

Agenda

July Group of Sessions 2021

**GENERAL SYNOD
JULY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2021
REMOTE MEETING**

TIMES OF SITTINGS

Friday 9 July	12.30 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.
Saturday 10 July	9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. 2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Sunday 11 July	2.15 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Monday 12 July	9.00 a.m. to 12.40 p.m. 1.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

SERVICES

Friday 9 July	
12.30 p.m.	Opening Worship
7.15 p.m.	Closing Worship
Saturday 10 July	
9.00 a.m.	Opening Worship
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship
Sunday 11 July	
2.15 p.m.	Opening Worship
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship
Monday 12 July	
9.00 a.m.	Opening Worship
6.30 p.m.	Service of the Word

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 (Friday 9 July) (*other than Implementing the Recommendations of GS2202 'Responsible Representation'*)

5.30 p.m. on Thursday 8 July.

Notice of amendments to the motions relating to *Implementing the Recommendations of GS 2202 'Responsible Representation'* (i.e. items 5 to 9 in the Agenda)

5.30 p.m. on Monday 5 July.

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 Tuesday 29 June 2021**.
9. Members are invited to submit a request to ask a supplementary question by **4.00 p.m. Thursday 8 July**.

NOTICE

10. 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

11. 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

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

clerk@churchofengland.org.

FRIDAY 9 JULY 2021

12.30 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.

WORSHIP

1 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMES

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 2 *The Archbishop of York* will give a Presidential Address.
-

REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2208)

Canon Robert Hammond (Chelmsford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

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

RACIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION (GS MISC 1282)

- 4 Presentation under SO 107
-

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF GS 2202 "RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATION" (GS 2209)

Mr Aiden Hargreaves-Smith (London) to move in respect of each of the following propositions:

'That this Synod request that the necessary amendments be moved to the Standing Orders and the Vacancy in See Committees Regulation (as appropriate) so that ...'

- 5 'the electorate for the election of central members of the Crown Nominations Commission ('CNC') comprises the combined membership of the Houses of Clergy and Laity.' (*recommendations 9 and 10 in GS 2202*)
- 6 'the election of central members of the CNC must take place at a group of sessions of the Synod, with only the members of the Houses of Clergy and Laity who are present (including by participating remotely in the case of a remote group of sessions) being entitled to vote.' (*recommendation 8*)
- 7 a) central members of the CNC are elected as six pairs, three pairs from the House of Clergy and three from the House of Laity, with one member of each pair serving for the consideration by the CNC of a particular vacancy, the pair agreeing between themselves which of them is to serve or, in default of agreement, the matter being determined by lot; and

b) a casual vacancy among those elected from the Houses of Clergy and Laity is always filled by a fresh election, held in the same manner as an ordinary election, of a complete pair from the relevant House.’
(*recommendation 11*)

8 ‘the CNC may co-opt one non-voting member for the consideration of a vacancy if it considers, having regard to the documentation received from the Vacancy in See Committee and the Prime Minister’s and the Archbishops’ Secretaries for Appointments, that its membership is not representative of the diocese as a whole.’ (*based on recommendations 13 and 14*)

9 ‘should the CNC fail to agree on a name for submission to the Prime Minister, it may direct that the process for filling the vacancy is to recommence at a stage it specifies, which may include the stage at which diocesan members are elected by the Vacancy in See Committee.’ (*based on recommendation 36*)

Note: *The Business Committee has exercised its power under Standing Order 12 to vary the time for giving notice of an amendment to items 5 to 9 so that such notice must be given by not later than 5.30 p.m. on Monday 5 July 2021.*

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

THE NATIONAL INVESTING BODIES’ APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE: UPDATE (GS MISC 1283)

10 Presentation under SO 107

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

APPOINTMENT OF A BODY TO OVERSEE THE NEXT STAGE OF THE ANGLICAN-METHODIST COVENANT (GS 2210)

The Bishop of Fulham to move:

11 ‘That this Synod thank the members of the Joint Covenant Advocacy and Monitoring Group for their work during the General Synod’s last quinquennium and direct that a new body, called “Life in Covenant, be established on the basis set out in GS 2210 to carry that work forward.’

Not later than 6.00 p.m.

