

GENERAL SYNOD

JULY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2021

FIRST NOTICE PAPER

FIFTY-SEVENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 2198 UPDATED)

Notes:

1. *Members should refer to GS 2198 Updated which explains the effect of these amendments.*
2. *As reported in the Agenda, the Business Committee has determined under Standing Order 40(5) that the proposed amendments to Standing Orders contained in items 36, 37, 38, 40, 42, 43, 48, 49, 50 and 52 to 76 do not need to be debated.*
3. *Under Standing Order 40(5)(c) those amendments will be deemed to have been approved by the Synod unless either:*
 - a. *due notice is given by not less than 5 members by 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 6 July 2021 that they wish a proposed amendment to be debated; or*
 - b. *due notice is given by 5.30 p.m. on Friday 9 July 2021 of an amendment to any proposed amendment.*

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC (Manchester) to move in respect of the following items: 'That this amendment be made with effect from 13 July 2021'.

Standing Order 51 (First Consideration: general)

36 In Standing Order 51, in paragraph (2), omit the words from “; nor is a speech” to the end.

37 In Standing Order 51, omit paragraph (4).

38 In Standing Order 51, after paragraph (6), insert—

“(7) Where the Business Committee has determined that, if a

Measure or Canon were to be deemed under paragraph (5) to have had First Consideration, it should be considered for revision in Full Synod without a prior Revision Committee Stage, the motion in SO 53(1) is (subject to paragraph (8)) deemed to have been carried immediately after the motion in paragraph (1) is deemed to have been carried; and paragraphs (3) and (4) of SO 53 apply accordingly and paragraph (3) of this Standing Order does not apply.

- (8) If, where the Business Committee has made a determination as mentioned in paragraph (7), at least 25 members have, no later than 5.30 p.m. on the day referred to in paragraph (6), given due notice to the Clerk that they wish the Measure or Canon to be committed to a Revision Committee, the Measure or Canon is so committed immediately after the motion in paragraph (1) is deemed to have been carried.”

After Standing Order 51

39 After Standing Order 51 insert—

“51A. First consideration: deemed to be given between groups of sessions

- a. Where the Business Committee has determined that it would be appropriate for a Measure or Canon to be deemed to have had First Consideration before the next group of sessions begins, the Clerk must lay a draft of the Measure or Canon before Synod no later than 56 days before the day on which the next group of sessions is to begin.
- b. The draft laid under paragraph (1) must be accompanied by a notice which—
 - i. states that this Standing Order applies to the Measure or Canon and explains the effect of this Standing Order,

- ii. specifies the date by which, if the Measure or Canon were to be deemed under this Standing Order to have had First Consideration, proposals for amendment would have to be submitted under SO 55(1), and
 - iii. specifies the date by which a member who wished the Measure or Canon to be debated would have to notify the Clerk of that wish.
- c. The date specified under paragraph (2)(c) must be at least 35 days after the date on which the draft is laid under paragraph (1) (and may be the same as the date specified under paragraph (2)(b)).
- d. The motion in SO 51(1) is (subject to paragraph (5)) deemed to have been carried, and the Measure or Canon is accordingly deemed to have been committed to a Revision Committee, on the day after the day specified under paragraph (2)(c); and the period during which amendments may be submitted under SO 55(1) comes to an end at the end of the day specified under paragraph (2)(b).
- e. If at least 25 members have, no later than 5.30 p.m. on the date specified under paragraph (2)(c), given due notice to the Clerk that they wish the Measure or Canon to be debated—
 - i. the Business Committee must lay before the Synod notice to that effect and must arrange for consideration of the Measure or Canon for First Consideration to take place at a group of sessions,
 - ii. SO 51 applies as if paragraphs (5) and (6), and the reference to paragraph (5) in paragraph (1), were omitted, and
 - iii. if the motion in SO 51(1) is carried, any amendments which a member has already submitted are to be treated as submitted for the purposes of SO 55.

