

Agenda

November Group of Sessions 2020

GENERAL SYNOD

NOVEMBER GROUP OF SESSIONS 2020

REMOTE MEETING

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Monday 23 November	1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 24 November	9.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Wednesday 25 November	9.15 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

SERVICES

Monday 23 November	
1.00 p.m.	Opening Worship
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship
Tuesday 24 November	
9.15 a.m.	Opening Worship
6.30 p.m.	Closing Worship
Wednesday 25 November	
9.15 a.m.	Opening Worship

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 and to proposed amendments to Standing Orders) must be delivered to the Clerk as follows (SOs 10-13 and 27):

Business appointed for the first day of the group of sessions (Monday 23 November)

5.30 p.m. on Friday 20 November.

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.

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. (This provision does *not* apply to amendments to legislative business or to proposed amendments to Standing Orders.)
5. Notice of amendments to legislative business or to proposed amendments to Standing Orders 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)).
7. The email address in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda is: **amendments@churchofengland.org**.

QUESTIONS

8. In exercise of its power under SO 12 the Business Committee had determined that notice of Questions under Standing Orders 112-113 must be delivered **not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 11 November 2019**.

NOTICE

9. Notice must be given to the Clerk to the Synod in writing signed by the member or by e-mail, from an address notified to the Clerk, to the relevant one of the email addresses below. The postal address is Church House, Great Smith St, London SW1P 3AZ. The fax number is 020 7898 1369. The e-mail 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.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

10. 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.

CONTACT

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

clerk@churchofengland.org.

MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2020

1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

WORSHIP

1 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMES

SPECIAL AGENDA I:

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I - see pages 7 – 11) will be taken

- 500** Standing Orders made under Section 1 of the General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure 2020 (**GS 2177**)
- *For Approval*
- 501** Amending Canon No. 40 (**GS 2103D**)
Amending Canon No. 41 (**GS 2105D**)
- *For Enactment*
-

2 PRESENTATION BY THE PRESIDENTS

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Archbishop of York will give a presentation. This will include an invitation to members of the Synod to engage with the resources of Living in Love and Faith.

Note: The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should include an opportunity for questions.

ADJOURNMENT (SCREEN BREAK)

RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC (GS 2192)

One of the Presidents to move:

- 3** 'That this Synod, recognising the profound challenge to life and wellbeing posed by the Covid-19 pandemic:
- (a) call upon the whole church to hold in prayer all those ill, bereaved, unemployed or suffering mentally as a result of the virus, to pray for Her Majesty's Government and all who hold responsibility for navigating the intractable dilemmas that Covid-19 poses;
 - (b) give thanks for the continuing selfless service of NHS and social care staff, scientists, and key workers in every sector, encouraging all to follow their example by affirming the common good over sectional interests;
 - (c) request the church's representatives, in conversations with Her Majesty's Government, to press the case for reducing social inequalities, especially the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on BAME people and children living in poverty and to reflect concerns expressed by Synod in debate on this motion;

(d) celebrate the role of churches in building mental and spiritual resilience to face the crisis and, affirming the role of worship and the sacraments as the source of Christian service and discipleship, call upon Her Majesty's Government immediately to review the decision to curtail public worship during lockdown.'

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2179)

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

- 4 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

ADJOURNMENT (SCREEN BREAK)

Not later than 5.30 p.m.

5 QUESTIONS

Note: *The Business Committee has determined in exercise of its power under SO 12 that notice of any question must be delivered **not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 11 November 2020.***

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

The House of Bishops will meet at 7.15 p.m.

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2020

9.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

6 VISION AND STRATEGY (GS 2180)

Presentation under SO 107

Note: The Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should include an opportunity for questions.

ADJOURNMENT (SCREEN BREAK)

Not later than 11.50 a.m.

