

GENERAL SYNOD

**Members' feedback from the February 2020 group of sessions,
the July 2020 meeting and the September 2020 group of sessions**

This paper includes a summary of feedback received following the February 2020 group of sessions (pp. 1-12), the July 2020 meeting (pp. 12-20) and the September 2020 group of sessions (pp. 20-27) through the post-Synod surveys.

The February survey was circulated on 17 February and closed on 1 March. The July survey was circulated 16 July and closed on 31 July. The September survey was circulated only to attending members on 24 September and closed on 12 October.

1. Feedback from February 2020

Overview of participants (Q1-Q3)**House**

House of Bishops	10
House of Laity	95
House of Clergy	96
Non-voting member	5

Age Group

18-25	3
26-35	8
36-50	38
51-65	104
66 or above	53

Province

Canterbury	147
York	57

Rating of agenda items**Q4. How would you rate the following items on the Agenda?**

	Very Poor (1)	Poor (2)	Neutral (3)	Good (4)	Very Good (5)	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
2. Report by the Business Committee	1	2	39	107	33	3	185	3.93
3. Presidential Address	2	13	42	67	56	4	184	3.9
4. Channel Islands Report - Presentation	0	2	20	75	71	16	184	4.28
502. Draft Channel Islands Measure - First Consideration	1	3	28	81	53	15	181	4.1
505. Clergy Covenant for Wellbeing Act of Synod 2020	0	3	45	83	33	18	182	3.89
5. Question Time	8	29	45	70	15	12	179	3.33

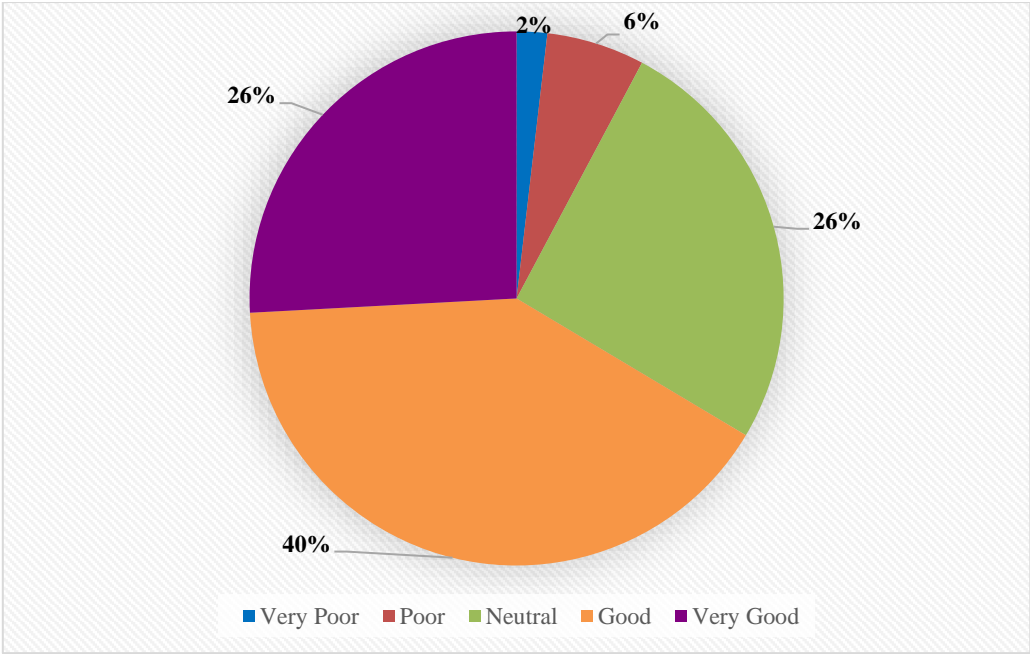
GENERAL SYNOD

501. Draft Cathedrals Measure - Revision Stage	0	2	40	75	43	21	181	3.99
6. Deanery Synod Term Limits	2	11	57	66	21	22	179	3.59
7. Living in Love and Faith and the Pastoral Advisory Group	20	27	35	64	29	6	181	3.31
585-586. Draft Channel Islands Measure - Revision Stage	2	2	46	71	36	19	176	3.87
506. Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2020 - for Approval	3	12	65	58	18	20	176	3.49
8. Windrush Commitment and Legacy (PMM)	0	4	9	43	113	13	182	4.57
19. 56th Report of the Standing Orders Committee	2	9	79	39	4	41	174	3.26
9. Safeguarding	0	3	9	79	82	7	180	4.39
10. Climate Emergency and Carbon Reduction Target	4	19	28	57	60	14	182	3.89
11. End to Paupers' Funerals (PMM)	0	5	21	66	66	21	179	4.22
12. Children and Youth Ministry	5	21	43	62	33	16	180	3.59
500. Draft Diocesan Boards of Education Measure - Revision Stage	6	16	55	57	7	36	177	3.3
13. General Synod Elections 2020: Allocation of Seats	2	14	60	52	24	25	177	3.54
504. Draft Channel Islands Measure - Final Approval	1	2	46	51	54	24	178	4.01
507A, 508A and 509A. Election Rules for the Three Houses	7	17	75	41	12	26	178	3.22

GENERAL SYNOD

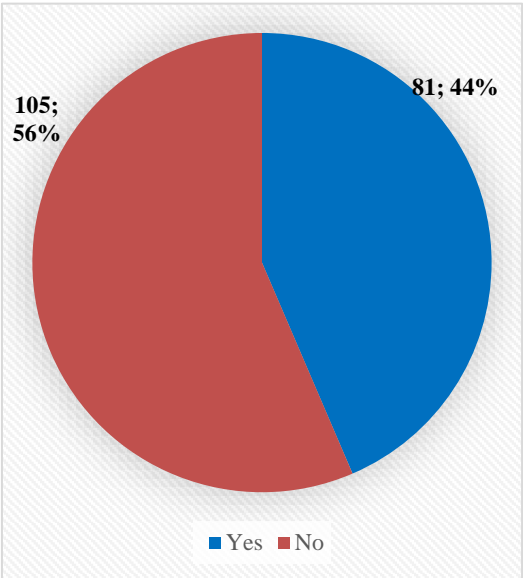
14. Through His Poverty (DSM)	1	2	35	69	40	27	174	3.99
15. Legal Aid Reform (PMM)	1	1	28	63	50	34	177	4.12

Overall rating of the agenda:

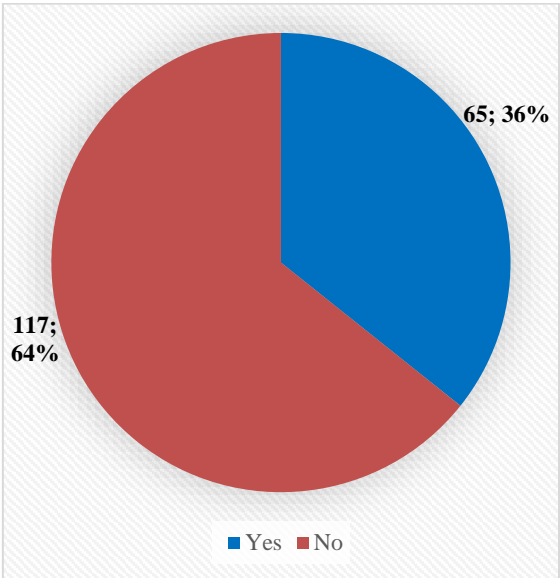


Chairing and Speaking in Debates

Q5. Did you put in any Requests to Speak at this Group of sessions?



Q6. Were you called in any of these items?



GENERAL SYNOD

Q7. Did you declare an expertise or relevant personal experience on an item, but were not called to speak? If so, would you let us know about this?

- 14 respondents reported not being called for the Children and Youth Ministry item despite relevant experiences or expertise. Some expressed understanding, while others expressed frustration. [According to the Request to Speak data, 47 people requested to speak.]
- 3 respondents reported not being called for the Climate Emergency item, including a GP, a person who sponsored a related motion in the past, and a person who intended to make a maiden speech and had first-hand experience with heating buildings.
- Several respondents reported not being called for other items in occasional instances, including two legal professionals in the Legal Aid Reform item. One person reported 'giving up on being called.'

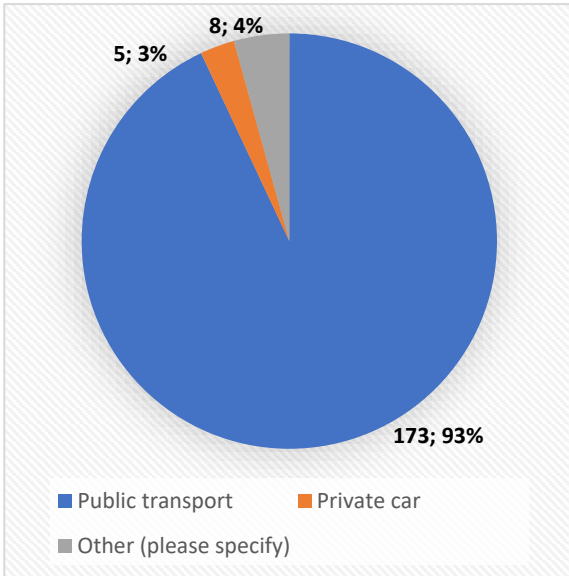
Q8. Do you have any comments on the chairing of the items on the Synod Agenda?

