Introduction

The Archbishops’ Council presents this report on its activities since the General Synod Meeting in November 2021. It has met once on 7 and 8 December 2021.

Meeting of the Archbishops’ Council, 7 and 8 December 2021, held at Missenden Abbey

1. The Council discussed proposals for its Objectives for this quinquennium, and Business Planning for 2022. They were updated on how to articulate the priorities, objectives and business planning for the next quinquennium, based on the bold outcomes of the Church’s Vision and Strategy. The Council discussed its principal Risk Register in light of the discussion on the 2022 objectives.

2. The Council discussed the work of the NCIs’ Communications team, and its strategic approach to Communications.

3. The Council was given an update on the different work strands for the Emerging Church work. This included an update on the Vision and Strategy, Transforming Effectiveness, and the report by the Governance Review Group.

4. The Council was presented with the report of the Clergy Remuneration Review.

5. The Council discussed a review of its own Board Effectiveness and culture.

6. Council reviewed a number of financial matters, including an update on the work of the Triennium Funding Working Group and inter-generational equity.

7. The Council discussed progress relating to Safeguarding. This included updates on the work of the team and an update from Maggie Atkinson, Chair of the Independent Safeguarding Board.

8. The Council was presented with an update from the Episcopal Reference Group of the Faith and Order Commission on how the Council might handle requests from other denominations to perform same-sex marriages in LEPs and other ecumenical arrangements.

9. The Council approved a number of deemed items of business, including loan arrangements between the AC, ChECS and ChECS trading, Q3 Management Accounts, 2021 Annual Report Outline and the Clergy Stipends Authority Report.

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