

GENERAL SYNOD

FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2023

EIGHTH NOTICE PAPER

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Amendments will subsequently be marshalled, in the order in which they are to be taken, on the relevant Order Paper.

ITEM 10

COST OF LIVING (GS 2287)

Mr Luke Appleton (Exeter) to move as an amendment:

- (a) 'In paragraph (d) –
 - (i) after “taken” *insert* “to date”;
 - (ii) *leave out* “, recognising the leadership” to the end,
and
- (b) After paragraph (d) *insert* –
 - (e) call upon dioceses and NCIs to do all they can further to relieve pressure on parishes, clergy, church staff, and their families, recognising the leadership they offer to their communities.”.’

ITEM 11

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH (GS 2289)

The Chair for this item received a request from a member to consider using his powers under SO 24 to direct, with the general consent of the Synod, that separate votes be taken on the text of the motion divided into parts. The Chair has

considered this request and has decided not to exercise the power under SO 24.

Ms Christina Baron (Bath and Wells) to move as an amendment:

‘In paragraph (d) after “pastoral guidance” *insert* “ which should allow freedom of conscience for clergy and ordinands”.’

Ms Jayne Ozanne (Oxford) to move the following amendments:

‘*Leave out* paragraph (a)’

‘*Leave out* paragraphs (e) and (f), and *insert*:

“() ask the House of Bishops to end discrimination on the grounds of sexuality by bringing forward immediate legislation to provide for equal marriage in church for review at the July 2023 group of sessions.”.’

Mrs Vicky Brett (Peterborough) to move as an amendment:

‘In paragraph (f) *leave out* “and response to” to the end, and *insert* “the commended resources and provide for an opportunity to test the mind of Synod on the principle of equal marriage within the next two years.”.’

ITEM 504

DRAFT DIOCESAN STIPENDS FUND (AMENDMENT) MEASURE (GS 2255A)

Mr Andrew Orange (Winchester) to move as an amendment:

‘Clause 1, Page 1, Line 13, at end insert—

“(2A) Before each exercise of the power under subsection (2), the diocesan board of finance must obtain the approval of the diocesan synod to that exercise of the power.”.’

Explanatory statement: *this amendment would require the diocesan board of finance to obtain the approval of the diocesan synod before exercising the power to transfer money for the benefit of another diocese.*

ITEM 509

DRAFT CHURCH OF ENGLAND (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) MEASURE (GS 2272A)

Mr Carl Fender (Lincoln) has indicated that he wishes to speak against the motion 'That clause 2 stand part of the Measure'.

Mr Clive Billenness (Europe) has indicated that he wishes to speak against the motion 'That clause 19 stand part of the Measure'.

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall KC (Manchester) to move as an amendment:

‘Clause 10, Page 5, Line 37, leave out subsection (3).’

Explanatory statement: *this amendment would keep at 70 the retirement age for ecclesiastical judges instead of increasing it to 75, which is now the retirement age for secular judges.*

The Revd Paul Benfield (Blackburn) to move as an amendment:

‘Clause 14, Page 8, Line 22 leave out subsection (1) and insert—

“(1) In section 35 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 (duty to have regard to church’s

purpose), the existing text becomes subsection (1), and after subsection (1) insert—

“(2) A person carrying out those functions must also have due regard to the importance of environmental protection but not in a way which would conflict with the duty under subsection (1).”

(1A) In consequence of subsection (1)—

- (a) at the end of the title to section 35 of that Measure, insert “, etc.”, and
- (b) in the cross-heading immediately preceding that section, for “General duty” substitute “General duties”.’

Explanatory statement: *this amendment would provide that, if there were to be a conflict between the new duty on environmental matters and the existing duty on worship and mission, the latter is to have priority.*

The following amendments from The Revd Tom Woolford, do not relate to a matter in the Revision Committee’s report, but the Business Committee has given permission for that requirement to be dispensed with (see SO 59(3)) because the member proposing the amendment used an incorrect email address which had been included in an email update from Synod Support.

The Revd Tom Woolford (Blackburn) to move the following amendments:

‘Clause 15, Page 9, Line 16, leave out from “the bishop” to end of line 17 and insert “—

- (a) the priest-in-charge appointed for the benefice, or

- (b) if none is appointed, the bishop of the diocese to which the benefice belongs, after receiving a request to exercise the power from the PCC or, if the land is situated in more than one parish, from each of the PCCs acting jointly (and subsection (2)(b) would accordingly not apply).”

