

# **Agenda**

**July Group of Sessions 2023**

**GENERAL SYNOD  
JULY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2023  
AT UNIVERSITY OF YORK**

**TIMES OF SITTINGS**

<b>Friday 7 July</b>	2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
<b>Saturday 8 July</b>	9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. 2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.
<b>Sunday 9 July</b>	2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. 8.20 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.
<b>Monday 10 July</b>	9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. 8.20 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday 11 July</b>	9.00 a.m. to 1.15 p.m.

**SERVICES**

<b>Friday 7 July</b>	
12.00 p.m.	Holy Communion in the Berrick Saul Building
2.00 p.m.	Opening Worship in the Central Hall
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship in the Central Hall
10.10 p.m.	Night Prayer in the Berrick Saul Building
<b>Saturday 8 July</b>	
7.30 a.m.	Holy Communion in the Berrick Saul Building
9.00 a.m.	Opening Worship in the Central Hall
7.00 p.m.	Closing Worship in the Central Hall
10.10 p.m.	Night Prayer in the Berrick Saul Building

**Sunday 9 July**

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion in York Minster  
2.30 p.m. Opening Worship in the Central Hall  
6.00 p.m. Evening Worship in the Central Hall  
10.10 p.m. Night Prayer in the Berrick Saul Building

**Monday 10 July**

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Berrick Saul Building  
9.00 a.m. Opening Worship in the Central Hall  
6.00 p.m. Evening Worship in the Central Hall  
10.10 p.m. Night Prayer in the Berrick Saul Building

**Tuesday 11 July**

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Berrick Saul Building  
9.00 a.m. Opening Worship in the Central Hall

## 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 7 July)**

**5.30 p.m. on Thursday 6 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](mailto:amendments@churchofengland.org).

#### ***QUESTIONS***

8. In exercise of its power under SO 12 the Business Committee has determined that notice of Questions under Standing Orders 112-113 must be delivered **not later than 12.00 p.m. on Tuesday 27 June 2023.**

## **NOTICE**

9. 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 e-mail addresses are:

in respect of questions:

[questions@churchofengland.org](mailto:questions@churchofengland.org)

in respect of amendments and motions arising out of business on the Agenda:

[amendments@churchofengland.org](mailto:amendments@churchofengland.org)

in respect of submissions to Revision Committees:

[revisioncommittee@churchofengland.org](mailto:revisioncommittee@churchofengland.org)

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

10. 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.

## **CONTINGENCY BUSINESS**

11. If there is no uncompleted business and a gap appears in the Agenda during this group of sessions, contingency business will be taken as follows:

### **LAND AND NATURE (GS 2319)**

*The Bishop of Norwich to move:*

‘That this Synod, recognising the need to respond urgently to the ecological crisis, in line with the global scientific consensus that the climate change and biodiversity loss crises are intricately linked

- (a) welcome the work being done by the Church Commissioners, the NCIs, and many dioceses, parishes, cathedrals, and schools to manage all or part of their land for climate and nature, in urban and rural communities alike.
- (b) request Diocesan Secretaries to task a named person / committee in their dioceses to create an action plan to achieve the ‘Land’ section of Eco Diocese at Silver level by 2026 at the latest.
- (c) request Chairs and Secretaries of all diocesan property/finance committees to incorporate nature-positive objectives into their asset management policies within the next 6 months.
- (d) call on all parishes, cathedrals, TEIs, NCIs offices with land they manage or influence to:
  - i. create a simple land management plan, with reference to the guidance and examples from Caring for Gods Acre,
  - ii. work towards an increasing level of Eco Church, including the actions in the ‘Land’ section, and
  - iii. record the biodiversity of their green spaces, through taking part in Churches Count On Nature each year.

- (e) call on all Diocesan Boards of Education to work in accordance with the Department for Education Sustainability Strategy.

### **FUTURE OF WORK (GS 2320A AND GS 2320B)**

... 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.’

