

GENERAL SYNOD

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

July 2002 Group of Sessions

Report by the Business Committee

1. Introduction and Overview of the Agenda

The agenda for the July Group of Sessions is diverse and full, with a high public profile. The following are the main areas for debate:

- The first in a series of debates on constitutional issues (on regionalisation - see para 22);
- Marriage issues (marriage law - paras 47-49 - and marriage in church after divorce - paras 52-54);
- Urban policy (urban strategy and plans for the Church Urban Fund - para 38);
- Mission (Christian witness in a plural society - para 29 - also urban policy);
- Ecumenical relations (Anglican/Methodist Covenant - paras 30-32);
- The international situation (Israel/Palestine - para 50);
- The Church's internal order (women in the episcopate - para 39 - and the Guildford Review of the Archbishops' Council's infrastructure - para 28).

Debates on related subjects (eg marriage, urban policy) have been drawn together in a way which should prove helpful. The presentation on ‘Shapes of the Church to Come’ (para 21) will lead into the study groups on the Saturday morning; it will also provide a useful setting for the Guildford Review Report and a context for the debate on the budget.

Timing of business

2. To help deal with the pressure of business at this Group of Sessions, Synod will be convening at **3.30 pm on Friday 5 July**, rather than the customary start later in the day; every effort will be made to revert to the customary later start in the future. Because of the difficulty in estimating the required time for certain business (eg legislative business), the agenda for the July Synod has a degree of flexibility. For example, on the morning of Monday 8 July, there will be a contingency provision for legislative business if this is not completed on Saturday 6 July. The next business on the Monday morning will be the Archbishops’ Council’s annual report and budget, followed by the resumed debate on the Southwark Diocesan Synod Motion on the appointment of bishops, which will, if necessary, continue in the afternoon. If, as is hoped, time allows before the next timed business at 4.30 pm that afternoon, the debate on the Southwell Diocesan Synod Motion on the vesture of ministers will then be taken, to be followed by the Private Member’s Motion (from Mr Barry Barnes) on the Abortion Act. The Committee hopes that the July Synod will begin to see a process whereby more time is allowed for dealing with

diocesan synod motions and private members' motions than has hitherto proved possible.

Making General Synod more effective

3. The Business Committee has reflected on ways in which the business of the Synod can be handled more effectively and expeditiously, and with this in mind it is submitting to this Group of Sessions a report with proposals for reforming Question Time. The Committee is also taking a keen interest in (a) improving the communication of Synod's business to the dioceses, deaneries and parishes, and (b) developing communications within Synod and making Synod business more accessible to all members, and it is pleased that these related matters are to be the subject of fringe meetings at this Group of Sessions. The Committee is always ready to consider comments from members about the business content of recent Groups of Sessions or about Synod's methods and procedures generally; such comments should be addressed to the Clerk to the Synod.

Venue and Timing

4. The July meeting of the General Synod will take place at the University of York from 3.30 pm on Friday 5 July to 12.45 pm on Tuesday 9 July.

Days and Hours of Sitting

5. The times of the Sessions are set out on the front of the Agenda (GS 1443). The notes on transport, accommodation, etc supplied to members who are

coming to York include a timetable which also shows the times of services and meals.

Ecumenical Representatives

6. Synod will have the opportunity to welcome as observers:

Bishop Nathan Hovhannisian, Primate of the Armenian Church of

Great Britain and Pontifical Legate

The Rt Revd Jurgen Johannesdotter, Bishop of the Lutheran Church of

Schaumburg-Lippe, (Evangelical Church in Germany)

The Most Revd Karl Sigurbjornsson, Bishop of Iceland, accompanied

by Mr Gudmundur Thor Gudmundsson, the Clerk to the General

Synod and General Secretary to the Church Council of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Iceland

The Rt Revd Idris Jones, Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway (Scottish

Episcopal Church)

In addition, the President-elect of the Methodist Conference (the Revd Ian White) and the Vice-President-elect of the Conference (Professor Peter Howdle) will be present for the debate on the Anglican/Methodist Covenant on Saturday 6 July.

7. Young Anglican adult observers will also be present in York as in previous years and will no doubt welcome

the opportunity, outside the formal proceedings, to meet as many Synod members as possible. The young adult observers will also be involved in the Synod worship in the Central Hall.