- There were 7 comments on the handling of amendments. They include spending too much time on amendments and not enough time on the main motion. 2 respondents favoured more use of en-bloc voting for amendments as shown by the Bishop of Fulham; 1 person appreciated the chairs encouraging people to address the amendment for genuine and salient debate, and not to use their speech for the main motion; 1 person noted that 'The mind-numbing amendments were actually chaired very well and expedited reasonably.'; 1 person asked, 'Is there a way for members to have some idea of other amendments being added before they submit theirs?'
- 62 respondents put in positive comments on chairing, from 'good' to 'consummate' and 'excellent without exception.'
- 11 respondents reported mixed views on Chairing. Several people mentioned that a Chair passed a motion by a show of hands even though the result was unclear. Some complained that certain Chairs only indicted the next speaker, not the next two, hence wasting time as people had to walk to the microphone.
- 21 respondents commented on Chairs calling the 'same old faces', including the inclination to call bishops. 2 respondents noted that wearing distinctive clothing might help being called.

GENERAL SYNOD

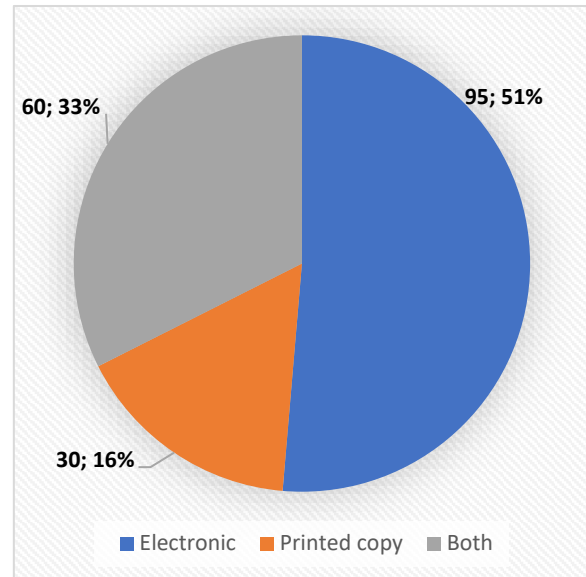
The Environmental Impact of Synod

Q9. Did you come to the Synod mainly by public transport, private car, or other means?

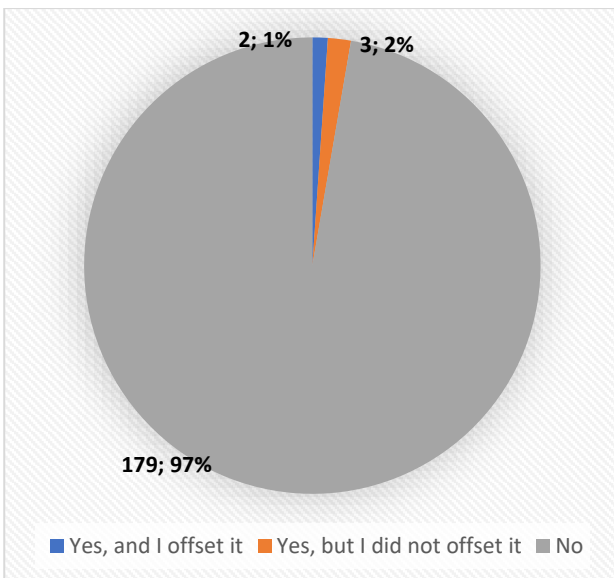


The 'Other' responses comprise of 3 people walking, 1 cycling, 2 people using private car to arrive in London before they use public transport, and 1 person by air.

Q10. Did you mainly use electronic or printed copy papers, or did you use both to a considerable extent?



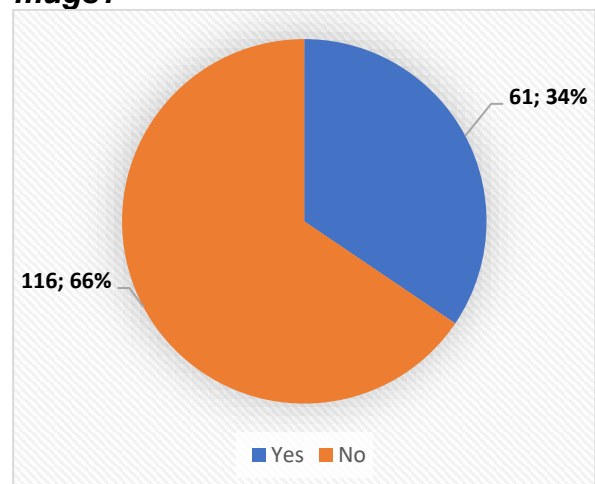
Q11a. Did you measure your carbon footprint?



Q11b. If you measured your carbon footprint, how did you do so?

Six respondents used Climate Stewards; one person answered 'Easyjet does this automatically' and another person asked 'how do I do this?'

Q12. Did you bring or use any reusable mugs?

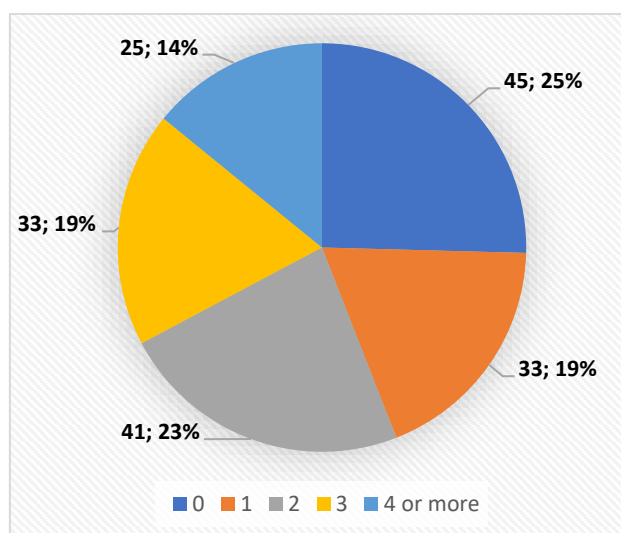


GENERAL SYNOD

Q13. If you choose to receive your papers in hard copy, please explain why you prefer this.

- E-copies were difficult for reading, annotating, handling details, comparing across documents, using in the chamber, and using in places with unstable or no wifi such as trains. The large amount of papers also led to eye problems with some members when reading on the screen.
- Some members reflected that they only skim through any electronic documents.
- Other reasons for using hard copies include incompatibility with Kindle Fire, the lack of resources to print on their own, and 'old age' [sic].
- One member had dyspraxia, making paper copies preferable.
- Some tried switching to paperless but switched back to paper.
- A few respondents found the App difficult and downloaded documents on the Synod website
- A chair preferred e-copies but added that hard copies were helpful in his/her role.

Q14. How many meat-free meals did you have during Synod?



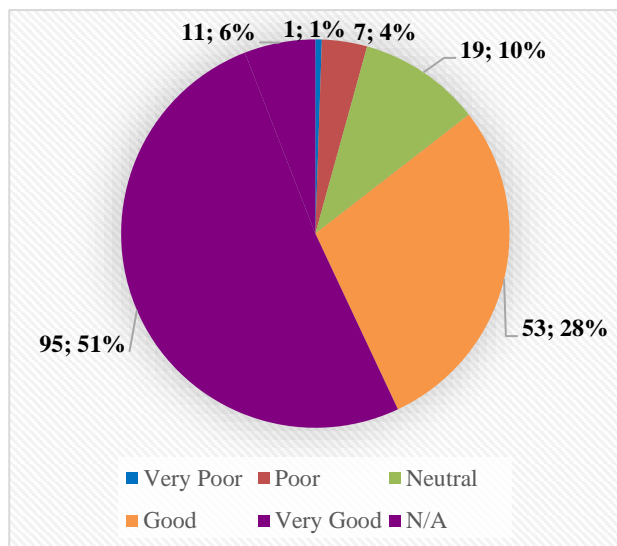
Q15. Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce the environmental impact of Synod?

- 15 respondents suggested selling Church of England mugs, reducing lighting in rooms (or turning off when not in use) and turning heating down in the Chamber.
- 25 respondents commented on the provision of papers and IT provision, including offering the option of printing Agenda and the Business Committee report only, further enhancing App functions, printing fewer notice and order papers, billing dioceses for printing costs, offering better wifi and battery recharge facilities, considering the situation of unsolicited paperwork in diocesan trays, etc.
- 6 respondents offered transport-related suggestions, including a ride-share App.
- 14 respondents suggested structural changes to Synod, e.g. meeting less often.
- 10 respondents gave other suggestions, including suggesting solar panels for Church House
- 1 respondent gave 13 suggestions that covered various areas.
- 1 person noted that 'this is not [a] priority.'