### **ARCHBISHOPS’ COMMISSION ON FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS (GS 2321)**

*The Bishop of Durham to move:*

‘That this Synod:

- (a) welcome the Archbishops’ Commission on Families and Households’ Report, “Love Matters”;
- (b) commend the Report and the Recommendations for consideration in dioceses, deaneries and parishes;
- (c) encourage the Archbishops’ Council to develop practical responses in line with the vision and priorities to be a ‘younger, more diverse; mixed ecology and missionary discipleship church’ believing that the recommendations in “Love Matters” will aid the implementation of this vision; and
- (d) urge HM Government to implement the recommendations made to Government, and look forward to receiving a full Government response to all the recommendations.’

The deadline for amendments to these items of business is **10.00 a.m. on Friday 7 July** (SO 27(5)).

### **MEETING OF THE CONVOCATION OF YORK**

12. A separate meeting of both Houses of the Convocation of York will be taking place in Spring Lane at **12.00 p.m. on Friday 7 July**. The agenda and any papers will be circulated in advance.

### **CONTACT**

13. Please address queries or other matters not covered in these notes to the Clerk to the Synod as follows: [clerk@churchofengland.org](mailto:clerk@churchofengland.org).

## FRIDAY 7 JULY 2023

2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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### WORSHIP

#### 1 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMES

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### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 2 *The Archbishop of York* will give a Presidential Address.
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### ADDRESS BY ANGLICAN COMMUNION REPRESENTATIVE

- 3 *One of the Anglican Communion Representatives* will address the Synod at the invitation of the Presidents under SO 120.
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### REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2297)

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

- 4 'That the Synod do take note of this Report.'
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### SPECIAL AGENDA III:

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTION

#### CHURCH OF ENGLAND YOUTH SYNOD (GS 2298A and GS 2298B)

*Mr Sam Wilson (Chester)* to move:

- 5 'That this Synod:
- (a) acknowledge the national strategy to 'grow younger and more diverse'
  - (b) take note of the report 'Rooted in the Church' (2016) which observes that young adults feel a sense of belonging if they i) are included within the whole church family, ii) are treated as equal members of the church, iii) are supported by leaders who act as bridges or mentors, and iv) are given a safe space to ask questions;
  - (c) re-affirm the importance of having young adults directly involved in decision-making and strategy;
  - (d) recognise the valuable contributions made by members of the Church of England Youth Council (CEYC);

and therefore call on the Archbishops' Council to:

- (e) establish the Church of England Youth Synod (CEYS) or similar, to replace the recently disbanded Church of England Youth Council (CEYC), as a meeting of young Anglicans between the ages of 18 and 25 who meet prior to each meeting of General Synod to discuss and debate the motions of General Synod;
- (f) invite each Diocesan Synod to nominate two young adults as members of both their local Diocesan Synod and the Church of England Youth Synod;
- (g) arrange for the co-option of 5 young adults elected by the Youth Synod as members of General Synod with the right to speak and vote;
- (h) appoint a part-time post with responsibility for democratic engagement with young people;
- (i) ensure that a sufficient budget is made available to support the work of the Youth Synod; and
- (j) ensure that the Youth Synod has representation on the Archbishops' Council by co-opting a member of the Youth Synod as a member of Archbishops' Council.'

**Note:** notice of this motion was given by The Revd Tim Norwood (Oxford) but that as he is no longer a member of the Synod it is being moved by Mr Sam Wilson (Chester) instead.

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## **SPECIAL AGENDA I:**

### **LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

**The following items (full details of which are contained in Special Agenda I – see pages 19 to 23) will be taken:**

- 500** Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2023 (**GS 2299**)
  - *For Approval*
- 501** Electronic Register Book of Services Form and Conditions 2023 (**GS 2291**)
  - *For Approval*

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### **APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL (GS 2301)**

*One of the Presidents to move:*

- 6** 'That the appointment of Mr Carl Hughes as member of the Archbishops' Council and Chair of the Finance Committee be approved.'