Synod Worship

8. There will be a clear strand of worship throughout the Synod, and the worship will reflect some of the themes of business before Synod. Holy Communion will take place daily at Heslington Parish Church, with the exception of Sunday 7 July, when the Synod will attend a service of Holy Communion in York Minster, and on Tuesday, 9 July, when Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Central Hall. Evening worship will take place daily in the Central Hall. It is also intended to follow the practice begun last July, with a short act of worship in the Central Hall, immediately before the morning sessions on Monday and Tuesday.
9. Service leaflets will be distributed to members at York. The provision of Holy Communion only, rather than Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion, at the beginning of the day on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, is intended to provide one unhurried reflective act of worship.
10. Arrangements for transport to the Minster on the Sunday will be announced in a separate notice to be circulated later. A special coach service will be provided, tickets for which will be on sale from the information desk in the concourse of the Central Hall. As there may not be enough places for everyone on the coaches, it is hoped that some members will walk or

use their car and take passengers. There is usually plenty of vacant space on Sunday mornings in the car parks near the city centre (for which a fee may be charged).

Voting Procedures

11. Members are reminded that particular voting procedures on a division apply at York. The Business Committee has decided to alternate (in successive years) the practice at York of ascending and descending the stairs in order to vote. Therefore, this year clergy and laity wishing to vote 'yes' will vote by ascending the stairs and leaving via the doors to the balcony; those wishing to vote 'no' will vote by descending and leaving the Hall through the exits to the concourse. Members who have difficulty in ascending or descending the steps in order to vote are reminded that they may remain in their seats and have their vote taken by a member of the staff who will pass it on to the registrar.

Order of Business

12. The business of the Synod each day will follow the order set out in the daily list given in the Agenda, except where it is necessary to modify this. Every effort will be made to give the Synod the longest possible notice of any variations which it is proposed to make in the timetable and to keep such changes to a minimum. Members are, however, reminded that if at any time within the Group of Sessions an unexpected gap opens in the Synod's agenda, business earlier in the agenda, which has not been reached or completed within the period allotted, can be called by the

Chairman, unless other provision has already been made for it. If there is no such outstanding business and an unexpected gap opens in the Synod's agenda, then unless the adjournment is carried, the Business Committee has decided that the next item will be the Diocesan Synod Motion standing next in the order in Special Agenda IV (on the election of churchwardens and parochial church councils, from the Diocese of Sheffield). The next item to be taken thereafter will be the Private Member's Motion, standing next in the order in Special Agenda III, on female genital mutilation, to be moved by Mr Keith Masters. Members are also reminded that the rubric 'not later than' in the Agenda does not prevent an item coming on significantly earlier than the time stated, depending on the progress of the preceding business.

Private Members' Motions

13. Notice of Private Members' Motions received is contained in Special Agenda III. Any future notices of Private Members' Motions will be published in notice papers and will be available for signature at the July Group of Sessions only if they are received not later than 5.30 pm on Friday 5 July.

Content of Business

Introductions (Friday, 5 July)

14. There will be the customary introduction of new members and the welcoming of the ecumenical representatives. The President of the Methodist

Conference (the Revd Ian White) will convey a message of greeting from the Methodist Conference.

Appointment of Chairman of the Audit Committee

15. The Synod will be invited to endorse the nomination of Mr Ian McNeil to serve as Chairman of the Audit Committee for a further term of two years, expiring on 31 July 2004.

Appointment of Secretary General

16. The appointment of a new Secretary-General to the General Synod, in succession to Mr Philip Mawer, needs to be approved by a motion of the Synod. The recommendation of the Appointments Group will be communicated to the Synod after the final interviews have taken place in early June.

Report by the Business Committee

17. This will provide the customary opportunity for members to raise points about the Agenda for this group of sessions or about the Synod's business generally.

Dates of Groups of Sessions

18. After the Synod has debated the report by the Business Committee, it will be asked to approve the dates of groups of sessions until the end of 2005. Details are to be found in Annex A to this report. These dates build upon the motion carried at the November group of

sessions as a result of Mr Ian Smith's Private Member's Motion.

Questions: Report by the Business Committee

19. The Business Committee has reflected on the comments and suggestions from Synod members about Question time, and has produced a report with recommendations for consideration by the Synod (GS 1456). A number of recommendations will require amendment to the standing orders by way of specific proposals from the Standing Orders Committee in due course.

Composition of the General Synod: Report by the Business Committee

20. The Business Committee has reflected further on the practical consequences and cumulative impact of the various amendments to the recommendations in the Synodical Government Review Follow-up Report, which were agreed by Synod last July. It seeks Synod's clarification of three specific points, relating to the overall size of Synod, the Archdeacons' constituency, and the proposed retired clergy constituency. Following clarification of these points, the matter will be taken forward by a legislative drafting group.