GENERAL SYNOD

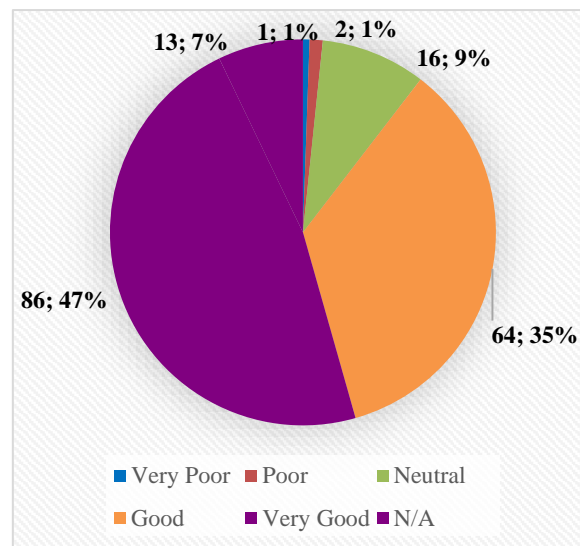
IT, Communications and Synod App

**Q16. How would you rate the following?
Synod WiFi availability**



Q16a. Weighted average: 4.34

Synod App



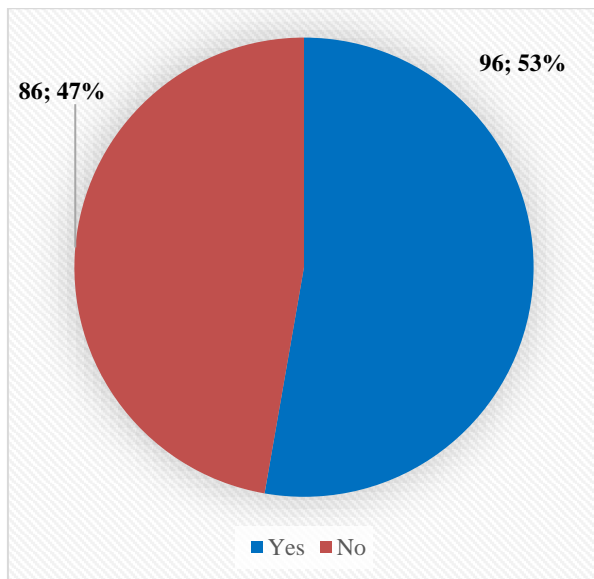
Q16b. Weighted average: 4.37

Q17. What changes/amendments/improvements would you find useful on the App in the future?

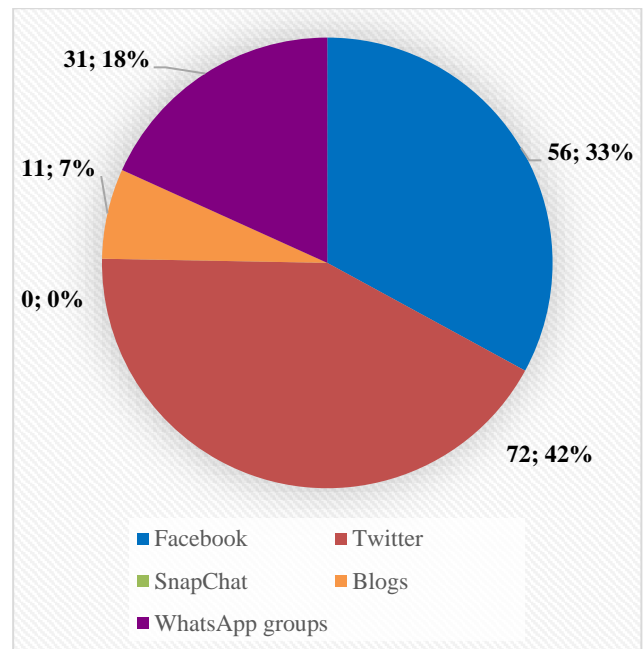
- 18 respondents suggested having the papers earlier on the App, with some suggesting the possibility of having the papers on the App on the same day as they are available on the website.
- 3 respondents made suggestions related to fringe meetings, including fringe meeting details.
- 10 respondents suggested developing further functions to the App, including the annotation function and split windows
- 5 respondents suggested widening the availability of the App to laptops and Windows devices.
- 5 respondents suggested putting up a list of members on the App.
- 6 respondents suggested uploading Order Papers, including amendments, earlier. 1 additional person suggested linking Notice Papers that contain amendments to the corresponding item on the timetable.
- 11 respondents suggested no further improvements or found it very good.
- 35 respondents offered various suggestions that will be followed up by staff members.

GENERAL SYNOD

Q18. Do you use social media to comment on Synod or to contact Synod members?



Q19. If so, please specify which platforms you used. (Please check multiple boxes where appropriate.)



- One respondent added that ‘I find social media pretty toxic during Synod, where many people use it to grandstand or get the last word in a way that is far from godly.’

Worship

Q20. What was your experience with the following?

	Very Poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very Good	N/A
Worship in the Assembly Hall	2 (1%)	10 (5%)	46 (25%)	91 (49%)	28 (15%)	8 (4%)
Worship in the Church House Chapel	0	0	13 (8%)	5 (3%)	2 (1%)	153 (88%)
Continuous Praying Presence at Synod	1 (1%)	3 (2%)	43 (24%)	60 (34%)	27 (15%)	44 (25%)

Q21. Would you offer any further comments on worship?

- 5 respondents reflected on their enjoyment of the morning Bible study.
- While one respondent saw the link between worship and the rest of the agenda, another person integrating prayer into the life of Synod as ‘the biggest weakness.’ An additional person commented that ‘generally speaking there just isn’t enough worship or space for contemplation.’

GENERAL SYNOD

- 8 respondents wrote about the Continuous Praying Presence. Some noticed and expressed appreciation for their presence, while others did not notice their presence.
- 2 respondents mentioned the difficulty of locating the Church House Chapel, while an additional person enjoyed the quietness inside.
- 5 respondents noticed the low attendance at worship.
- 31 respondents offered various comments on the style and diversity of worship, which would all be relayed to the Chaplain to the Synod.
- 6 respondents offered specific points of improvement, including having electronic copies available for the services when the Synod members return to their parishes.
- 2 respondents noted their satisfaction with the current provision.

Venue and Catering

Q22. If you organised or arranged any fringe meetings, please rate your experience. (Please skip this question if you had not organised or arranged any fringe meetings.)

	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good
Process of booking your fringe meeting	0	2 (8%)	5 (21%)	9 (38%)	8 (33%)
Appropriateness of fringe meeting rooms	1 (4%)	5 (21%)	4 (17%)	12 (50%)	6 (25%)
Quality of catering, if any	0	2 (8%)	5 (21%)	9 (38%)	10 (42%)
Practical information (e.g. the time that you would have access to the rooms, etc.)	0	0	7 (29%)	14 (58%)	3 (13%)

Q23. If you attended any fringe meetings, please rate your experience. (Please skip this question if you did not attend any fringe meetings.)

	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good
Appropriateness of the fringe meeting rooms	1 (1%)	10 (7%)	14 (10%)	77 (57%)	34 (25%)
Quality of catering, if any	1 (1%)	6 (4%)	14 (10%)	65 (48%)	39 (29%)
Meeting content	1 (1%)	0	12 (9%)	61 (45%)	62 (46%)

Q24. Would you share any further comments about the fringe meetings?

- Respondents generally expressed their satisfaction toward the content of selective events, while some also noted reservations.
- 3 respondents would like better information available on the locations and ways to book their events.
- Comments on the food provision was mixed – from ‘good’ to ‘expensive.’

GENERAL SYNOD

Accessibility

Q25. How accessible did you find the following?

	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good	N/A
Getting to London	0	7 (4%)	14 (8%)	70 (40%)	80 (45%)	5 (3%)
Church House as a meeting venue	0	6 (3%)	20 (11%)	75 (43%)	74 (42%)	1 (1%)
Getting around Church House	1 (1%)	6 (3%)	22 (12%)	97 (55%)	50 (28%)	1 (1%)
Worship materials	1 (1%)	6 (3%)	41 (23%)	83 (47%)	35 (20%)	11 (6%)
Worship in the Assembly Hall	3 (2%)	8 (5%)	33 (19%)	83 (47%)	42 (24%)	7 (4%)
Fringe meetings	0	1 (1%)	27 (15%)	86 (49%)	30 (17%)	33 (19%)
Presentations and videos	2 (1%)	5 (3%)	32 (18%)	95 (54%)	37 (21%)	5 (3%)
Displays	3 (2%)	9 (5%)	44 (26%)	63 (37%)	15 (9%)	37 (22%)
Written materials, such as GS papers	1 (1%)	5 (3%)	23 (13%)	104 (59%)	41 (23%)	3 (2%)
The Church of England website	3 (2%)	13 (7%)	34 (19%)	83 (47%)	22 (13%)	21 (12%)
The Synod App	2 (1%)	2 (1%)	15 (8%)	69 (39%)	72 (41%)	17 (10%)

Q26. Can you give us details of your experiences in London with regard to accessibility, whether positive or negative? Please make suggestions for how we can be more inclusive.