**Not later than 5.45 p.m.**

**7 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 12.00 p.m. on Tuesday 27 June 2023.***

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*7.00 p.m. Evening Worship*

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## SATURDAY 8 JULY 2023

9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

### MORNING WORSHIP

### SPECIAL AGENDA I:

### LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

**502** Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure (**GS 2272B**)

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**505** Amending Canon No. 43 (**GS 2273B**)  
- *Final Drafting and Final Approval*

**506** Amending Canon No. 42 (**GS 2269D**)

- *For Enactment*

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### NATIONAL INVESTING BODIES: REPORT ON JULY 2018 SYNOD MOTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (GS 2302)

**8** Presentation under SO 107.

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

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**Not later than 11.45 a.m.**

**9** **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 12.00 p.m. on Tuesday 27 June 2023.***

## SATURDAY 8 JULY 2023

2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.

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### **SPECIAL AGENDA IV:**

### **DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTION**

### **THE CONTRIBUTION OF FAITH TO THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS (GS 2294A AND GS 2294B)**

*Mrs Kashmir Garton (Worcester) to move:*

- 10** 'That this Synod, recognising that faith and belief can have a positive impact on an offender's behaviour:
- (a) note with pleasure the decision made by the Probation Service to recognise faith and belief 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 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.'
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*The Saturday afternoon will be reserved for an update on Living in Love and Faith (GS 2303).*

*Details will be available on a Notice Paper.*

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## SUNDAY 9 JULY 2023

2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

### OPENING WORSHIP

### PRESENTATION ON DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE INDEPENDENT SAFEGUARDING BOARD

- 11 Presentation under SO 107.

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

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### SAFEGUARDING REDRESS (GS 2305)

- 12 Presentation under SO 107.

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

*The Bishop of Truro to move:*

- 13 'That this Synod:
- (a) acknowledge and deeply regret the safeguarding failures of the Church of England and especially their effect on victims and survivors, noting the vital importance of their voice in the Church's ongoing safeguarding work;
  - (b) welcome the work undertaken to develop the Redress Scheme as a proper expression of that regret; and
  - (c) look forward to its further development, including the next steps as set out in GS 2305.'
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### SPECIAL AGENDA IV:

### DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTION

### RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY (GS 2306A AND GS 2306B)

*The Bishop of Reading to move on behalf of the Oxford Diocesan Synod:*

- 14 '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 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.
- (g) request that Bishops and the Liturgical Commission to encourage confirmation services to include an additional question 'Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth?'
- (h) ask that HM Government review the weight given to the environmental public benefit in planning regulations to facilitate the installation of renewable technologies, including for buildings that are listed or in conservation areas.'

**Note:** *the Business Committee has given permission under SO 23(3) for the above motion to be moved in a form different from that of which notice was given in April 2020.*

*6.00 pm Evening Worship*

## SUNDAY 9 JULY 2023

8.20 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

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### NATIONAL CHURCH GOVERNANCE (GS 2307)

- 15 Presentation under SO 107.

*The Bishop of Guildford to move:*

- 16 'That this Synod:
- (a) confirm the recommendations of the National Church Governance Project Board set out in GS 2307 as the basis for the reform of the National Church Institutions and Governance Structures of the Church of England
  - (b) request the introduction of draft legislation to give effect to the necessary statutory changes for the implementation of these proposals no later than the February 2024 Group of Sessions.'

**MONDAY 10 JULY 2023**

**9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.**

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**MORNING WORSHIP**

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**ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT (GS 2308)**

- 17 Presentation under SO 107.

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

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**Not later than 10.00 a.m.**

**ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL BUDGET 2024 AND PROPOSALS FOR APPORTIONMENT 2024 (GS 2309)**

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

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

*Canon John Spence to move:*

'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's expenditure for the year 2024, as shown in its budget, of £[X] in respect of [Y]:'

	<b>EXPECTED EXPENDITURE [X]</b>	<b>AREA OF ACTIVITY [Y]</b>
19	£14,998,000	Training for Ministry
20	£34,180,628	National Church Responsibilities
21	£1,518,779	Grants
22	£426,510	Mission agency pension contributions
23	£6,137,441	Clergy retirement housing grant

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

- 24 'That this Synod approve the Archbishops' Council's proposals (set out in the Table of Apportionment contained in **GS 2309**) 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 2024, and
- (b) the pooling adjustment for 2024 in respect of additional maintenance grants for ordinands.'