Explanatory statement: *this amendment would provide that, where a benefice is vacant, the power of the incumbent to dedicate land for a highway would be exercisable by the priest-in-charge or, if there is not one, the bishop at the request of the parochial church council.*

‘Clause 15, Page 9, Line 20, leave out from “the bishop” to “the bishop” in line 23 and insert “the person determined in accordance with subsection (1A) may do anything in relation to any land that the incumbent would be entitled to do in relation to that land if the benefice were full; but that person”.’

Explanatory statement: *this amendment and the following amendment would provide that, where a benefice is vacant, the power of the incumbent in land transactions would be exercisable by the priest-in-charge or, if there is not one, the bishop at the request of the parochial church council.*

Clause 15, Page 9, Line 25, at end insert—

- “(1A) The person entitled to act under subsection (1) is—
- (a) the priest-in-charge appointed for the benefice, or
 - (b) if none is appointed, the bishop of the diocese to which the benefice belongs, after receiving a request to act from the PCC or, if the land is situated in more than one parish, from each of the PCCs acting jointly.”

Explanatory statement: *see the statement for the previous amendment.*

Clause 15, Page 9, Line 26, leave out “on the bishop”.

Explanatory statement: *this amendment and the following amendment are consequential on the previous two amendments.*

Clause 15, Page 9, Line 29, leave out “The power conferred by” and insert “A power exercisable by a bishop under”

Explanatory statement: *see the statement for the previous amendment.*

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to move as an amendment:

‘Clause 1, Page 1, leave out from end of line 4 to line 8 and insert “, in subsection (5), for the words from the beginning to “apply to” substitute “Article 7 or 8 business may be considered in accordance with standing orders under this section only if at least two-thirds of the members of General Synod who are participating are together in the same place, but any member (whether or not physically present in that place) may vote on that business; and for this purpose, “Article 7 or 8 business” means”.’

Explanatory Statement: *this amendment would provide that Article 7 or 8 business can be considered at a hybrid meeting of Synod but only if at least two-thirds of all those attending are present together in person.*

ITEM 511 DRAFT PAROCHIAL FEES ORDER (GS 2288)

The Ven Ian Bishop (Chester) to move as an amendment:

‘After article 2 insert—

“Increase of fee for certain burials

3.(1) In a case where a matter referred to in Schedule 1 to the Parochial Fees and Scheduled Matters Amending Order 2019 as “Burial of body in churchyard immediately preceding or following on from service in church” or as “Burial of body in churchyard on separate occasion” occurs after the commencement of this Order but before the end of 2023, the fee payable to the parochial church council for that matter is to be £1,000.

(2) Accordingly, article 6(3) of that Order (as amended by article 2(1) of this Order) does not apply to the fee payable to the parochial church council in a case where paragraph (1) of this article applies.”.’

Explanatory statement: *this amendment would increase from £300 to £1,000 the fee payable to the parochial church council for the burial of a body in a churchyard either before or after a church service or on a separate occasion from the date the Order comes into force until the end of 2023 followed by an inflationary increase in line with that for other fees from the start of 2024.*

61ST REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDER COMMITTEE (GS 2292)

The Revd Canon Timothy Goode (Southwark) to move the following amendments:

‘Standing Order 17 (right to speak)

In Standing Order 17, in paragraph (1), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 29 (order of consideration)

In Standing Order 29, in paragraph (1C), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 46 (decorum)

In Standing Order 46, in paragraph (1), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 59 (Revision following Revision Committee: amendments)

In Standing Order 59, in paragraph (6), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 69I (procedure on motion for approval or referral back)

In Standing Order 69I, in paragraph (6), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 77 (procedure for consideration of scheme: motion for reconsideration)

In Standing Order 77, in paragraph (8), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 82 (reports on question of doctrine)

In Standing Order 82, in paragraph (1)(c), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 84 (optional re-committal following Revision Committee)

In Standing Order 84, in paragraph (3), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 87 (further revision)

In Standing Order 87, in paragraph (9), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 89 (minor adjustments to forms of service)

In Standing Order 89, in paragraph (9), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Standing Order 90 (extension or discontinuance of liturgical business already approved)

In Standing Order 90, in paragraph (7), after “to do so” insert “without difficulty”.

Explanatory statement: *these amendments would provide that, wherever the Standing Orders require members to stand, the exception for those members who are unable to do so is to be developed so that any member who can stand but with difficulty is also entitled to indicate support by some other means.*

PRESENTATION OF PETITION

Mr Luke Appleton (Exeter) has given notice of his desire to present a petition in accordance with Standing Order 43.

In accordance with SO 43(4), the petition will be available for inspection by members at the information desk.