SPECIAL AGENDA I:

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

504 Draft Cathedrals Measure (**GS 2136B**)

-

505 - *Final Drafting and Final Approval*

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2020

2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL BUDGET 2021 AND PROPOSALS FOR APPORTIONMENT 2021 (GS 2181)

Canon John Spence (ex officio) (Chair of the Archbishops' Council's Finance Committee) to move:

- 7 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'

Canon John Spence to move in relation to the Archbishops' Council's expected expenditure in respect of each area of activity specified below:

'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's expenditure for the year 2021, as shown in its budget, of £[X] in respect of [Y]:'

	EXPECTED EXPENDITURE [X]	AREA OF ACTIVITY [Y]
8	£17,944,000	Training for Ministry
9	£25,578,819	National Church Responsibilities
10	£1,262,502	Grants
11	£711,697	Mission agency pension contributions
12	£5,431,063	Clergy retirement housing grant

Canon John Spence to move:

- 13 'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's proposals (set out in the Table of Apportionment contained in **GS 2181**) for the apportionment amongst the dioceses of the net sum to be provided by them to enable the Council to meet the expected expenditure shown in its budget for the year 2021.'

Canon John Spence to move:

- 14 'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's proposals (set out in the Table of Apportionment contained in **GS 2181**) for the pooling adjustment for 2021 in respect of additional maintenance grants for ordinands.'

ADJOURNMENT (SCREEN BREAK)

**SPECIAL AGENDA I:
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

- 506** Draft Safeguarding (Code of Practice) Measure (**GS 2182**)
- *First Consideration*
-

**APPOINTMENT OF ONE MEMBER OF THE ARCHBISHOPS'
COUNCIL (GS 2183)**

One of the Presidents to move:

- 15** 'That the appointment of Matthew Frost as a member of the Archbishops' Council from 25 November 2020 to 31 July 2025 be approved.'
-

6.30 p.m. Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2020

9.15 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

SAFEGUARDING (GS 2184)

- 16 Presentation under SO 107

The Bishop of Huddersfield to move:

- 17 'That this Synod fully accept the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse's Final Investigation Report into the Anglican Church, sincerely apologise to victims and survivors for the harm done by the church and endorse and commit itself to urgently implementing the six recommendations as set out on pages 4 – 6 of GS 2184'.

SCREEN BREAK

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 502 Diocesan Boards of Education Measure (**GS 2131B**)

–
503 - *Final Drafting and Final Approval*

- 507 The National Ministry Register (Clergy) Regulations 2020 (**GS 2185**)

- *For Approval*

2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

DEEMED BUSINESS (*if required*)

Deemed items of legislative business will be taken at this point if requested.

Not later than 3.30 p.m.

- 18 PROROGATION
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SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

STANDING ORDERS MADE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE GENERAL SYNOD (REMOTE MEETINGS) (TEMPORARY STANDING ORDERS) MEASURE 2020 (GS 2177)

Standing Orders for approval

One of the officers of the General Synod to move:

- 500** ‘That the Standing Orders made under section 1 of the General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure 2020 be approved.’

Notes:

- 1. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the Resolution be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
- 2. Amendments to the Standing Orders 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 Thursday 19th November 2020.*

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 40 (GS 2103D)

DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 41 (GS 2105D)

Article 7 business (both items)

Canons for Enactment

(Finally approved at the July 2019 group of sessions)

After the Title and Preamble to the Instrument of Enactment have been read, *one of the Presidents*, being in the Chair, to move:

- 501** ‘That the Canons entitled “Amending Canon No. 40” and “Amending Canon No. 41” be made, promulgated and executed.’

DRAFT DIOCESAN BOARDS OF EDUCATION MEASURE (GS 2131B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

(Revised at the February 2020 group of sessions)

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2131Z)

A member 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)).*

- 503** ‘That the Measure entitled “Diocesan Boards of Education Measure” be finally approved.’

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT CATHEDRALS MEASURE (GS 2136B)

Draft Measure for Final Drafting and Final Approval

(Revised at the February 2020 group of sessions)

Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2136Z)

A member of the Steering Committee to move:

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

Note: *If item 504 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 61(8)).*

505 'That the Measure entitled "Cathedrals Measure" be finally approved.'

DRAFT SAFEGUARDING (CODE OF PRACTICE) MEASURE (GS 2182)

Draft Measure for First Consideration

A member of the Steering Committee to move:

506 'That the Measure entitled "Safeguarding (Code of Practice) Measure" be considered for revision in Full Synod.'