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS**

### **Notes:**

1. *The motions for the amendment of the Standing Orders contained in the First Notice Paper will be moved (subject to the note set out there).*
2. *The Standing Orders Committee has reported on the proposed amendments in its 61<sup>st</sup> Report (GS 2292 Revised).*

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### **SPECIAL AGENDA I:**

#### **LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

- 507** Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2023 (**GS 2310**)  
- *For approval*

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**25** **FAREWELL**



## MONDAY 10 JULY 2023

2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

### SPECIAL AGENDA I: LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 508** Clergy Conduct Measure (**GS 2311**)  
- *First Consideration*
- 

### ELECTIONS REVIEW GROUP: REPORT FROM THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE (GS 2312)

*Mr Clive Scowen* (London) to move on behalf of the Business Committee:

- 26** 'That the Synod receive the Report and agree the recommendations contained in the Annex to GS 2312.'
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### SPECIAL AGENDA I: LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 509** Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution (**GS 2313**)  
- *For approval*
- 

### REVITALISING THE PARISH FOR MISSION (GS 2314)

*The Revd Kate Wharton* (Liverpool) to move:

- 27** 'That this Synod
- (a) welcome the emphasis in the Church of England's Vision and Strategy for the 2020s on the revitalisation of the parish for mission as one of the six 'bold outcomes';
  - (b) affirm the parish system as a central component of the mixed ecology as we seek to offer a living and contextually-appropriate expression of church for every person in England, and a vital means of fulfilling our calling to become younger and more diverse;
  - (c) note the research presented in '*From Anecdote to Evidence*' as well as other recent research which contributes to our understanding of the factors supporting church growth and vitality;
  - (d) welcome the Church's commitment to sustaining overall numbers of parish clergy and increasing the numbers of ordinands, as well as increasing emphasis on lay ministry and the expansion of Licenced Lay Ministers in many dioceses; and
  - (e) encourage each parish and diocese to support a process of local missional discernment (Mission Action Planning) to enable greater effectiveness in parochial mission.'

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*6.00 pm Evening Worship*

**MONDAY 10 JULY 2023**

**8.20 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.**

**REVIEW OF THE MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE (GS 2315)**

*The Revd Flora Winfield* (Third Church Estates Commissioner) to move:

**28** 'That this Synod

- (a) welcome the Report GS 2315 on the review of the Mission & Pastoral Measure and the recommendations it contains;
  - (b) request the Archbishops' Council to bring forward a draft Measure for the First Consideration at a group of sessions in 2024 to give effect to the recommendations that involve legislative change;
  - (c) call on all concerned, including bishops, dioceses, parishes and the National Church Institutions, to welcome and embrace the call expressed in the Report for good conversations and a pastoral approach to be at the heart of any processes considering possible changes to ministry structures.'
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## TUESDAY 11 JULY 2023

9.00 a.m. to 1.15 p.m.

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### MORNING WORSHIP

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#### SPECIAL AGENDA I: LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 510** Church of England Pensions (Application of Capital Funds) Measure (**GS 2264**)  
- *Final approval*
- 511** Safeguarding Practice Reviews Code of Practice (**GS 2295**)  
- *For approval*
- 

#### SPECIAL AGENDA IV: DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTION

#### REDUCE PAROCHIAL FEES FOR MARRIAGES (GS 2282A AND GS 2282B)

*The Revd Dr Tom Woolford (Blackburn) to move:*

- 29** '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.'
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#### SYNOD COMPLAINTS PROCESS (GS 2316)

- 30** Presentation under SO 107.  
**Note:** *the Business Committee has determined under SO 107(3) that this presentation should include an opportunity for questions.*
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**Not later than 12.50 p.m.**