- f. A reference to a document being laid before Synod is a reference to—
 - i. the document being published on the Synod website, and
 - ii. a copy of the document being sent to each member of the Synod.”

Standing Order 52 (First Consideration: consolidation Measures and Canons)

40 In Standing Order 52, in paragraph (2), for “(4)” substitute “(3)”.

Standing Order 57 (Revision Committee: report)

41 In Standing Order 57, in paragraph (3), after sub-paragraph (b) insert “, and

- i. in respect of each meeting of the Committee, a statement that every member of the Committee attended the meeting or, if that was not the case, a list of the members who did attend it.”

42 In Standing Order 57, after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) Where a report of the Revision Committee relates to both a Measure and a Canon, or to more than one of each or either, a member of the Committee must, after the motion in paragraph (4) has been voted on and subject to any motions under paragraph (2), move in the Synod a motion in respect of each Measure or Canon “*That the [Measure or Canon] do proceed to the Revision Stage*”; and the question on each motion must be put and voted on without debate.”

Standing Order 58 (Revision following Revision Committee: consideration by Synod)

43 In Standing Order 58, in paragraph (2), for the words from “a member” to the end substitute “the motion “*That the [Clause*

or paragraph] [as amended] stand part of the [Measure or Canon]” is deemed carried unless a member indicates a wish to speak against the motion”.

Standing Order 59 (Revision following Revision Committee: amendments)

44 In Standing Order 59, in paragraph (5), after “supports the amendment” insert “or that, although it does not support the amendment, it nevertheless wishes the debate to continue”.

45 In Standing Order 59, in paragraph (6), for “indicates that it does not support the amendment” substitute “does not indicate that it supports the amendment or that it wishes the debate to continue”.

46 In Standing Order 59, in paragraph (6), for “40” in each place it appears substitute “25”.

47 In Standing Order 59, after paragraph (8) insert—

“(8A) When debate on an amendment has come to an end (whether or not following a motion for the Closure) but before the amendment is put to the vote, the mover of the amendment may speak in reply for not more than three minutes.”

48 In Standing Order 59, after paragraph (9) insert—

“(9A) Amendments which, in the opinion of the Chair, are consequential on an amendment already carried or raise an issue already decided by the Synod in relation to the Measure or Canon may, with the permission of the Chair, be moved *en bloc* where—

(a) no notice of amendments to any of the amendments concerned has been given, and

- (b) no member indicates a wish to speak against any of the amendments.”

49 In Standing Order 61, in paragraph (8), omit the words from “; and, if” to the end.

50 In Standing Order 61, after paragraph (8) insert—

“(8A) With the permission of the Chair, any other member may move an amendment to a special amendment.

(8B) A member of the Steering Committee may move an amendment to an amendment under paragraph (8A).

(8C) If a special amendment is carried, with such amendments under paragraphs (8A) and (8B) as have been carried, a member of the Steering Committee may move such consequential amendments to the Measure or Canon as appear to him or her necessary.”

51 In Standing Order 64, in paragraph (2), for “if the Chair or 40 or more members object” substitute “if the Chair objects or if the Synod, on a motion moved by any member, objects”.

Standing Order 69B (Scrutiny Committee: membership and Chair)

52 In Standing Order 69B, in paragraph (4), for “132 to 135” substitute “131A to 135O”.

Standing Order 124 (Legislative Committee)

53 In Standing Order 124, in paragraph (2), for “132 to 135” substitute “131A to 135O”.

Standing Order 125 (Business Committee)

54 In Standing Order 125, in paragraph (3), for “132 to 135” substitute “131A to 135O”.

Standing Order 126 (Appointments Committee)

55 In Standing Order 126, in paragraph (4), for “132 to 135” substitute “131A to 135O”.

Standing Order 131 (relevant elections)

56 In Standing Order 131, for “132”, in each place it appears, substitute “131A”.

After Standing Order 131

57 After Standing Order 131 insert—“131A. *Elections portal*

- a. The Business Committee must appoint an independent body which it is satisfied would be able to assist the presiding officer for a relevant election with the conduct of the election (including the issue of invitations to nominate and the lodging of nominations), in so far as the election involves a system of electronic voting.
- b. The Business Committee must, with the assistance of the body appointed under paragraph (1), provide an online facility for the conduct of a relevant election; and a reference in these Standing Orders to “the elections portal” is a reference to that online facility.”