Notes:

- 1. The Business Committee has given its consent under Standing Order 53(1) for the motion at item 506 to be moved (revision without prior revision committee).*
- 2. If item 506 is carried, the Revision Stage, **without a prior Revision Committee Stage**, is expected to take place during the February 2021 group of sessions. It is also expected that the Final Drafting and Final Approval Stages will be taken at that group of sessions.*
- 3. The Agenda for the February 2021 group of sessions will contain information about submitting amendments for the Revision Stage, including the relevant deadline.*

THE NATIONAL MINISTRY REGISTER (CLERGY) REGULATIONS 2020 (GS 2185)

Regulations under section 2 of the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2020 for approval

The Bishop of Bristol (the Right Reverend Vivienne Faull) to move:

507 'That the National Ministry Register (Clergy) Regulations be approved.'

Notes:

- 1. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the Regulations shall be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

2. *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 Monday 23rd November 2020.*

LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2020 (GS 2186)

ECCLESIASTICAL JUDGES, LEGAL OFFICERS AND OTHERS (FEES) ORDER 2020 (GS 2187)

Orders under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 for approval

Notes:

1. *The Fees Advisory Commission has laid the Orders (GS 2186 and GS 2187) before the General Synod for approval under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by that section) that the Orders do not need to be debated.*
3. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate an Order must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 23rd November 2020.***
4. *Amendments to the Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order are permissible. Under SO 71(5), 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 Monday 23rd November 2020.***

PAYMENTS TO THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST ORDER 2020 (GS 2188)

Order under section 65 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 for approval

Notes:

1. *The Church Commissioners have laid the Order (GS 2188) before the General Synod for approval under section 65 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by that section) 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 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 23rd November 2020.***
4. *Amendments to the Order are not permissible.*

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICES (TERMS OF SERVICE) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2020 (GS 2189)

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

Notes:

- 1. The Archbishops' Council have laid the draft Regulations (GS 2190) before the General Synod for approval under section 2 of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009.*
- 2. The Business Committee has determined (as provided by that section) that the Regulations do not need to be debated.*
- 3. Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the draft Regulations must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 23rd November 2020.***
- 4. Amendments to the draft Regulations are permissible. Under SO 71(5), 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 Monday 23rd November 2020.***

SCHEME FOR VARIATION OF MEMBERSHIP OF DEANERY SYNODS (GS 2190)

Scheme made by the Manchester Diocesan Synod under rule 22 of the Church Representation Rules

Notes:

- 1. The Manchester Diocesan Synod has, under rule 22 of the Church Representation Rules ("CRR"), made the scheme set out in GS 2191 for the variation of membership of certain deanery synods.*
- 2. The scheme has been laid before the General Synod in accordance with CRR rule 25(3).*
- 3. Under CRR rule 25(4), if a member of the General Synod gives notice in accordance with its standing orders that the member wishes a scheme under CRR rule 22 to be debated, the scheme does not come into operation unless it is approved by the General Synod.*
- 4. Accordingly, Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the scheme must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 23rd November 2020.***
- 5. Amendments to the scheme are not permissible.*

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES REGULATIONS 2020 (GS 2191)

Regulations under Canon DA 1 for approval

Notes:

1. *The Regulations (GS 2192) have been laid before the General Synod for approval under paragraph 8(4) of Canon DA 1.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by paragraph 8(5) of Canon DA 1) that the Regulations do not need to be debated.*
3. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the Regulations must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 24th November 2020.***
4. *Amendments to the Regulations are not permissible.*

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 7 September 2020.

BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Mr Edward Shaw (Bristol) to move:

‘That this Synod, convinced that all people without exception are loved by God and made in His image and are invited to fullness of life through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, affirm:

- (a) its rejection of the fear or dislike of anyone on the basis of their sexual orientation.
- (b) the radically inclusive nature of Jesus's ministry and message to all people: "The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"
- (c) that marriage, as defined by Jesus, is the lifelong sexual union of a man and a woman.
- (d) that both those who marry and those who are single, as Jesus Himself was, can enjoy Christ-like relationships and the fullness of life which He offers all.
- (e) that all Christians should repent of any sexual activity outside marriage, in the assurance of God's loving forgiveness in Christ.
- (f) that all God's holy people are called to live out this calling, for their own good and for the life of the world they are called to serve.’