- 31** FAREWELLS
- 

**Not later than 1.15 p.m.**

- 32** PROROGATION
-

## SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

### LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2023 (GS 2299)

#### Order under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 for approval

*The Chair of the Fees Advisory Committee* (The Ven Bob Cooper) (Durham) to move:

- 500 'That the Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2023 be approved'

### THE ELECTRONIC REGISTER BOOK OF SERVICES FORM AND CONDITIONS 2023 (GS 2291)

#### Instrument for approval

*Mrs Julie Dziegiel* (Oxford) to move:

- 501 'That the Electronic Register Book of Services Form and Conditions 2023 be approved.'

#### **Notes:**

1. *The Business Committee has determined in accordance with SO 70(1) that this instrument is to be considered on the One Motion Procedure under SO 72.*
2. *Amendments to the instrument 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 Wednesday 5 July 2023.***

### DRAFT CHURCH OF ENGLAND (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) MEASURE (GS 2272B)

#### DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 43 (GS 2273B)

#### Draft Measure and Draft Amending Canon for Final Drafting and Final Approval

(Revised at the February 2023 group of sessions)

#### Report by the Steering Committee (GS 2272Z/2273Z)

*The Chair of the Steering Committee* (Mr Stephen Hofmeyr KC) (Guildford) to move:

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

**Note:** *If item 503 is carried, any special amendments will be moved (SO 61(8)).*

- 503 'That the Measure entitled "Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure" be finally approved.'

## SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

**504** ‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 43” be finally approved.’

And, if item 504 is carried:

**505** ‘That the petition for His Majesty’s Royal Assent and Licence (GS 2723C) be adopted.’

### **AMENDING CANON NO. 42 (GS 2269D)**

#### **Canon for Enactment**

**(Finally approved at the February 2023 group of sessions)**

*One of the Archbishops to move:*

**506** ‘That the Canon entitled “Amending Canon No. 42” be made, promulgated and executed.’

### **FACULTY JURISDICTION (AMENDMENT) RULES 2023 (GS 2310)**

#### **Rules under section 83 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 for approval**

*The Chair of the Rule Committee (the Rt Worshipful Morag Ellis KC, Dean of the Arches and Auditor) (ex officio) to move:*

**507** ‘That the Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2023 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 Rules 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 7<sup>th</sup> July.***

### **DRAFT CLERGY CONDUCT MEASURE (GS 2311)**

#### **Draft Measure for First Consideration**

*The Chair of the Steering Committee to move:*

**508** ‘That the Measure entitled “Clergy Conduct Measure” be considered for revision in committee.’

#### **Note:**

*If item 508 is carried, any member who wishes to submit proposals for amendment to the revision committee must send them in writing to the Clerk to the Synod so as to reach her **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023.***

**CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (AMENDMENT) RESOLUTION 2023  
(GS 2313)**

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

*A member of the Business Committee to move:*

- 509** 'That the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2023 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 6<sup>th</sup> July.***
3. *To be passed, the Resolution requires a majority in each House of not less than two-thirds of those present and voting.*

**DRAFT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PENSIONS (APPLICATION OF CAPITAL FUNDS) MEASURE (GS 2264)**

**Draft Measure for Final Approval**

**(First Consideration at the July 2022 group of sessions)**

**(Revision Stage at the February 2023 group of sessions)**

*The Steering Committee has authorised the Clerk to inform the Synod that no amendments are to be made or proposed, and that there are no other matters to report. Accordingly, there will not be a Final Drafting stage for the Measure.*

**Final Approval Stage**

*The Chair of the Steering Committee (Mrs Busola Sodeinde) (London) to move:*

- 510** 'That the Measure entitled "Church of England Pensions (Application of Capital Funds) Measure" be finally approved'

**SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE REVIEWS CODE OF PRACTICE (GS 2295)**

**Code of Practice under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.**

*The Bishop of Stepney to move:*

**511** 'That the Safeguarding Practice Reviews Code of Practice be approved.'

**Notes:**

1. *The House of Bishops have laid the Code of Practice (GS 2295) before General Synod for approval under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.*
2. *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.*
3. *Amendments to the Code are not permissible.*

