

GENERAL SYNOD

JULY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2018

FIRST NOTICE PAPER

FIFTY THIRD REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 2102)

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC (Manchester) to move in respect of item 32 ‘That this amendment be made with effect from the date of the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure which received First Consideration by the General Synod in July 2017 receiving the Royal Assent’ and to move in respect of items 33 to 41 ‘That this amendment be made with effect from 11th July 2018.’:

Standing Order 2 (Time and place of sessions)

32 In Standing Order 2, for paragraphs (5) to (7) substitute—

“(5) The Synod may, in circumstances of special urgency or importance—

- (a) alter the week or weeks which it has determined under paragraph (2) as the week or weeks during which a group of sessions is to be held;
- (b) cancel a session or group of sessions which was to be held during a week or weeks which it had determined under paragraph (2).

(6) The Presidents may, in circumstances of special urgency or importance—

- (a) alter the days, times or place which they have appointed under paragraph (3) as the days and

- times when and the place where a session or group of sessions is to be held;
- (b) summon a special session or group of sessions;
 - (c) cancel a session or group of sessions which they have summoned under sub-paragraph (b).
- (7) A power of the Synod under paragraph (5) may be exercised on its behalf by the Presidents, the Prolocutors of the Convocations and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the House of Laity acting jointly.
- (8) A power under paragraph (6) is exercisable by notice in writing posted or delivered to every member of the Synod as soon as is reasonably practicable before the date on which the session or group of sessions is proposed to begin.
- (9) If a power under paragraph (6) is exercised at a time when an ordinary group of sessions is in progress, all reasonable steps must be taken to bring the notice under paragraph (8) to the attention of members of the Synod; and for that purpose, the notice may be in the form of a notice paper.
- (10) The requirement under paragraph (1) for the Synod to hold at least two groups of sessions in each calendar year does not apply in so far as a failure to satisfy the requirement is attributable to a cancellation under paragraph (5)(b) or (6)(c).”

Standing Order 6 (Private members’ motions)

33 In Standing Order 6, after paragraph (7) insert—

“(7A) In the case of each motion, the name of each member supporting the motion is to be published on the Synod website.”

Standing Order 29 (Amendments: order of consideration)

34 In Standing Order 29, after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) Where an amendment to the main motion has been moved, the mover of the main motion may speak in reply.

(1B) If the mover of the main motion indicates that he or she supports an amendment, the debate on the amendment continues.

(1C) If the mover of the main motion indicates that he or she does not support an amendment, the Chair must declare the amendment to have lapsed unless at least 25 members indicate that they wish the debate on the amendment to continue; and where at least 25 members stand in their place or, if unable to do so, indicate by some other means that they wish the debate to continue, debate on the amendment is resumed.

(1D) Paragraphs (1A) to (1C) do not apply to an amendment which, in the opinion of the Chair, is consequential on an amendment already carried; and the Chair must inform the Synod of his or her ruling.

(1E) Paragraphs (1A) to (1C) do not apply in relation to—

- (a) a debate on a draft Measure or Canon or other draft instrument,
- (b) a debate on an amendment to these Standing Orders, or
- (c) a debate on liturgical business.”

Standing Order 30 (Special procedural motions: general)

- 35 In Standing Order 30, in paragraph (4), after “motion” insert “moved by a member other than the Chair”.

Standing Order 31 (The Closure)

- 36 In Standing Order 31, in paragraph (1)(a), after “the Chair” insert “or by the Chair acting on his or her own initiative”.

Standing Order 38 (Procedure on voting)

- 37 In Standing Order 38, for paragraphs (2) and (3) substitute—

“(2) Before a counted vote of the whole Synod takes place, a bell must be rung, if the Chair so directs, for the purpose of warning members—

(a) that a counted vote is to take place, and

(b) that, where the vote is to be conducted by physical separation of those voting, members must enter the hall if they wish to take part.

(3) Before a counted vote by Houses takes place, a bell must be rung for the purpose mentioned in paragraph (2), unless the Chair directs otherwise.”

Standing Order 55 (Revision Committee: proposals for amendment)

- 38 In Standing Order 55, in paragraph (1), after “at which it is given” insert “or such longer period as, in the opinion of the Business Committee, circumstances require”.

Standing Order 89 (Liturgical business: minor adjustments to forms of service)

39 In Standing Order 89, in paragraph (9), for “do indicate” substitute “stand in their places or, if unable to do so, indicate by some other means”.

Standing Order 90 (Liturgical business: extension or discontinuance of liturgical business already approved)

40 In Standing Order 90, in paragraph (7), for “do so indicate” substitute “stand in their places or, if unable to do so, indicate by some other means”.

Standing Order 135 (Elections: appeals)

41 In Standing Order 135, in paragraph (4), for paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute—

- “(a) in a case involving an election by the House of Bishops, by the Chair and Vice-Chair of that House,
- (b) in a case involving an election by the House of Clergy, by the Prolocutors of the Convocations,
- (c) in a case involving an election by the House of Laity, by the Chair and Vice-Chair of that House, or
- (d) in any other case, by the Chair of the House of Bishops, the Prolocutor of the Convocation who is for the time being the Chairman of the House of Clergy under the Standing Orders of that House, and the Chair of the House of Laity.”

Notes:

1. The Business Committee has determined under Standing Order 40(5) that all the proposed amendments to Standing Orders contained in items 32 to 33 and 37 to 41 of this Notice Paper do not need to be debated.

2. Under Standing Order 40(5)(c) those amendments will accordingly be deemed to have been approved by the Synod without amendment unless either:
- due notice is given by **not less than 5 members** that they wish a proposed amendment to be debated; or
 - due notice is given of an amendment to any proposed amendment