12 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 Tuesday 29 June 2021.***

7.15 p.m. Evening Worship

SATURDAY 10 JULY 2021

9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

WORSHIP

JOINT PRESENTATION BY THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL AND THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS ON THEIR ANNUAL REPORTS (GS 2211 AND GS 2212)

- 13 Presentation under SO 107

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

ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL BUDGET 2022 AND PROPOSALS FOR APPORTIONMENT 2022 (GS 2213)

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

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

Canon John Spence to move:

- 15 'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's expenditure for the year 2022, as shown in its budget, of £[X] in respect of [Y]:'

EXPECTED EXPENDITURE [X]	AREA OF ACTIVITY [Y]
£17,354,580	Training for Ministry
£27,138,819	National Church Responsibilities
£1,246,846	Grants
£667,049	Mission agency pension contributions
£5,566,840	Clergy retirement housing grant

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

- 16 'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's proposals (set out in the Table of Apportionment contained in **GS 2213**) for:

(a) 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 2022, and

(b) the pooling adjustment for 2022 in respect of additional maintenance grants for ordinands.'

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

- 17 'That this Synod request the Archbishops' Council to provide an updated estimate of its expected income and expenditure for 2022 at the November 2021 Group of Sessions.'

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS 2021: SEAT ALLOCATION (GS 2214)

Canon Robert Hammond (Chelmsford) (Chair of the Business Committee) to move:

- 18 'That the resolution passed by the Synod as item 13 at the February 2020 group of sessions (General Synod elections 2020: allocation of seats) and amended by item 9 at the April 2021 group of sessions (General Synod Elections 2020: allocation of seats amendment resolution) be amended by substituting for it the following:

“1. The total number of proctors in Convocation to be directly elected from the dioceses in each Province in 2021 is 129 for the Province of Canterbury and 56 for the Province of York with the proportion of directly elected proctors to the number of qualified electors in the dioceses being determined as 129 : 8,885 in the case of the Province of Canterbury and 55 : 2,886 in the case of the Province of York, the numbers to be elected for each diocese being those set out at Appendix A of GS 2214.

2. The total number of members of the House of Laity to be directly elected in 2021 is 193, apportioned between the Provinces in the proportion that is as close as possible to 70 to 30, so that 135 members are to be elected in the Province of Canterbury and 58 members elected in the Province of York, the numbers to be elected for each diocese being those set out at Appendix B of GS 2214.”.’

19 SAFEGUARDING (GS 2215)

Presentation under SO 107

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

SATURDAY 10 JULY 2021

2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

57th REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 2198 UPDATED)

Notes:

1. *The motions for the amendment of the Standing Orders contained in the First Notice Paper will be moved, insofar as they need to be debated.*

2. *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, 52 to 76 on the First Notice Paper do not need to be debated.*

3. *Under SO 40(5) those amendments will accordingly be deemed to have been approved by the Synod without amendment unless either:*

- *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*
- *notice is given by 5.30 p.m. on Friday 9 July 2021 of an amendment to any proposed amendment.*

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH: PASSING THE BATON (GS MISC 1284)

20 Presentation under SO 107

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

SPECIAL AGENDA I:

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

500 Draft Legislative Reform (Church Commissioners) Order 2021(**GS 2194A**)

- *For Approval*

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

RESPONDING TO THE HOUSING CRISIS: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH? (GS 2216)

21 Presentation under SO 107

The Archbishop of York to move:

- 22** 'That this Synod, recognising that the housing crisis harms all society and responding to housing need is an integral part of the mission and ministry of the Church of England, particularly in so far as it affects the poorest and most marginalised:
- (a) commend the report of the Archbishops' Commission on Housing, Church and Community, including the call for all actors in the housing market to play their part in ensuring that everyone has access to a decent and affordable home in accordance with the five core values outlined in the Commission's final report.
 - (b) acknowledge the Legal Note by the Legal Office of the National Church Institutions, which clarifies the legal position in relation to the disposal of church land that is not subject to specific restrictions and explains how parishes and dioceses are able to use this land to meet local housing need and build community; and
 - (c) request the Archbishops' Council to consider the need for change to the legal criteria for the management, use and disposal of Church held non-operational property that falls under the remit of the Church Property Measure and Mission and Pastoral Measure, in order to further the Church's mission as understood by the vision presented to General Synod last year.'

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

SUNDAY 11 JULY 2021

2.15 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

WORSHIP

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 501** Draft Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution (**GS 2217**)
- *For Approval*
-

- 502** Draft Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (**GS 2218**)
- *For Approval*
-

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

THE NATURE OF ORDAINED PUBLIC MINISTRY (GS MISC 1285)

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

PROPOSALS FOR LEGISLATION TO REPLACE THE CLERGY DISCIPLINE MEASURE 2003 (GS 2219)

The Bishop to the Armed Forces to move:

- 24** 'That this Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2220)

The Archbishop of York to move:

- 25** 'That the appointment of Canon John Spence as a member of Archbishops' Council for a further term expiring on 30 September 2023 be approved.'
-

APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS (GS 2221)

Mrs Maureen Cole (ex officio) (Archbishops' Council) to move:

- 26** 'That the appointment of Crowe UK LLP as the external auditors for the Archbishops' Council for a five year period commencing with the year ending 31 December 2021 be approved.'