**ECCLESIASTICAL JUDGES, LEGAL OFFICERS AND OTHERS (FEES) ORDER 2023 (GS 2300)**

**Order under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 for approval**

**Notes:**

1. *The Fees Advisory Commission has laid the Order (GS 2300) before the General Synod for approval under section 86 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018.*
2. *The Business Committee has determined (as provided by that section) that the Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order does 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 7th July 2023.***
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 7th July 2023.***

## SPECIAL AGENDA I – LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

### **SCHEME OF VARIATION OF MEMBERSHIP OF DEANERY SYNODS (GS 2317)**

#### **Scheme made by the Lincoln Diocesan Synod under rule 22 of the Church Representation Rules**

##### **Notes**

- 1. The Lincoln Diocesan Synod has, under rule 22 of the Church Representation Rules (“CRR”), made the scheme set out in GS 2317 for the variation of membership of deanery synods in the Diocese.*
- 2. The scheme has been laid before the General Synod in accordance with CRR Rule 25(3)*
- 3. Under CRR rule 25(4), if a member of the General Synod gives notice in accordance with its standing orders that the member wishes a scheme under CRR rule 22 to be debated, the scheme does not come into operation unless it is approved by the General Synod.*
- 4. Accordingly, under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the scheme must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023.***
- 5. Amendments to the scheme are not permissible.*

### **DRAFT SCHEME AMENDING THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE CONSTITUTION (GS 2318)**

#### **Draft Scheme laid before the Synod**

##### **Notes:**

- 1. The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe has laid the draft Scheme before the General Synod under paragraph 48 of the Constitution of the Diocese in Europe.*
- 2. If a member of the General Synod gives notice that the member wishes the Scheme to be debated, the Scheme cannot come into operation unless it is approved by the General Synod.*
- 3. Under SO 71(2), any member who wishes to debate the Scheme must give notice in accordance with SO 13 by **not later than 5.30 p.m. on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023.***



## SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

*Note: This is the current order which includes signatures received by 21 June 2023.*

### **CLERGY PENSIONS**

*The Revd Dr Ian Paul (Southwell & Notts) to move:*

‘That this Synod request the Archbishops’ Council, the Pensions Board, and the Church Commissioners to work together to find a way to make use of the whole range of assets and resources across the Church to enable the restoration of the clergy pension to its pre-2011 benefit level as soon as possible.’

76 signatures

March 2022

### **REMOVAL OF DIVORCE IMPEDIMENT TO ORDINATION**

*The Revd Mark Bennet (Oxford) to move:*

‘That this Synod request that the Archbishops’ Council introduce the necessary legislation to remove the canonical impediment to ordination in respect of a person who has remarried and, the other party to that marriage being alive, has a former spouse still living; or who is married to a person who has been previously married and whose former spouse is still living.’

127 signatures

March 2022

### **DECLARATION OF CHRISTIAN INCOMPATIBILITY OF PRIDE**

*Mr Sam Margrave (Coventry) to move:*

‘That this Synod—

affirming that God loves all people, nevertheless consider that the ‘Pride’ rainbow flag, activity and events, and what it represents in terms of the ordering of lives and relationships is contrary to the word of God (2 Timothy 4:3, Genesis 5:2, Mark 10:6-9, Matthew 19:3-12, Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:24-27, Genesis 2:24, 1 John 2:15-17, Romans 6, 1 Corinthians 4:6, Jeremiah 23:16-17, Luke 17:1-2, Matthew 18:6-9, Ezekiel 3:18-19, 2 Tim. 3:1-4, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Corinthians 13:4, 1 John 2:3-6); and therefore:

- (a) call on the House of Bishops to state that support for Pride (including use of the rainbow flag; and blessing, participation in, publicising, resourcing and endorsement of Pride events or flags) is incompatible with the Christian faith, its agenda being contrary to scriptural teaching, Church doctrine, and Canons of the Church of England; and;
- (b) request the Archbishop’s Council to introduce legislation to enforce the Earl Marshall’s warrant of 9 February 1938, and to prohibit the display of any political or other campaigning flags or banners in or on church buildings.