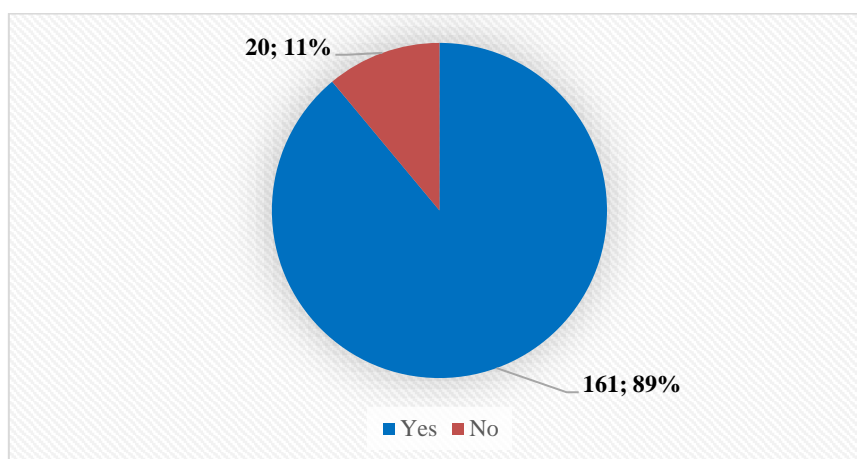
- 3 respondents included the price of London (including hotel) as an accessibility issue.
- Multiple respondents reported discomfort with chairs in the Chamber.
- Multiple respondents struggled with the location of rooms at Church House, including the Displays Room (Abbey Room) and fringe locations.
- One person noted, 'I have back and mobility problems. The chairs are very bad for one's back and sitting uninterrupted for hours on end is really painful and damaging, with little opportunity to change position without missing important business or having to carry one's possessions to an alternative location. The rows of chairs get steadily more squashed as the days go on, meaning it's impossible to keep one's leg(s) and spine in a natural position. I come away from Synod in a great deal of pain from which it takes weeks to recover, exacerbated by the travelling with luggage and the paper one accumulates during the sessions. I have to plan my accommodation based on fully step-free access Tube stations both from the rail terminus and for the daily journeys to and from Westminster - and there aren't many

GENERAL SYNOD

options! Church House still has challenges even once you can find the accessible routes to and from the chamber - and even then the order/notice papers are in a place with steps unless one goes all the way back round to use the ramp by the disabled lavatory.

After Synod Finishes

Q27. Do you feel equipped to report back to your diocese, constituency, organisation or department on what took place at General Synod? If not, what would make you feel better equipped?

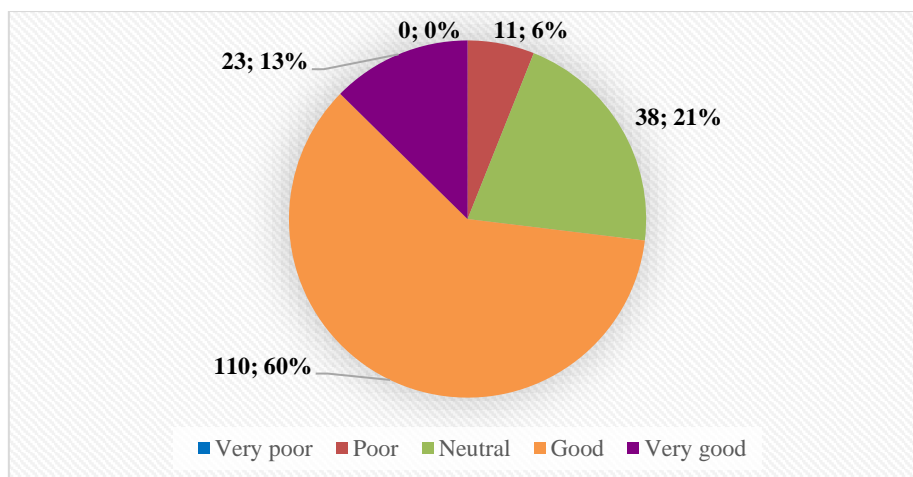


Comments include

- Having a summary of business done soon after Synod
- Having an accessible write-up aimed at deaneries
- Having an early synopsis of business for those writing for their dioceses
- Having the motions and voting results posted immediately on the App or online

General Comments

Q28. How would you rate the February 2020 General Synod meeting overall?



Q22. Weighted average: 3.8

GENERAL SYNOD

Q29. Are there any other areas you wish to feedback to us on?

83 comments were received for this section.

- 16 respondents thanked the hard work from staff members, the security guards, and the Business Committee.
- 2 respondents raised specific accessibility issues, including publicising a convenient, private space for checking blood pressure and injecting insulin (as the toilet is not appropriate); and the lack of general accessibility as a new member.
- 2 respondents asked for an earlier publication of Synod timings.
- 6 respondents shared positive reflections, including Synod getting more 'honest' covering important topics.
- 7 respondents shared comments specific to LLF.
- 3 respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the Displays location.
- 7 respondents offered comments on legislation, including the handling of amendments and thinking about ways to keep members in the Chamber for legislative business.
- 4 respondents remarked certain people being called to speak frequently while others did not have opportunities.
- 6 respondents reflected on the pace of Synod – some lack the time to digest, while others wanted more sessions in the same day.
- 3 respondents expressed a sense of helplessness in not being effective enough or failing to contribute.
- 2 respondents raised the issue of cramped seating in the Chamber, particularly toward the back of the Chamber.
- 19 respondents offered a wide range of individual comments, including BAME engagement, people leaving the Chamber during speeches, 'ill-defined' debates, more engagements between members, etc.

GENERAL SYNOD

2. Feedback from July 2020

Overview of participants (Q1-Q3)

House

House of Bishops	12
House of Laity	125
House of Clergy	109
Non-voting member	6

Age Group

18-25	5
26-35	7
36-50	37
51-65	131
66 or above	69
Prefer not to say	1

Province

Canterbury	168
York	80

Rating of agenda items (Q4)

Q4. How would you rate the following items on the Agenda?

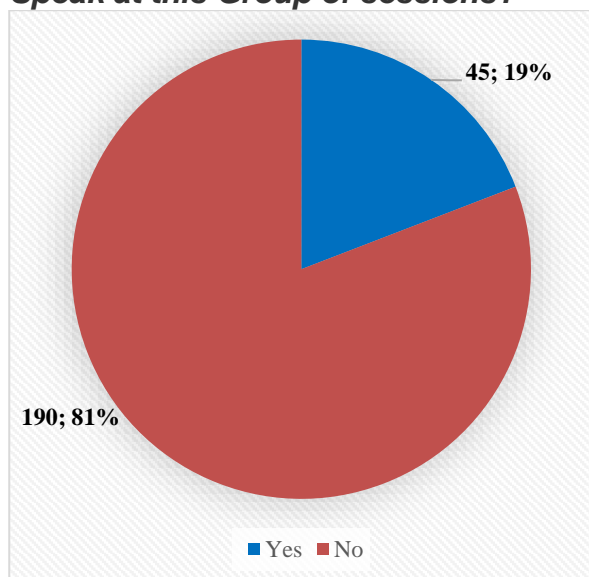


Answer Choices	Very Poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very Good	N/A	Total
Opening Worship	6	22	85	101	12	8	234
Presidential Address	6	11	36	75	105	3	236
Question Time part 1	17	50	68	81	12	3	231
Response of the Church to Covid-19	3	10	45	114	59	2	233
Question Time part 2	17	45	68	83	13	3	229
Reflections/Scriptural Thought	14	33	65	51	16	51	230
Closing Worship	7	21	61	81	13	44	227

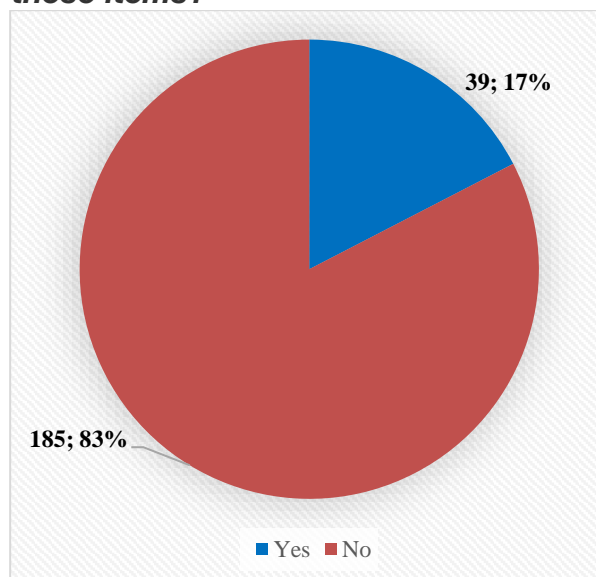
GENERAL SYNOD

Chairing and Speaking in Debates (Q5-8)

Q5. Did you put in any Requests to Speak at this Group of sessions?



Q6. Were you called to speak in any of these items?



Q7. Do you have any comments on the chairing of the items on the Synod Agenda?

There were 192 comments, summarised as follows:

- 16 respondents merely answered 'no' or 'none'
- 104 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically positive (trend in comments that chairs managed well/exceptionally well considering the circumstances)
- 28 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically negative (trend in comments towards perceived bias in those called to speak and not seeing blue hands raised)
- 40 made general observations
- 3 referred to answers from a previous question.