7.00 p.m. Evening Worship

MONDAY 12 JULY 2021

9.00 a.m. to 12.40 p.m.

WORSHIP

MISSION IN REVISION: A REVIEW OF THE MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011 (GS 2222)

Dr Eve Poole (ex officio) (Third Church Estates Commissioner) to move:

- 27 'That this Synod
- (a) welcome the consultation paper *Mission in Revision: A Review of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (GS 2222)*,
 - (b) commend it for discussion, and
 - (c) invite the Archbishops' Council, the Legislative Reform Committee and the Church Commissioners to bring forward draft legislation for consideration by the Synod no later than July 2022.'
-

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

VISION AND STRATEGY (GS 2223)

- 28 Presentation under SO 107
- The Archbishop of York* to move:
- 29 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

TRANSFORMING EFFECTIVENESS (GS 2224)

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

MONDAY 12 JULY 2021

1.45 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

MOTION FROM THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS ON REPORT FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION AND DIALOGUE GROUP (GS 2225)

The Bishop of Rochester to move:

- 31** 'That this Synod do take note of this Report.'
-

SPECIAL AGENDA III

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

REVIEW OF THE 'FIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES' (GS 2226A and GS 2226B)

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

- 32** '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.'
-

ADJOURNMENT/SCREEN BREAK

**AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS: ELECTIONS TO CROWN
NOMINATIONS COMMISSION**

58th REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (GS 2227)

Notes:

1. *The motions for the amendment of the Standing Orders contained in the Second Notice Paper will be moved.*
2. *The Standing Orders Committee has reported on the proposed amendments in its 58th Report (GS 2227)*

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

503 Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment) Regulation 2021 (**GS 2228**)

- *For Approval*

33 FAREWELLS

34 ANNOUNCEMENT OF DISSOLUTION

Not later than 6.30 p.m.

Service of the Word

Not later than 7.00 p.m.

35 PROROGATION AND DISSOLUTION

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE REFORM (CHURCH COMMISSIONERS) ORDER 2021 (GS 2194A)

Draft Legislative Reform Order for approval

A member of the Archbishops' Council to move:

- 500** 'That the draft Legislative Reform (Church Commissioners) Order 2021 be approved.'

Notes:

- 1. On 27 October 2020 the Archbishops' Council laid a draft Order before the General Synod under section 5(1) of the Legislative Reform Measure 2018.*
- 2. The Scrutiny Committee has considered the draft Order, made amendments to it, and submitted a report to the Synod (GS 2194Y).*
- 3. The Archbishops' Council has, under SO 69H(1), tabled a motion for approval of the draft Order as amended by the Scrutiny Committee (item 500).*
- 4. Amendments cannot be made by the Synod to the draft Order. But any member may give notice under SO 69H(2) 'That the draft Legislative Reform (Church of England Pensions) Order 2021 be referred back to the Scrutiny Committee for further consideration of ...'. A motion for referral back to the Scrutiny Committee may relate either to the whole of the draft Order or to such of its provisions as are specified in the motion. Notice of a motion for referral back to the Scrutiny Committee must be given **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 6 July 2021.***

CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (AMENDMENT) RESOLUTION 2021 (GS 2217)

Resolution of the General Synod under section 7 of the Synodical Government Measure 1969 for approval

A member of the Business Committee to move:

- 501** 'That the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2021 be approved.'

Notes:

- 1. The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the Resolution shall be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
- 2. Amendments to the Resolution 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 8 July 2021.***
- 3. To be passed, the Resolution requires a majority in each House of not less than two-thirds of those present and voting.*

**DRAFT ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICES (TERMS OF SERVICE)
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2021 (GS 2218)**

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

Dr Eve Poole (ex officio) (Third Church Estates Commissioner) to move:

- 502** 'That the Draft Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 be approved.'

Notes:

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the draft Regulations shall be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
2. *Amendments to the draft 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 Thursday 8 July 2021*

VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 2021 (GS 2228)

Regulation for approval

Mr Aiden Hargreaves-Smith (London) to move:

- 503** 'That the Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment) Regulation 2021 be approved.'