"Shapes of the Church to Come" Presentation

21. This presentation follows on from consideration of the paper *Shapes of the Church to Come* (GS 1455) by the House of Bishops and the Archbishops' Council respectively. It will take the form of a short Bible study by the Archbishop of Canterbury and an introduction to

the paper by the Bishop of Rochester. The presentation will inform the study groups, which will take place the following morning.

Regionalisation

22. The Business Committee is minded to provide opportunities for a series of debates, at successive Groups of Sessions, on constitutional issues. There is a growing recognition of the interconnectedness of such questions as the modernisation of Parliament (including the second stage of the reform of the House of Lords), devolution, and the development of the European Union. However with the publication of the long-awaited White Paper on regionalisation, *Your Region, Your Choice*, with a deadline for comments falling in August, the Committee felt that it would be right to debate this issue first. The background paper GS 1458, produced to a tight deadline by the BSR, notes that the topic provokes a wide range of responses. The debate will provide an opportunity for Synod to hear of the many ways in which the Churches are already contributing to the social, economic, and spiritual life of the regional institutions in England and to hear a variety of views as to the opportunities and risks which the Government's proposals may provide.

Study Groups (Saturday, 6 July)

23. The study groups will be invited to consider questions arising from the presentation on *Shapes of the Church to Come* on the previous evening. A note of the principal points arising from the study groups will be considered by the Archbishops' Council.

Legislative Business

24. The legislative business for this group of sessions will be found in Special Agenda I. The main item of business is the Church of England (Pensions) Measure, which received Final Approval at the November 2001 group of sessions and was accordingly submitted to the Ecclesiastical Committee of Parliament. The Legislative Committee has decided to withdraw the Measure from the Ecclesiastical Committee in order to resubmit it to the General Synod in July. It does so with the recommendation that the Measure be amended so as to require that any further extensions of the period in which the Church Commissioners can resort to capital to meet their pre-1998 pensions liabilities, beyond the initial period of seven years provided for in the Measure, be achieved by a further Measure on each occasion. Amending the Measure in this way would remove concerns expressed by the Ecclesiastical Committee about the provisions in it permitting such further extensions to be achieved by orders made by the Church Commissioners and laid before Parliament under the 'negative resolution procedure'. Fuller explanation and argument is contained in the Legislative Committee's Report (GS 1419V).
25. The legislative business also includes the usual orders in relation to (a) the fees of ecclesiastical judges, legal officers and others, (b) legal officers' annual fees and (c) parochial fees. These orders will be taken on the 'deemed approval' procedure, unless any member of the Synod requests a debate on an order or proposes an amendment to the ecclesiastical judges etc order in accordance with SO 69.

26. The Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme (Amendment) Rules will amend the rules of the Church of England Funded Pensions Scheme, established under the Pensions Measure 1997. The changes relate to the position of individuals who do not join the funded scheme when first eligible to do so, or who opt out of membership of it while still eligible; and pension sharing on divorce. (Further details of the proposed amendments are given in GS 1464X.) Again, the Business Committee has determined that the Rules will be taken on the 'deemed approval' procedure unless any member of the Synod requests a debate or proposes an amendment in accordance with SO 69.

27. Finally, on the assumption that it is approved by the Worcester Diocesan Synod at its meeting on 10th June, the Diocese of Worcester (Area) Revocation Scheme will be laid before the Synod for approval. Under section 12 of the Dioceses Measure 1978, the scheme, which revokes the current area scheme in force in the diocese, will be made unless the Synod resolves to the contrary. Any member wishing to move to that effect (using the form of motion set out in Special Agenda I) must give notice of his or her intention to do so before the end of the group of sessions.

Guildford Review

28. The report of the Guildford Review comes with a covering paper from the Archbishops' Council (GS 1453) which sets out the Council's provisional proposals for restructuring the Church and World Division and the Boards and Councils into three new

divisions covering Education; the Church's Mission and Public Affairs; and Cathedral and Church Buildings, with staff teams covering different aspects of the work and the staff of the Council for Christian Unity placed in the Central Secretariat. The Council's paper explains in particular how Synodical accountability will be focused in the new arrangements and how Synod members will continue to participate in the development of policy. The proposals have been the subject of extensive discussion and consultation and have been developed in parallel with the "Discerning the Future" budgetary exercise; they deal, inter alia, with certain matters left unresolved when the Archbishops' Council came into being in 1999. The report also helps to set a context for the budget debate on Monday morning.