There were many comments about the managing of the 'blue hands' function, with the main observations being:

- people complaining they were not called, having raise their hand
- you couldn't see who had raised their hands to speak (where in the chamber you would see who had stood up)
- the same people were called to speak repeatedly
- the chair should have waited longer between questions at Question Time before moving on so blue hands were not missed
- there should be more help for the chair in managing the blue hands
- limit the number of supplementary to 2 per member

Q8. Do you have any comments on the process for handling speaking requests using the Zoom software?

There were 161 comments, summarised as follows:

- 31 respondents merely answered 'no' or 'none'
- Approx. 49 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically positive
- Approx 26 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically negative

GENERAL SYNOD

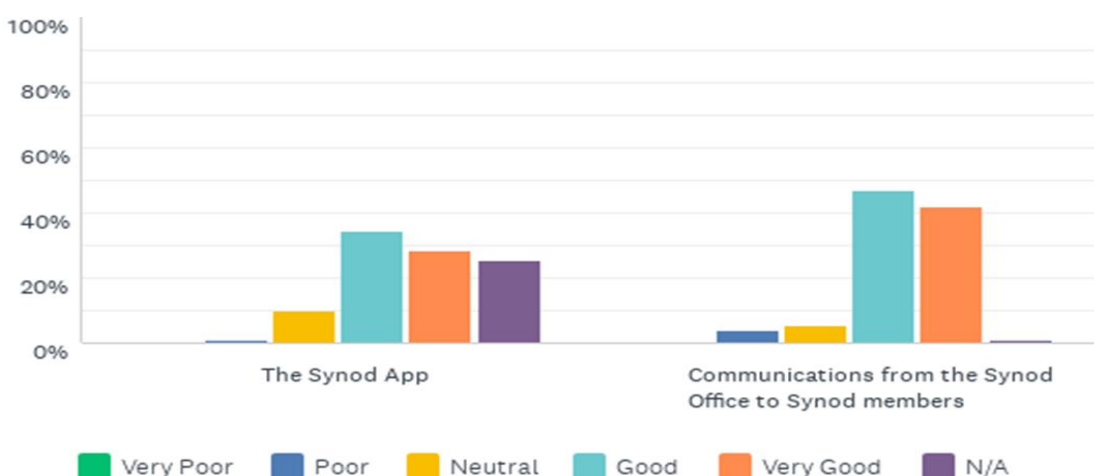
55 made general observations

Trends in comments:

- Zoom doesn't work well for such a large group
- submit supplementaries in advance and don't use raise hand function
- more support for the Chair to monitor the raised hands
- pace too quick so people were missed – it was hard to click the blue hand quickly enough
- some technical issues but as good as could be expected
- stronger briefing for how to request to speak/put up hand
- worked efficiently
- easier by Zoom as names are by blue hands (not all members known by sight)
- same people called to speak so limit number of times a member is called
- well managed

IT, Communications and Synod App (Q9-12)

Q9. How would you rate the following?



Answer Choices	Very Poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very Good	N/A	Total
The Synod App	1	2	21	72	60	54	210
Communications from the Synod Office to Synod members	1	9	13	107	95	2	227

Q10. What changes/amendments/improvements would you find useful on the App in the future?

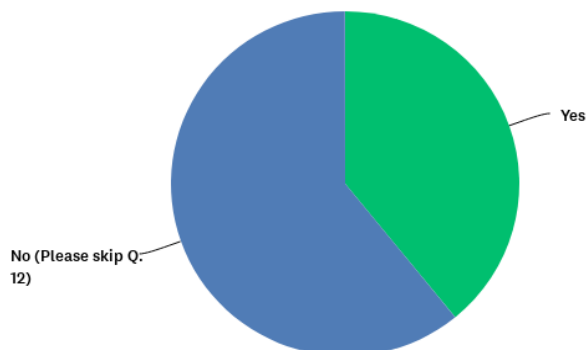
There were 117 comments of which 72 respondents answered 'no' or 'none'
Other comments included:

- uploading the papers earlier and updating them in good time/real time
- have a list of members with photos on the App
- didn't know the App was in use this time
- include a plan of the building for when we're back in Church House
- text search function

GENERAL SYNOD

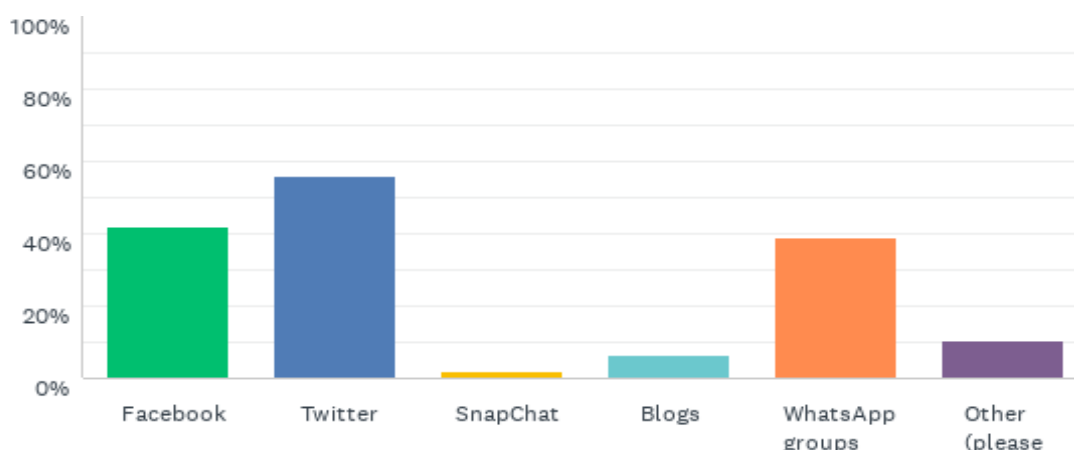
- ability to add personal notes to papers
- send the Zoom link via the App

Q11. Do you use social media to comment on Synod or to contact Synod members?



Answer Choices	Response Percent	Responses
Yes	39.11%	88
No (Please skip Q. 12)	60.89%	137

Q12. If so, please specify which platforms you used. (Please check multiple boxes where appropriate.)



There were 10 ‘other’ responses which included: email, text, phone, Myspace and messenger. 2 said Zoom chat (even though this was disabled) and one asking why the Zoom chat wasn’t available.

It is clear is that if only 88 people said they were using social media, but responses about what they used totalled 148, then most members were likely to be using more than one platform of which the most popular are: Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp.

Accessibility (Q13-14)

Q13. How accessible did you find the following?

There were 230 responses (22 skipped)

Answer Choices	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good	N/A	Total
Using Zoom	5	12	19	89	101	1	227

GENERAL SYNOD

Presentations and videos	3	18	37	104	52	8	222
Written materials such as GS Misc Papers	2	6	25	125	63	6	227
The Church of England website	3	12	57	103	36	17	228
The Synod App	0	5	19	79	61	61	225

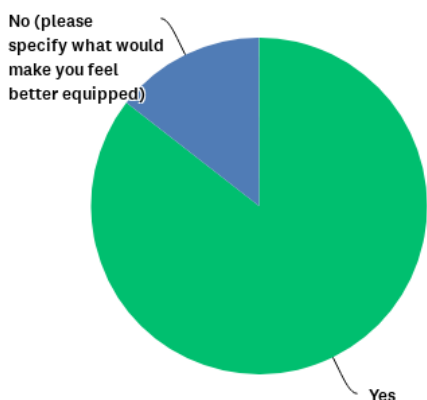
Q14. Can you give us details of your experiences with regards to accessibility, whether positive or negative? Please make suggestions for how we can be more inclusive.

There were 115 Comments with many respondents being positive about the Zoom experience and accessibility in general. In particular, one of the Deaf Anglicans Together representative commented that they appreciated the subtitled videos, could follow the live proceedings with the BSL interpreter and for them Zoom was very successful. Comments for improvements in accessibility included:

- the website is difficult to navigate and a bit dull
- not everyone has access to laptops/fast broadband
- poor sound quality and background noise was distracting during the meeting
- more technical guidance/training for those new to Zoom
- options for hard copies as accessing papers on a computer can be difficult
- Zoom is tiring and difficult – more breaks needed.

After the meeting (Q15)

Q15. Do you feel equipped to report back to your diocese, constituency, organisation or department on what took place at the informal meeting of Synod members? If not, what would make you feel better equipped?



Yes	85.53%	195
No (please specify what would make you feel better equipped)	14.47%	33

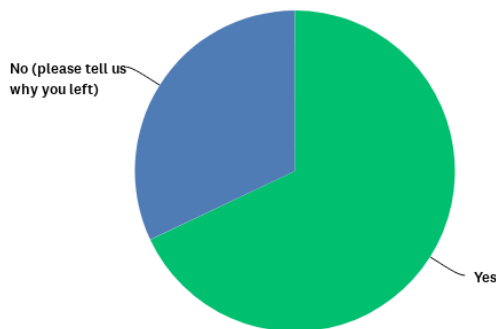
There were 33 comments which included:

- having a short summary which could be circulated
- having a short video which could be shown
- circulation of the slides used in the presentation
- it was difficult to concentrate on Zoom and make notes
- will watch the recording to refresh my memory

GENERAL SYNOD

Zoom (Q16-18)

Q16. Did you stay for the whole meeting on Zoom?