104 signatures

March 2017

REVIEW OF THE ‘FIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES’

Mr David Lamming (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) to move:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) share the sadness and regret of the Rt Revd Philip North in his decision, announced on 9 March 2017, to withdraw acceptance of his nomination to the See of Sheffield;
- (b) note the substantial support for Bishop North's nomination from many women and men, lay and ordained, in the dioceses of both Sheffield and Blackburn, and in the wider Church of England;
- (c) express its full support for Bishop North in his future ministry, whether in the Blackburn diocese or elsewhere;
- (d) note, with concern, the implications of Bishop North's decision, and the public debate that preceded it, for the 'mutual flourishing' of the Church of England; and
- (e) request the House of Bishops urgently to review the 'Five Guiding Principles' and to consider whether they need to be amended or amplified in order to ensure that there is an equal place at all levels in the Church for men and women of different theological convictions on the issue of women's ordination, and to report to the Synod by February 2018.’

100 signatures

March 2017

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

LITURGIES FOR SAME SEX COUPLES

Ms Christina Baron (Bath & Wells) to move:

‘That this Synod,

Request the House of Bishops to commend an Order of Prayer and Dedication after the registration of a civil partnership or a same sex marriage for use by ministers in exercise of their discretion under Canon B5, being a form of service neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England in any essential matter, together with guidance that no parish should be obliged to host, nor minister conduct, such a service.’

102 signatures

March 2018

EUCCHARISTIC PRESIDENCY

Mr David Lamming (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) to move:

‘That this Synod, having regard in particular to:

- (a) changes in thinking on the role of the laity in leadership in the Church over the past 25 years, and
- (b) the lack of any Scriptural basis for the Church’s current practice restricting the administration of the sacrament at Holy Communion to ordained priests,

request the House of Bishops to reconsider its position (as set out in its April 1997 report Eucharistic Presidency, GS 1248) that the Church should maintain its inherited position that the person who presides at the Eucharist must be an ordained priest.’

57 signatures

February 2019

THE FURTHER USE OF CHURCHYARDS

The Revd Andrew Dotchin (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) to move:

‘That this Synod call on the Archbishops’ Council to:

- (a) consider the position in relation to further burials in churchyards which have been closed by Order in Council; and
- (b) make representations to Her Majesty’s Government on the matter with a view to primary legislation being brought forward (whether by way of Measure or Act of Parliament) to facilitate such burials in appropriate cases.’

4 signatures

September 2019

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

SAFEGUARDING & TENDERING FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Southwark) to move:

‘That this Synod, recognising that the use of tendering for professional services is widely regarded as good practice in the charitable and commercial sectors, and noting the need for high levels confidence that must exist regarding commercial relationships between the Church and its service providers in the field of safeguarding:

invite the Archbishops’ Council to bring forward legislation and associated guidance which require the use of regular tendering processes in the provision of legal, financial and insurance services by parishes, dioceses and the National Church Institutions.’

November 2019

FUNDING OF BISHOPS AND PRIESTS

Mr Samuel Margrave (Coventry) to move:

‘That this Synod, valuing the ministry of Parish Priests, call on the National Church Institutions to:

- (a) work to end all unnecessary expenditure which does not resource parish churches or parish ministry
- (b) reduce Bishops’ stipends to the same level as that of a parish Priest;
- (c) undertake a review of the funding of Bishops;
- (d) target funding to support poorer parishes through financial difficulties and to radically invest in the reinvigoration of poorer parishes, and
- (e) publish the expenditure of Bishops’ offices and associated costs in the same way as MPs.’

2 signatures

July 2020

HOLY COMMUNION USING INDIVIDUAL CUPS

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to move:

‘That this Synod, mindful of Our Lord’s command that we should both eat and drink in remembrance of Him, ask that legislation be brought forward to provide that, in times when risk of serious infection makes it unsafe to communicate using a common cup, it shall be lawful to administer Holy Communion using individual cups.’

64 signatures

July 2020

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

NB: Bath & Wells, Chelmsford, Guildford, Lincoln, London, Oxford and St Albans Diocesan Synods have now withdrawn their DSM on the Anglican Communion

... to move on behalf of the Manchester 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 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:
 - (i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England’s

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

- 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

LITURGIES FOR SAME SEX COUPLES

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

'That this Synod:

request the House of Bishops to commend an Order of Prayer and Dedication after the registration of a civil partnership or a same sex marriage for use by ministers in exercise of their discretion under Canon B5, being a form of service neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England in any essential matter, together with guidance that no parish should be obliged to host, nor minister conduct, such a service.'