Christian Witness in a Plural Society

29. The Private Member's Motion by the Revd George Kovoor is wide-ranging and raises issues of the nature of the gospel, how and with whom it should be shared and the lessons about evangelism in a religious and culturally diverse society that can be learned from the Church in other parts of the world. A short background paper, produced by Mr Kovoor in consultation with the Board of Mission, will be circulated (GS Misc 676).

Anglican/Methodist Covenant

30. *An Anglican–Methodist Covenant* (GS 1409), the common statement of the Formal Conversations set up by General Synod and the Methodist Conference in 1997-98, was published and circulated to General

Synod members in December 2001. The mandate given to the conversations by Synod and Conference was not to devise a unity scheme but to propose a new relationship of shared life and mission. This was seen as a significant bilateral step, on the model of the Meissen Agreement, towards the ultimate goal of the full visible unity of Christ's Church.

31. The report is distinctive in the way it holds together the quest for unity and the mission imperative; in its attempt to build on local and regional expressions of unity; in its attention to the healing of memories and the overcoming of stereotypes; in its affirmation of diversity in communion; and in its frankness about areas of difference that require further work.
32. The Synod is now asked to take note of the report and to initiate a process of study and evaluation throughout the Church of England in the dioceses, with a view to both churches taking a final decision in June-July 2003 as to whether to enter into the national Covenant. The debate will be prefaced by a presentation by the Bishop of Bristol under Standing Order 95A (with an opportunity for questions), and the debate itself will be introduced by the Bishop of Peterborough.
33. Because the Covenant does not at this stage involve changes to the structural relations between the Church of England and the Methodist Church, the Business Committee has taken the view that it does not constitute Article 8 business as defined in Standing Order 131 (see that provision, Article 8 of the Synod's Constitution and also Standing Orders 81-85 and 61-63).

Convocations

34. The House of Laity meets on Saturday evening at 8.15 pm in the Central Hall. In addition to discussing the reports on Marriage Law Review and marriage in church after divorce, the House will consider amendments to the House's standing orders relating to the election of its Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the two elected members of the Archbishops' Council.
35. The Convocation of Canterbury meets on Saturday evening at 8.30 pm in Vanbrugh, Room 045. In full Convocation, members will bid farewell to His Grace the President. After the Upper House has withdrawn, the Lower House will consider marriage in church after divorce and the draft Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy.
36. The Convocation of York meets on Saturday evening at 8.30 pm in the Physics building, Room PL 001. It will be considering principally the draft Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy.

Farewell to the Secretary General (Sunday, 7 July)

37. This will be the opportunity for Synod to say farewell to Philip Mawer, following his appointment as Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, after twelve years' service as Secretary General to the General Synod. The Archbishop of York will introduce this item and Philip Mawer will be invited to respond.

Towards an Urban Strategy: A Discussion paper for the Church of England

Resourcing Urban Ministry and Mission: Plans and Proposals for the Church Urban Fund 2002-2010

38. The document from the Urban Bishops' Panel (GS 1446) outlines the challenges and opportunities facing the Church of England in its mission and ministry in the urban communities of England at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Particular attention is drawn to concerns about public ministry in urban areas; national arrangements for finance and resourcing; the future of the Church Urban Fund; and the work of the proposed Urban Resource Unit. The Synod will be asked to note the document as the basis for the development of the work of the Urban Resource Unit and as the context for the paper presented by the CUF Trustees (GS Misc 674), which will be prefaced by a short paper from the Archbishops' Council (GS 1454). The report from CUF follows the report submitted to Synod in November 2000 (GS 1400), which promised a further report on CUF's future plans by July 2002.

Women in the Episcopate: Report by the Working Party

39. The House's Progress Report (GS 1457) honours the July 2000 Synod Private Member's Motion that asked for such a report within two years. It outlines the way in which the House's Working Party has approached its

task, and flags up some salient issues that have arisen. This item is very much an interim report on work in progress, but with time for comments and questions from the floor. It is proposed to proceed by way of a presentation by the Working Party (under SO 95A). Synod will be asked to express a view by way of voting on a motion at a later group of sessions, when the House's Final Report is debated.