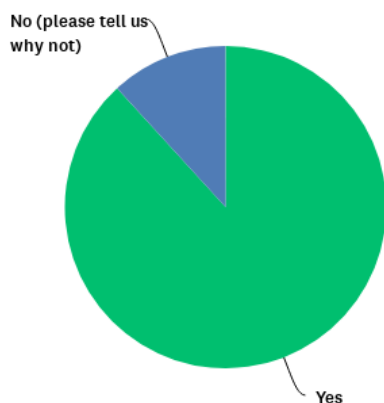


Answer Choices	Response Percent	Responses
Yes	67.97%	157
No (please tell us why you left)	32.03%	74

There were 74 comments, and the main reasons for leaving the meeting were:

- other commitments such as attending a wedding, family/other visitors arriving or family/other duties
- long and tiring day – couldn’t face any more screen time; Zoomed out
- headache/back pain
- breakout rooms – either didn’t want to take part in them or left when they didn’t work

Q17. If circumstances meant that another meeting of Synod had to be held by Zoom would you take part?



Answer Choices	Response Percent	Responses
Yes	88.21%	202
No (please tell us why not)	11.79%	27

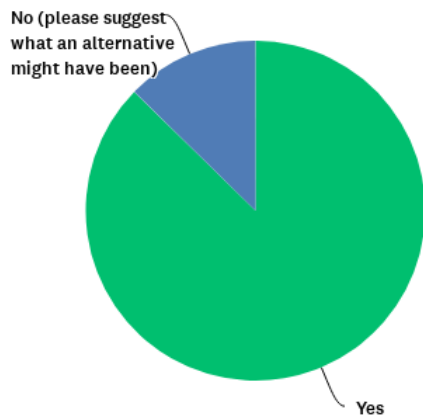
There were 27 comments from members who would not take part in another Zoom meeting, and reasons included:

- Zoom is not for major issues or those requiring debate
- the conversations had in person outside the chamber are important
- the meeting is too large for Zoom, it does not work/feeling of being disconnected
- would prefer to wait until we can meet in person
- Zoom needs to be more reliable/better managed for legislative business

Q18. Overall, are you happy that it was possible to hold a smaller scale meeting online rather than not hold a meeting at all?

GENERAL SYNOD

There were 229 reponses (23 skipped)



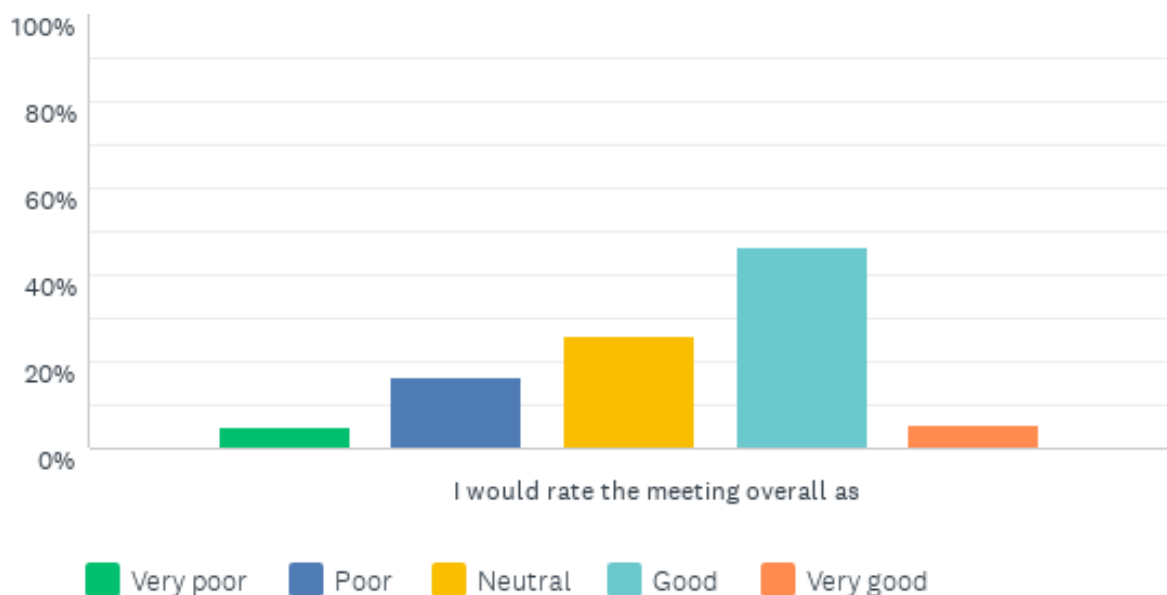
Answer Choices	Response Percent	Responses
Yes	87.34%	200
No (please suggest what an alternative might have been)	12.66%	29

There were 29 comments, a large number of which suggested having no meeting or postponing the meeting until Synod could meet in person. There were other suggestions that Synod could meet in person if a larger venue was hired such as the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, larger cathedrals or a football stadium.

After the meeting (Q19-21)

Q19. How would you rate the July 2020 meeting of Synod members overall?

There were 229 responses (23 skipped)



Answer Choices	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good	Total
I would rate the meeting overall as	11	38	60	107	13	229

Q20. Do you have any comments on the handling of the virtual meeting?

There were 143 comments summarised as follows:

GENERAL SYNOD

21 respondents merely answered 'no' or 'none'
 65 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically positive
 24 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically negative
 33 made general observations

The main trends of the comments were:

- many expressions of thanks were made to all those who organised and ran the meeting
- no way to show appreciation for what was being said (eg no applause possible)
- the day was too dominated by questions
- hold meeting over longer period with more breaks (eg 2 days with shorter sessions)
- went well and saved the expense of travel
- excellent given the challenges involved
- more small group work needed
- good to see the names against the faces
- Zoom shouldn't be the norm, virtual meetings should only happen when absolutely necessary
- background noise was distracting
- Zoom is a great leveller – no reserved seating
- ecumenical pre-brief was excellent and valuable

Q21. Final question: are there any other comments you would like to add?

There were 129 comments summarised as follows:

39 respondents merely answered 'no' or 'none'
 39 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically positive
 13 respondents were mainly or enthusiastically negative
 38 made general observations

Many of the comments were again expressions of gratitude for the Synod team in setting up of the meeting and those Chairing it. Several comments repeated those made elsewhere in the survey, but other comments from this section included:

- definitely don't want Zoom as the new normal, but ok if essential until we meet again in person
- thanks for trying out something new
- great for the environment and saving the expense of travelling to York – perhaps this should be explored for the future
- too dominated by questions
- it was valuable to see names and faces on Zoom
- as a parent it was much easier to attend
- it worked better than the webinar format of the Methodist Conference which I also attended.

GENERAL SYNOD

3. Feedback from September 2020**Overview of participants (Q1-Q3)****House**

House of Bishops	4
House of Laity	26
House of Clergy	36

Province

Canterbury	45
York	20

Age Group

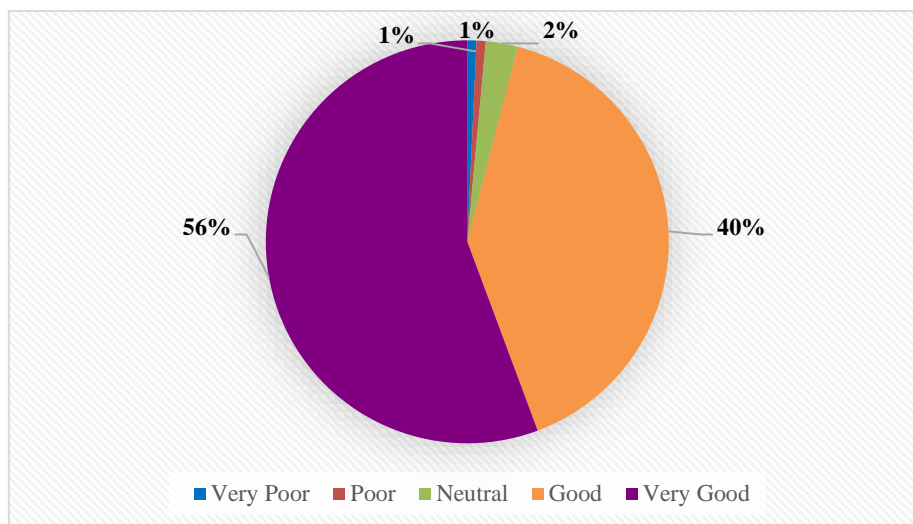
18-25	0
26-35	0
36-50	8
51-65	36
66 or above	23

Rating of agenda items**Q4. How would you rate the following items on the Agenda?**

	Very Poor (1)	Poor (2)	Neutral (3)	Good (4)	Very Good (5)	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
1A. Presidential Address	2	1	5	23	32	1	64	4.3
500. Draft General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure First Consideration	0	0	1	22	40	1	64	4.62
Draft General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure Revision in Full Synod	0	1	1	22	40	0	64	4.58
501-502. 00. Draft General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure First Consideration Final Drafting and Final Approval	0	0	0	23	40	0	63	4.63

