The motion

‘That this Synod:

(a) recognising the damage being done to the planet through the burning of fossil fuels;

(b) aware of the huge reserves held by gas, oil and coal extraction industries;

- (c) committing itself to taking seriously our Christian responsibility to care for the planet (“the earth is the Lord’s”);
- (d) acknowledging the financial responsibilities of the Church’s national investing bodies; and
- (e) noting that a review of recommended ethical investment policy with regard to climate change has been begun by the Church of England Ethical Investment Advisory Group (‘EIAG’)
 - (i) call upon the national investing bodies to ensure that their investment policy (including the option of disinvestment) is aligned with the theological, moral and social priorities of the Church which find expression in the reports “Sharing God’s Planet” and “Church and Earth 2009-2016” and in the “Shrinking the Footprint” campaign;
 - (ii) call upon the EIAG to publish the report of its review by the end of 2014; and
 - (iii) agree to the establishment of a General Synod Working Group on the Environment, to monitor this and other environmental issues.’

was moved.

- 22 The amendment (Order Paper IV) was lost.
- 23 The amendment (Order Paper IV) was lost.
- 24 The amendment (Order Paper IV) was lost.
- 25 The amendment (Order Paper IV) was lost.
- 26 The amendment (Order Paper IV) was carried.
- 13 The motion (as amended by Item 26)

‘That this Synod:

- (a) recognising the damage being done to the planet through the burning of fossil fuels;
- (b) aware of the huge reserves held by gas, oil and coal extraction industries;
- (c) committing itself to taking seriously our Christian responsibility to care for the planet (“the earth is the Lord’s”);
- (d) acknowledging the financial responsibilities of the Church’s national investing bodies; and
- (e) noting that a review of recommended ethical investment policy with regard to climate change has been begun by the Church of England Ethical Investment Advisory Group (‘EIAG’)
 - (i) call upon the national investing bodies to ensure that their investment policy (including the option of disinvestment) is aligned with the theological, moral and social priorities of the Church which find expression in the reports “Sharing God’s Planet” and “Church and Earth 2009-2016” and in the “Shrinking the Footprint” campaign;
 - (ii) call upon the EIAG to publish the report of its review by the end of 2014; and
 - (iii) request the Archbishops’ Council to reconstitute the Shrinking the Footprint working group, so that it reports direct to the Council, to monitor, facilitate co-ordination and promote the responses of all parts of the Church of England to environmental challenges.’

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

IN FAVOUR	274
AGAINST	1

There were 3 recorded abstentions.

The Chair adjourned the sitting at 1.05 p.m.