Questions

40. The Sunday evening of the Synod will end with Questions. Under SO 105, members may address Questions to the Secretary General, the Clerk to the Synod, the Chairman of any body answerable to the Synod through the Archbishops' Council (including Boards and Councils), the Chairman of any Church of England body on which the Synod is represented, the Chairman of each of the three Houses of Synod, and the Church Estates Commissioners. Anyone wishing to ask a question must give notice of it to reach the Clerk to the Synod **by 5.30 pm on Wednesday 26 June**. The Questions notice paper will be distributed in the Central Hall at the beginning of the Group of Sessions.
41. Members are reminded that 'omnibus' questions are not in order. If a member wishes to query several points, each should be the subject of a separate question. Detailed information, tables of figures, etc are better dealt with in a written answer and members are urged to be selective in matters which they raise orally at Question Time, including in any supplementaries which must be framed as a question and should be kept brief.

Members should indicate clearly when submitting a Question whether it is for oral or written answer.

Archbishops' Council's Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2001

Archbishops' Council's Budget for 2003 (Monday, 8 July)

42. The Archbishops' Council has committed itself to freezing its central administrative costs in 2002-4 in recognition of the general financial situation facing the Church. An exercise entitled *Discerning the Future* has been underway since mid-2001 to identify savings that would deliver this objective. The report endorsed by General Synod in November 2001 (GS 1435) represented the first stage of this process. GS Misc 671 sets out most of the remaining savings necessary to maintain the freeze to 2004 (taking account of the conclusions of the Guildford Review and other strategic considerations) and members of Synod may wish to refer to this document during the debate. The 2003 budget presented to the General Synod as GS 1447 reflects the savings which it is proposed should apply in 2003, together with details of the other parts of the Council's budget. The 2003 budget is summarised in a leaflet which is also circulated to Synod members.

Appointment of Bishops: Southwark Diocesan Synod Motion

43. At the November 2001 Group of Sessions, the debate on a motion from the Diocese of Southwark urging the removal of the Monarch and the Prime Minister from the process of appointment of diocesan bishops was

adjourned part-heard following a request for better preparatory material. In response, the Acting Secretary General has produced a paper (GS Misc 678), which describes the history and rationale of key aspects of existing arrangements and probes some of the arguments advanced so far in the debate.

44. One amendment (from Mr Gavin Oldham (Oxford)) was tabled during the debate in November, which would have the effect of retaining a role solely for the Monarch in the appointment process. It is open to any member who wishes to do so to submit further amendments: in view of the lengthy opportunity members have already had for this, the Business Committee has asked that these should be received in the Synod Office by 5.30 pm on Friday 5 July. Members who have already spoken in the debate last November may not speak again (except with the permission of the chairman and the general consent of the Synod). Members are urged to read the transcript of the November debate in the Report of Proceedings before coming to York in July. The background paper produced by the Diocese of Southwark for the November Group of Sessions is also relevant. Bishop Buchanan will, of course, have the opportunity to reply to the debate as a whole in the normal way at its end.

Vesture of Ordained and Authorised Ministers:
Southwell Diocesan Synod Motion

45. This motion seeks to begin a process whereby Canon Law would be amended to allow a discretion to ordained and authorised ministers (in agreement with their parochial church councils) as to wearing of vesture

during divine service. A background paper from the Southwell Diocese (GS Misc 679A) has been circulated together with a background note from the Central Secretariat (GS Misc 679B).

Abortion Act: Private Member's Motion (Special Agenda III)

46. This motion, to be moved by Mr Barry Barnes, seeks to review the operation of the Abortion Act and to restrict the circumstances in which abortion should take place. Mr Barnes has produced a background paper (GS Misc 670) and BSR has made available its briefing paper prepared before the 1997 General Election (to which Mr Barnes refers in his paper) as a resource document.

Marriage Law Review

47. *The Challenge to Change* (GS 1448), a report on Marriage Law from a group of bishops led by the Bishop of London, is circulated.
48. Last November the Synod had the opportunity to consider the thinking behind “Just Cause or Impediment?” (GS 1436), the report of the Review of Aspects of Marriage Law Working Group chaired by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. Synod was asked to postpone any decision until the Government had published its White Paper “Civil Registration: Vital Change”. This document has now appeared and proposes major changes to the civil registration system and the services provided by the civil registration authorities in England and Wales (including marriage),

which seem likely to produce a cultural shift in the way such services are regarded.