Standing Order 132 (nominations)

58 In Standing Order 132, in paragraph (1), after “qualified candidates” insert “; and each invitation to nominate must—

(a) contain instructions on how to use the elections portal to make a nomination, or

(b) in so far as the elections portal is not going to be used, be in the form of a nomination paper”.

59 In Standing Order 132, for paragraph (3) substitute—

“(3) Support from a person for the purposes of paragraph (2) must be given to the Clerk—

- (a) by following the procedure provided for by the elections portal, or
- (b) in writing signed by the person or, where the person is a member of the Synod, by email or fax sent from an address previously notified to the Clerk.”

60 In Standing Order 132, for paragraph (5) substitute—

“(5) Confirmation from a candidate for the purposes of paragraph (4) must be given to the Clerk—

- (a) by following the procedure provided for by the elections portal, or
- (b) in writing signed by the candidate or, where the candidate is a member of the Synod, by email or fax sent from an address previously notified to the Clerk.”

61 In Standing Order 132, in paragraph (7), for “delivered to the Clerk” substitute “made”.

Standing Order 133 (conduct of elections)

62 In Standing Order 133, in paragraph (1), for “voting papers” substitute “invitations to vote”.

63 In Standing Order 133, after paragraph (1) insert—“(1A) An invitation to vote must—

- (a) contain instructions on how to use the elections portal to vote, or
- (b) in so far as the elections portal is not being used, be in the form of a voting paper.”

64 In Standing Order 133, in paragraph (2), for “A voting paper, marked and signed, must be returned to the Clerk” substitute “A vote in a relevant election must be cast”.

65 In Standing Order 133, after paragraph (2) insert—“(2A) A vote in a relevant election must be cast—

- (a) by following the procedure provided for by the elections portal, or
- (b) in a case involving the use of a voting paper, by marking and signing the paper in the manner indicated on the paper and returning it to the Clerk.”

Standing Order 134 (casual vacancies)

66 In Standing Order 134, in paragraph (7), for “by voting papers” substitute “by using the elections portal, or by voting papers,”.

67 In Standing Order 134, in paragraph (7), for “the voting papers” substitute “the voting records”.

68 In Standing Order 134, after paragraph (11), insert—

“(12) “Voting record”, in relation to a relevant election, means—

- (a) a record of each valid vote cast in the election by means of the elections portal, and
- (b) each voting paper used to cast a valid vote in the election.”

Standing Order 135 (appeals relating to eligibility to vote)

69 In Standing Order 135, in each of paragraphs (1) and (2), for “a voting paper” substitute “an invitation to vote”.

70 In Standing Order 135, in each of paragraphs (1), (2) and (3), for “or voting paper” substitute “or invitation to vote”.

Standing Order 135E (summary election appeal: referral to relevant judge)

71 In Standing Order 135E, in paragraph (1)(c), for “voting paper”

substitute “invitation to vote”.

Standing Order 137 (Crown Nominations Commission: membership)

72 In Standing Order 137, in paragraph (3), for “132 to 135” substitute “131A to 135O”.

Standing Order 149 (representation of Synod on other bodies)

73 In Standing Order 149, in paragraph (2), for “132 to 135” substitute “131A to 135O”.

Standing Order 153 (definitions)

74 In Standing Order 153, in paragraph (1), at the appropriate place insert—

““Synod website” means, in so far as there is not a separate website for the Synod, the part of the Church of England website which relates to the Synod.”

Standing Order 154 (general interpretation)

75 In Standing Order 154, at the appropriate place insert—

“elections portal SO 131A(2)”.

76 In Standing Order 154, at the appropriate place insert—

“Synod website SO 153(1)”.