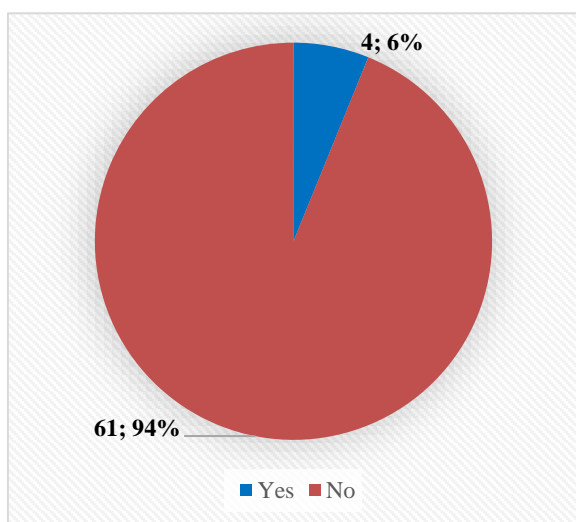
Overall rating of the agenda: 4.53

GENERAL SYNOD

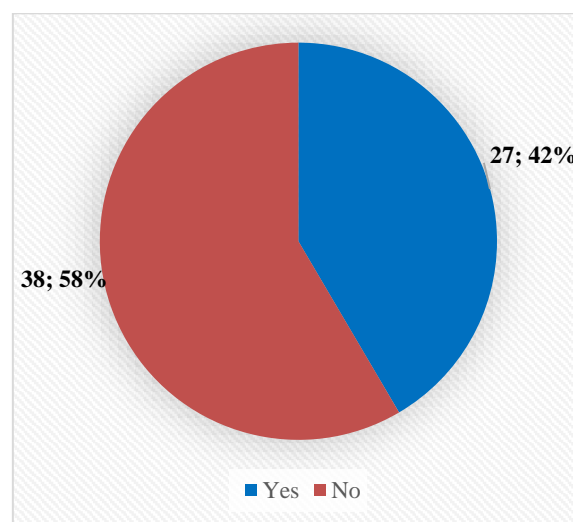


Chairing and Speaking in Debates

Q5. Did you put in any Requests to Speak at this Group of sessions?



Q6. Were you called to speak?



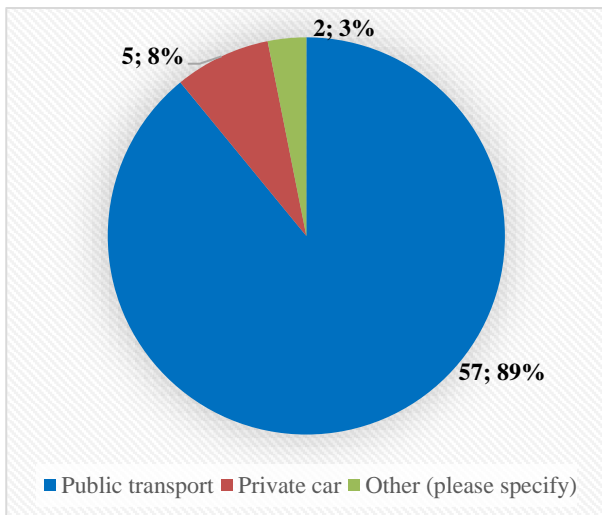
Q7. Do you have any comments on the chairing of the items on the Synod Agenda?

- The 46 comments received were overwhelmingly positive, with a small number of negative comments concerning the chairs' hesitations.

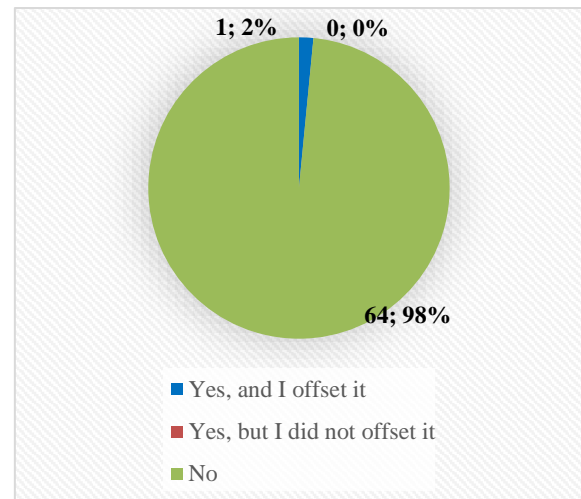
The Environmental Impact of Synod

Q8. Did you come to the Synod mainly by public transport, private car, or other means?

GENERAL SYNOD



The 'Other' responses comprise of one person by taxi and another by walking.



Q9. Did you measure your carbon footprint?

Q10. If you measured your carbon footprint, how did you do so?

One person answered that he/she drove an electric car.

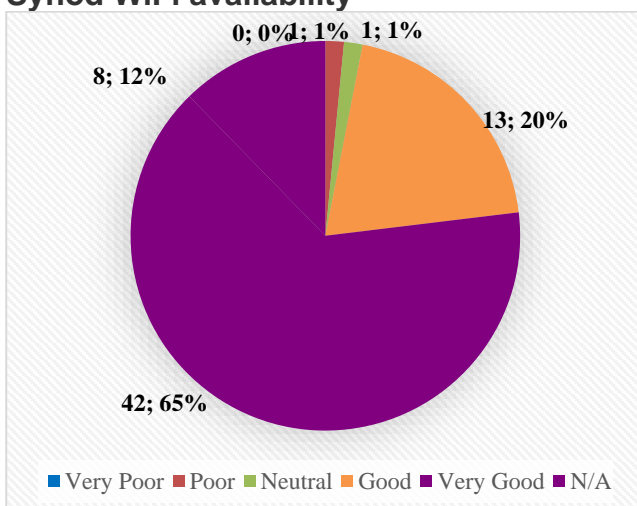
Q11. Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce the environmental impact of Synod?

- 11 members suggested using the virtual platform more often for meetings, while noting that face-to-face meeting will still be necessary.
- Three members suggested lowering the number of Synod members.
- Two members suggested lowering the temperature of the Chamber.
- One member suggested reducing the lighting in the Chamber.
- One member suggested further cutting down on paper use by more use of the App and displaying papers on the large screen in the Chamber.

IT, Communications and Synod App

Q12. How would you rate the following?

Synod WiFi availability

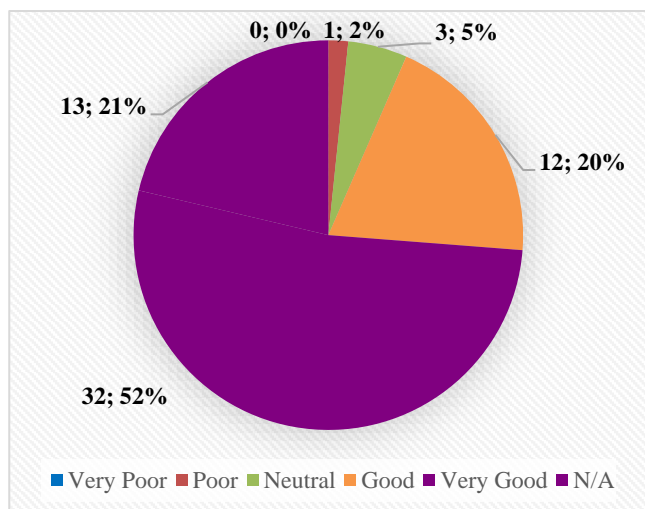


Q12a. Weighted average: 4.68

Synod App

GENERAL SYNOD

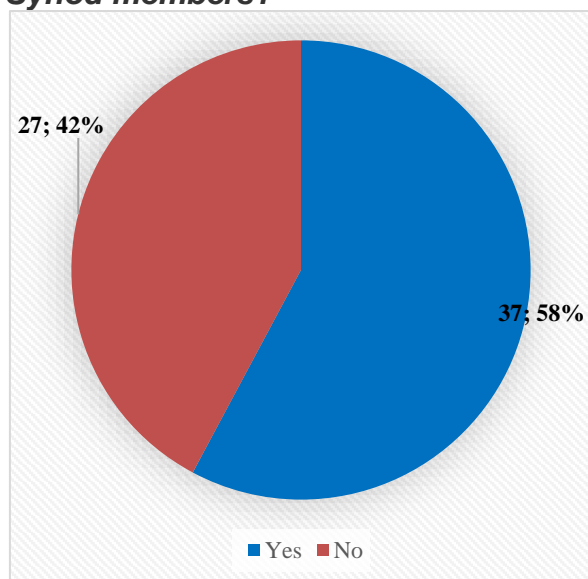
Q12b. Weighted average: 4.56



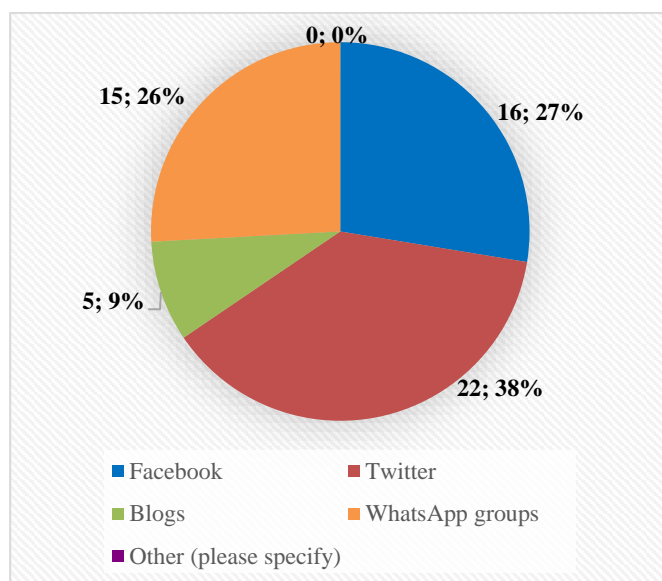
Q13. What changes/amendments/improvements would you find useful on the App in the future?