18 signatures

June 2022

## SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

### **FUTURE OF CENTRAL CHURCH INSTITUTIONS**

*Mr Luke Appleton (Exeter) to move:*

'That this Synod call on the Archbishops' Council and the Church Commissioners—

- (a) to stop the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Governance Review Group (GS 2239); and
- (b) to consult each parochial church council on the future of central church institutions and what they should look like.'

3 signatures

June 2022

### **VOCATIONS PROCESS AND ISSUES IN HUMAN SEXUALITY**

*The Revd Mae Christie (Southwark) to move:*

'That this Synod request that the House of Bishops remove any requirements relating to *Issues in Human Sexuality* from the Vocations (Shared Discernment) Process.'

127 signatures

June 2022

### **PAROCHIAL FEES AND SCHEDULED MATTERS AMENDING ORDER 2019**

*The Revd Tom Woolford (Blackburn) to move:*

'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 for funeral services in church are set at nil.'

9 signatures

July 2022

### **INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON ACCOUNTABILITY**

*Mr Martin Sewell (Rochester) to move:*

'That this Synod, deeply concerned at the lack of functional accountability permeating the culture and institutions of the Church of England—

call upon the Archbishops, House of Bishops and Archbishops' Council to urgently establish an Independent Commission, to include significant external and professional representation, to receive representations and bring forward specific recommendations to improve accountability and transparency throughout the Church;

instruct the Business Committee to arrange for the terms of reference for the Independent Commission to be subject to a debate by this Synod with substantial time for consideration to be allocated.'

59 signatures

July 2022

## SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

### SYNODICAL APPROVAL OF BUDGETS AND SPENDING PLANS

*Mr Ian Johnston (Portsmouth) to move:*

'That this Synod,

noting that the central church, taken as a whole, should set an example of good governance to our dioceses and parishes, and recognising the nature of the intended reorganisation of the NCIs, call on the Archbishops' Council to introduce draft legislation to the earliest possible Group of Sessions that would:

- (a) require synodical approval of the Church Commissioners' spending plans, the Archbishops' Council's annual budget and all other substantial expenditure of the Church of England;
- (b) should the motions in paragraph (a) not be passed unamended, require amended proposals from those bodies in response to those motions; and,
- (c) require those bodies to make summary bi-annual progress reports to Synod on the implementation of said matters; all being subject to amendable motions of acceptance.'

14 signatures

July 2022

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND YOUTH SYNOD

*Tim Norwood (Oxford) to move:*

'That this Synod:

- (a) acknowledge the national strategy to 'grow younger and more diverse'
- (b) take note of the report 'Rooted in the Church' (2016) which observes that young adults feel a sense of belonging if they i) are included within the whole church family, ii) are treated as equal members of the church, iii) are supported by leaders who act as bridges or mentors, and iv) are given a safe space to ask questions;
- (c) re-affirm the importance of having young adults directly involved in decision-making and strategy;
- (d) recognise the valuable contributions made by members of the Church of England Youth Council (CEYC);

and therefore call on the Archbishops' Council to:

- (e) establish the Church of England Youth Synod (CEYS) or similar, to replace the recently disbanded Church of England Youth Council

## SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

(CEYC), as a meeting of young Anglicans between the ages of 18 and 25 who meet prior to each meeting of General Synod to discuss and debate the motions of General Synod;

- (f) invite each Diocesan Synod to nominate two young adults as members of both their local Diocesan Synod and the Church of England Youth Synod;
- (g) arrange for the co-option of 5 young adults elected by the Youth Synod as members of General Synod with the right to speak and vote;
- (h) appoint a part-time post with responsibility for democratic engagement with young people;
- (i) ensure that a sufficient budget is made available to support the work of the Youth Synod; and
- (j) ensure that the Youth Synod has representation on the Archbishops' Council by co-opting a member of the Youth Synod as a member of Archbishops' Council.