March 2018

(following an amendment to the Diocesan Synod Motion submitted in November 2017)

THE WEALTH GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR

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

'That this Synod call on Her Majesty's Government (and all political parties) to adopt an explicit policy of reducing the wealth gap between the rich and the poor and the disadvantages that flow from it.'

June 2018

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

REVIEW OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR PCC MEMBERSHIP AND ENTRY ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

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

‘That this Synod invite the Archbishops’ Council:

- (a) to conduct a review of:
 - (i) the qualifications for membership of parochial church councils, in the light of the existence of bishops’ mission initiatives; and
 - (ii) the qualifications for enrolment on a church electoral roll, and the form of application for enrolment, in the light of the experience of parishes in the diocese that those who attend church regularly do not necessarily understand them; and
- (b) to report to the Synod on the conclusions of the review.’

July 2018

CHALLENGING SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

‘That this Synod:

- (a) acknowledge the leading role that Her Majesty’s Government has played internationally in challenging slavery; and
- (b) ask Her Majesty’s Government to introduce legislation to ensure proper provision for the ongoing support and protection of trafficked minors is enshrined in law.’

July 2018

INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX

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

‘That this Synod, noting:

- (a) the various public goods that are delivered by charities, including in the case of churches through their care of nationally valued heritage assets and their provision of community services; and
- (b) the fact that the money needed by charities to meet their liabilities, including Insurance Premium Tax, has to be raised by them, including in the case of churches through fund raising in their local communities

call on Her Majesty’s Government to exempt charities, including churches, from liability for Insurance Premium Tax.’

April 2019

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

PERSECUTED CHURCH

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

‘That this Synod request that:

- (a) the Church of England not only pray for the persecuted church, but that its dioceses offer support to link dioceses where the church is facing persecution, and
- (b) the next Lambeth Conference address the issue of the persecution of Christians.’

July 2019

REDUCE PAROCHIAL FEES FOR MARRIAGES

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

‘That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council:

to introduce an order to amend the Parochial Fees and Scheduled Matters Amending Order 2019 so that the fees relating to marriages are set at nil or at a minimal amount in order to demonstrate the Church’s commitment to marriage and pastoral care.’

March 2020

PRISONER REHABILITATION SCHEMES

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

‘That this Synod, recognising that faith can have a positive impact on an offender's behaviour:

- (a) note with pleasure the decision made by the National Probation Service to recognise faith as a protective factor in reducing reoffending, and its desire to work in partnership with churches, prison and community chaplains and faith communities to support rehabilitation;
- (b) commend the value of partnership working with the National Probation Service as an important additional support in churches' welcome of people leaving prison, including training of clergy and authorised lay ministers;
- (c) call on dioceses to nominate a contact person or office to link the Probation Service locally to clergy, parishes and chaplaincies.’

March 2020

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

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

'That this Synod, affirming the fifth mark of mission, concerned by the scientific evidence that climate change is proceeding at a rapid rate and by the impact of climate events, and seeking to build on the decisions taken with respect to GS 2159:

- (a) urge the National Investing Bodies of the Church of England to prioritise investment in renewable energy;
- (b) call on all parts of the Church of England to review their policies and procedures, in order to ensure that they give due priority to creation care;
- (c) urge the Church of England to further develop pre- and post-ordination and lay training to deepen understanding in how care for the earth is part of our Christian faith and a missional imperative;
- (d) urge all parts of the Church of England to seek to support, through prayer, advocacy and practical action, the poorest in the world who are suffering the most from the impacts of climate change, in the awareness that our nation has been among those who have benefited most from the emissions that have caused the crisis;
- (e) commit earnestly and regularly to pray - and to promote prayer - about the climate and wider environmental crisis.
- (f) call upon all institutions of the Church of England to make urgent practical preparations for the delivery of substantial reduction of the Church's carbon footprint, including, but not restricted to, the following immediate actions in respect of Church buildings:
 - (i) ensuring that the NCIs are adequately resourced to provide DACs, Buildings Departments, Education Departments and others with authoritative national guidance notes, advice and training on key technical and procedural questions relating to adaptation of buildings for the net zero target; and
 - (ii) ensuring that Parish Buying and other national-level entities have the capacity to engage with manufacturers and suppliers of products and processes recommended for making our buildings more efficient, with a view to using the scale of the national net zero project to achieve both sympathetic design and economies of scale on cost.'

April 2020