- One respondent suggested reminding Synod members about the App.
- One respondent suggested creating a 'fool's guide' to the App.
- One respondent reported incompatibility of the App to the specific tablet
- One respondent suggested having charging stations
- One person noted that when switching between documents, the page number is reset every time, causing inconvenience.
- Several respondents reported their satisfaction with the App.

Q14. Do you use social media to comment on Synod or to contact Synod members?



Q15. If so, please specify which platforms you used. (Please check multiple boxes where appropriate.)



GENERAL SYNOD

Worship

Q16. What was your experience with the following?

	Very Poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very Good	N/A
Worship in the Assembly Hall	2 (3%)	5 (8%)	22 (34%)	29 (44%)	7 (11%)	0 (0%)

Q16. Weighted average: 3.52

Q17. Would you offer any further comments on worship?

- Four members found not singing to be difficult, but understood the limits posed by COVID-19.
- One member felt strange to be led at the lectern and not the platform.
- One member felt that it was 'not worship, just words spoken for the end of the day at you.'
- One member commented that enforcing the two-beat pause in the psalm on a community unused to praying the psalms in such a way does not work.
- Two members expressed thanks for the opening prayer.
- One member suggested a more extensive use of common worship provision for the morning office.
- One member suggested a more imaginative use of the screen, including evenly sized text, an image or photo to help bring Synod into a place of recognition of God with us, and use a velum or off-white background to enhance the effect of the text.
- One member noted that the mic was not turned on from the outset for the closing worship.
- One member noted disappointment at various aspects: the leader/congregation division should match the delivery or be changed; it was patronising for the leader to announce that the psalmody 'does not work'; the unscripted intercessions in the afternoon was inaudible; and the 'Glory to the Father' doxologies were incorrectly transcribed from Common Worship.
- One member suggested the sentence 'please feel free to adopt a position during prayers where you are most comfortable'.
- Four members suggested more instructions from the leader, recognising that 'we are still working through how to do worship' in this pandemic.
- One member preferred 'something more contemporary'.

Accessibility

Q18. How accessible did you find the following?

	Very poor	Poor	Neutral	Good	Very good	N/A
Church House as a meeting venue	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	4 (6%)	32 (49%)	27 (42%)	0

GENERAL SYNOD

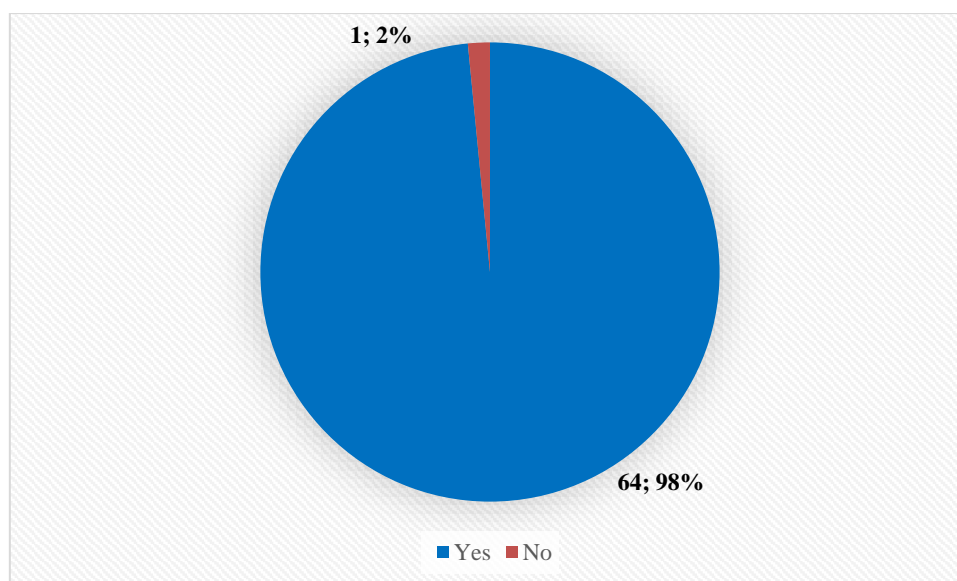
Getting around Church House	0	3 (4%)	11 (17%)	28 (44%)	22 (34%)	0
Worship materials	1 (2%)	3 (5%)	17 (27%)	25 (40%)	13 (21%)	4 (6%)
Worship in the Assembly Hall	1 (2%)	5 (8%)	17 (27%)	27 (43%)	13 (21%)	0
Written materials, such as GS papers	0	1 (2%)	5 (8%)	25 (39%)	33 (52%)	0
The Church of England website	0	3 (5%)	14 (22%)	25 (39%)	14 (22%)	8 (13%)
The Synod App	0	1 (2%)	3 (5%)	15 (23%)	33 (52%)	12 (19%)

Q19. Can you give us details of your experiences in London with regard to accessibility, whether positive or negative?

- The responses were overwhelmingly positive, particularly regarding the assigned seatings and COVID-secure planning.
- While one respondent expressed delight to have one’s own space for lunch, some others were less than satisfied with the arrangements.
- The one-way system caused inconvenience but was appreciated for the safety it brought.
- Two respondents noted that the stairs caused inconveniences for them.

After Synod Finishes

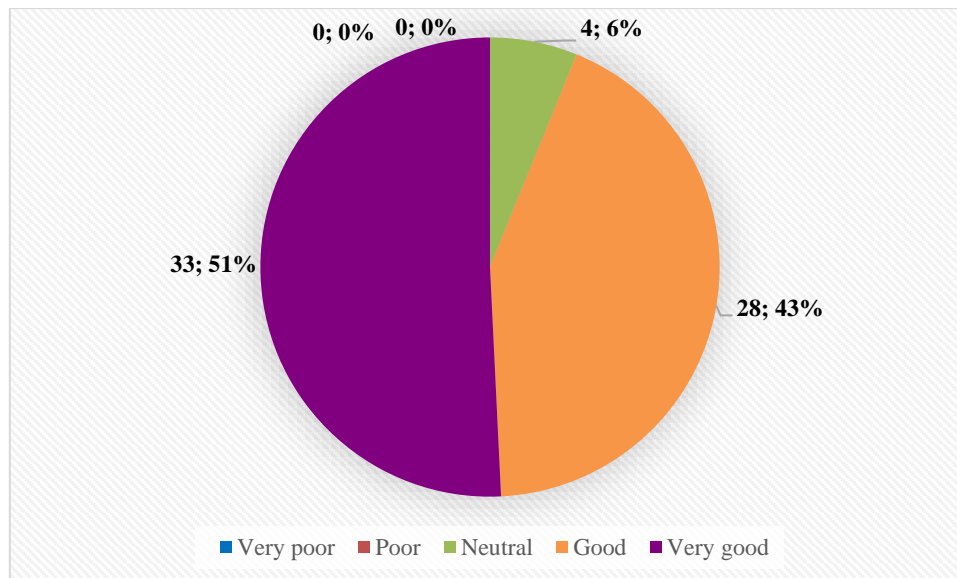
Q20. Do you feel equipped to report back to your diocese, constituency, organisation or department on what took place at General Synod? If not, what would make you feel better equipped?



GENERAL SYNOD

The only one comment suggested sending out an objective summary of the group of sessions. [N.B. this can be accessed through the 'Business Done' document available on the Synod website.]

General Comments

Q21. How would you rate the September 2020 General Synod meeting overall?

Q22. Weighted average: 4.45

Q23. Are there any other areas you wish to feedback to us on?

39 Comments have been received for this question.

- The comments overwhelmingly thanked and praised the work of the Synod Team and Church House staff members for ensuring members' safety.
- Five members opined that an extra lectern or mic could be set up for the Chair of the Steering Committee to speed up proceedings.
- Two members felt that business could be expedited.
- One member felt that working in a smaller group was much easier, calmer and quieter than full Synod.
- One member felt that Synod should continue to think of ways to make itself less pompous and deferential, with bishops scattering around the Chamber a good step in this direction.
- One member felt that the pandemic shed light on various issues, including the deaf community and the Youth Council not having votes. This member also noted that physical meetings presented their own difficulty, albeit different, compared to online meetings.
- One member noted that 'The Trinity appeared to have disappeared from the Prorogation.'