

GENERAL SYNOD

HOUSE OF LAITY

Standing Committee

**Minutes of a meeting of the Standing Committee
held at 13.30 p.m. on Saturday 6 July 2019
in Room SLB/005, Spring Lane Building, York University**

- Present: Jamie Harrison (*Chair*); Elizabeth Paver (*Vice Chair*); Lucy Docherty (*Appointments Committee*); Adrian Greenwood (*Archbishops' Council*); Robert Hammond (*Business Committee*); Rachel Jepson (*Appointments Committee*); Mark Russell (*Archbishops' Council*)
- Apologies: Clive Scowen (*Business Committee*); Sarah Finch (*Appointments Committee*); Anne Foreman (*Business Committee*)
- Staff: Adrian Iles (*Legal Adviser to the House*); Jenny Jacobs (*Secretary*)

1. Minutes and Matters Arising

- 1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2019 were approved.
- 1.2 There were no matters arising that were not covered by the agenda.
- 1.3 A question was raised about whether licences for lay readers were dependent on receiving safeguarding training.

2. Petition to the Standing Orders re Standing Order 135

- 2.1 The Committee were informed that the amendments to Standing Order 135 relating to Election Appeals will be presented to Synod in July. This will outline the role of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the House of Laity in relation to election appeals.

3. Setting God's People Free (SGPF)

- 3.1 Dr Nick Shepherd, Programme Director of Setting God's People Free was welcomed to the meeting. He provided an update on progress under SGPF. He informed the Committee that at the heart of this work is a change in culture to enable confident disciples and mutuality. He noted that engagement with diocese has been positive.
- 3.2 The Committee noted the update.

4. Any Other Business

- 4.1 The Committee provided advice to the Chair and Vice Chair on an Article 7 matter in the margins of the morning session.
- 4.2 The Committee discussed the timing available to make the decision regarding Article 7 business, and it was noted that the timeframe given to the Committee was not sufficient.

- 4.3 The Committee discussed the Synod so far, and it was felt that there had been some frustration with questions and it was suggested that it might be beneficial to use additional time as an opportunity to answer more questions.
- 4.4 There was a discussion about whether the full House of Laity should meet in July, it was proposed that there should an opportunity for the House to meet and celebrate the last quinquennium.
- 4.5 It was felt that unless there was a specific agenda item the House should not meet in February 2020.
- 4.6 There was no other business and the meeting closed.