49. The Archbishops' Council requested that a group of Bishops, including the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich and led by the Bishop of London, should be asked to take forward issues of concern with the Government and to make further recommendations in the light of the White Paper. Following very positive discussions with the Lord Chancellor and officials, the Group of Bishops has now produced a brief report entitled "Challenge to Change". This builds upon and develops the recommendations of the earlier report by proposing ways in which the Church can respond to the challenges and mission opportunities which the White Paper's new concepts for marriage will create. The Report has been welcomed by both the House of Bishops and the Archbishops' Council, and the Synod will be invited to endorse the Group of Bishops' recommendations.

Israel/Palestine

50. Monday evening has been set aside for reflection on the ongoing tragedy in Israel/Palestine, which threatens to destabilise the region as whole. Although the situation in Israel/Palestine remains volatile, the debate aims to draw attention to the underlying causes of the conflict and suggests ways in which dioceses can renew and strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship with the Churches in Israel/Palestine. Despite the unending cycle of violence in Israel Palestine there have, been, in recent months, a number of significant inter faith initiatives, such as the Alexandria Declaration which

give hope as to the future. The debate will give the Synod an opportunity to debate and consider these and other initiatives regarding the Middle East. With this in mind, the debate will be resourced by the BSR Report, *Israel-Palestine: An Unholy War*, which will provide an update on *Demanding Peace: A Church Response to the Intifada* (GS Misc 657), made available at the November 2001 Synod for its debate on the international situation. In addition, GS members may like to refer to the *Road Ahead: A Christian Muslim Dialogue* (GS Misc 672), which examines ways in which Christian and Muslims can overcome obstacles which stand in the way of mutual understanding and trust.

Liturgical Business (Tuesday, 9 July)

51. The only item of Liturgical Business is Final Approval to an extended period of authorization for the present Weekday Lectionaries. Work on drafting eventual replacements is already in hand, but the present provision needs to be extended beyond 2004 to allow adequate time for Synod to consider and authorize the replacements. The first part of this two-stage procedure was taken in November 2001. This is Article 7 business and the Final Approval will require two-thirds majorities in each House.

Marriage in Church after Divorce

52. The House of Bishops' Report on Marriage in Church after Divorce (GS 1449) comes to the Synod in the light of the Winchester Report (GS 1361) published in January 2000, debate in diocesan synods on the

proposals in the Report during 2000-1 (the results of which are reflected in Annex 3), and further advice from the Synod's Law Officers (Annex 2).

53. In the House's Report, the broad thrust of the Winchester proposals remain although they have been significantly amended to reflect the requirements of the civil law. Recognising that under the civil law the decision is that of the cleric in the individual case, instead of specifying 'national pastoral criteria' to be applied to all clergy, the House now proposes to issue *advice* to clergy (Annex 1) on the factors which might be relevant to their decision. Those factors reflect the fact that the decision to be made by the cleric is whether they can, in conscience, agree that conducting a service of further marriage will be consistent with the Church's doctrine of marriage.
54. Given the concerns that surfaced from many dioceses, it is significant that the unanimous view of the Synod's Law Officers is that Canon B30 does not require amendment to give effect to the proposals. The House envisages proceeding by way of two Synod Resolutions, the second of which relates to the revocation of the relevant clauses of the Resolutions of the Convocations and will therefore constitute Article 7 business (and is not open to amendment in July). This debate is likely to generate wide public interest.

Concluding business: farewells

Farewell to the Archbishop of Canterbury

55. This will provide the opportunity for Synod to take leave of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Following past

practice, this will take the form of a short debate, introduced by the Archbishop of York, to which the Chair of the House of Laity and the Prolocutors will contribute, and to which the Archbishop of Canterbury will be invited to respond.

56. Following the customary farewells, the Synod is expected to conclude at around 12.45 pm. The closing ceremonies will be conducted by the Archbishop of York.

On behalf of the Committee
Michael Perham

June 2002

ANNEX B

Members of the Business Committee

The Very Revd Michael Perham (Dean of Derby) - Chairman

Elected by the House of Bishops

The Rt Revd George Cassidy, Bishop of Southwell

Elected by the House of Clergy

The Ven Alan Hawker, Archdeacon of Malmesbury

The Revd Prebendary Sam Philpott (Exeter)

The Revd Simon Pothen (London)

Elected by the House of Laity

Mrs Sue Johns (Norwich)

Mr Frank Knaggs (Newcastle)

Mr Mike Tyrrell (Coventry)

Two members of the Archbishops' Council

Mr Brian McHenry (Southwark)

Mrs Elizabeth Paver (Sheffield)

(The Secretary to the Committee is David Williams and the Assistant Secretary is Malcolm Taylor.)