Notes:

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with Standing Order 70(1) that the draft Regulation shall be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
2. *Amendments to the draft Regulation 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 Friday 9 July 2021.*

LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2021 (GS 2229)

**ECCLESIASTICAL JUDGES, LEGAL OFFICERS AND OTHERS (FEES)
ORDER 2021 (GS 2230)**

Orders under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2021 for approval

Notes:

1. *The Fees Advisory Commission has laid the Orders (GS 2229 and GS 2230) before the General Synod for approval under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018.*

SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

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 Friday 9 July 2021.***
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 Friday 9 July 2021.***
5. *Amendments to the Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2021 are not permissible.*

TRUST DEED AND RULES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDED PENSION SCHEME (GS 2231)

Approval of Amended Trust Deed and of Rules under section 8 of the Church of England Pensions Measure 2018

Notes:

1. *The Church of England Pensions Board has laid the Amended Trust Deed and Rules (GS 2231) before the General Synod for approval under, respectively, the terms of the original trust deed of the Church of England Funded Pension Scheme and section 8 of the Church of England Pensions Measure 2018.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by the original trust deed and by that section) that GS 2231 does not need to be debated.*
3. *Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate GS 2231 must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 9 July 2021.***
4. *Amendments to the Amended Trust Deed and Rules are not permissible.*

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 17 May 2021.

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.’

103 signatures

March 2018

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

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

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

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.’

3 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.’

69 signatures

July 2020

ABOLITION OF DEFERENTIAL TITLES

James Dudley-Smith (Bath & Wells) to move:

‘That this Synod, noting Bishop Peter Hancock’s words quoted by the IICSA Anglican Church Investigation Report October 2020, that ‘issues of clericalism and deference have allowed abuse to be covered up and the voices of the vulnerable to be silenced’ (B.6.2.4.1) ask that steps be taken to abolish, and discourage the use of, deferential titles such as Reverend, Right Reverend, Very Reverend, Most Reverend, Venerable, and that clergy be instead referred to and addressed using the names of the roles they hold, e.g. Vicar, Rector, Bishop, Dean, Archbishop, Archdeacon.’

15 signatures

February 2021

SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sam Margrave (Coventry) to move:

‘That this Synod calls on HM Government to amend legislation to include the Church of England as a public authority to allow Freedom of Information requests to be made and to ensure accountability, transparency and trust in the established church.’

February 2021

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Sam Margrave (Coventry) to move:

‘This synod call on the NCIs to bring forward a plan to create a publicly available register of Bishops or senior staff interests (based on MPs register of interests) to ensure the public can have confidence in church leadership, and that as office holders Bishops or senior staff are transparent about any relationships or interests they share with others.’

February 2021

CLERGY DISCIPLINE MEASURE 2003 S.9 LIMITATION OF TIME FOR INSTITUTION OF PROCEEDINGS

The Revd Stephen Trott (Peterborough) to move:

‘That this Synod express its wish to repeal S9 of the Clergy Discipline Measure 2003, Limitation of time for institution of proceedings, to enable complaints by survivors to be addressed irrespective of the date when the event or events in question occurred.’

10 signatures

February 2021

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ANGLICAN COMMUNION COVENANT

NB: Bath & Wells, Chelmsford, Guildford, Lincoln, London, Newcastle, 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 Southwark and Worcester Diocesan Synods passed a motion in identical terms.]

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)

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

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

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

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

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

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

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

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

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

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

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

ECO-DIOCESE PROGRAMME

... to move on behalf of the St Albans Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod, following the motion passed by this Synod in February 2020, which recognises that the global climate emergency is a crisis for God’s creation and a fundamental injustice and which calls on all parts of the Church of England, including dioceses and parishes, to work towards net zero emissions, request that every diocese register with A Rocha UK for the Eco-Diocese Programme.’

December 2020

PAROCHIAL FEES

... to move on behalf of London Diocesan Synod

‘That this Synod request the Archbishops’ Council to lay a draft order before the Synod to amend the Parochial Fees and Scheduled Matters Amending Order 2019 so that a fee payable to the parochial church council is prescribed in respect of funeral services that take place at crematoria and cemeteries.’

March 2021

SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

FUTURE OF WORK

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

‘That this Synod:

mindful of the deep economic effects of the pandemic, the impacts of new technology, and the global rise of new forms of working--

(a) affirm the dignity and value of purposeful work as a significant component of human flourishing

(b) endorse and commend the five principles used for evaluating fair and dignified platform work in the gig economy by Fair.work and

(c) call for the Faith and Order Commission (FAOC) together with Mission and Public Affairs Committee to advise on what is essential to purposeful, dignified, and fair work in the context of the fourth industrial revolution now in progress.’

March 2021