133 Signatures

September 2022

### **BULLYING BY LAY OFFICERS**

*The Ven Mark Ireland (Blackburn) to move:*

'That this Synod, recognising:

- a) that bullying is unacceptable behaviour within the Church of God, whether by clergy or lay people, and where it exists needs to be addressed; and
- b) the serious pastoral problems and unfairness that arise while clergy can be subject to penalties for bullying that include prohibition and removal from office but there is no means of disqualifying a churchwarden, PCC member or other lay officer who is guilty of bullying from holding office;

request the Archbishops' Council to bring forward legislative proposals which would enable a churchwarden, PCC member or other lay officer who was found to have conducted him- or her-self in such a manner to be disqualified from holding office.'

117 signatures

December 2022

## SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

### GROOMING OF CHILDREN

*Mr Sam Margrave (Coventry)* to move:

'That this Synod believes the sexualisation and grooming of Children on our streets and in the media is abhorrent to the nature of God, contrary to the Christian faith, and that no member of the Church of England, Parish or Cathedral should endorse, support, resource or be associated with any activity that exposes children to sexualisation or grooming.'

7 signatures

December 2022

### FURTHER USE OF CHURCHYARDS

*The Revd Andrew Dotchin (St Edmundsbury & 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 His 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.'

13 signatures

January 2023

### DISINVESTMENT IN FOSSIL FUELS

*Dr Cathy Rhodes (Sheffield)* to move:

'That this Synod, recognising our responsibility to care for God's creation, the urgency of the climate crisis and the International Energy Agency statements that (i) there can be no new fossil fuel developments if the world is to limit global heating to 1.5°C and (ii) investment in renewable energy needs to more than treble by 2030:

- (a) acknowledge the important work of the Transition Pathway Initiative;
- (b) note that the Archbishop of Cape Town and over 20 Southern African Anglican bishops have called for the immediate cessation of fossil fuel exploration across Africa, and 500+ UK Church leaders including 49 Church of England bishops have called for no new fossil fuel developments;
- (c) therefore call on the National Investing Bodies to:
  - i. disinvest by the end of 2023 from any oil and gas companies that are planning to explore for and/or develop new fossil fuel resources and/or reserves; and;
  - ii. scale up investment in renewable energy and other climate solutions year-on-year to at least 10% of assets under management by 2030.'

74 signatures

January 2023

## SPECIAL AGENDA III – PRIVATE MEMBERS MOTIONS

### REFORM OF DIOCESAN WORKING PRACTICES

*Professor Roy Faulkner* (Leicester) to move:

‘That this Synod request a working group be set up to consider Diocesan reform with a view to reporting back to the next group of sessions with firm proposals for more efficient Diocesan working practices, driven by mission statements.’

21 signatures

May 2023

### INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE WITHIN THE SOUL SURVIVOR NETWORK

*The Revd Robert Thompson* (London) to move:

‘That this Synod, being deeply disquieted at the continued controversies over the actual independence of Safeguarding structures within the Church of England, does not accept that an internal Church inquiry into the allegations of abuse and cover-up within the Soul Survivor network is either sufficient or right in principle.

It accordingly calls upon the Archbishop’s Council to commission, on agreed terms of reference with survivors, a report into those allegations from an independent King’s Counsel without delay.’

112 signatures

May 2023

### LGBTQIA+ AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

*Mr Sam Wilson* (Chester) to move:

‘That this Synod:

- (a) recognise the importance of including age-appropriate LGBTQIA+ content in relationship education
- (b) commend the use of ‘Valuing All God’s People’ to all Church of England schools in order to help combat anti-LGBTQIA+ bullying
- (c) thank the teachers and staff who help to create welcoming and inclusive environments for all pupils, especially those who do so with personal sacrifice as LGBTQIA+ role models.’

64 signatures

May 2023

### REQUEST FOR THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY TO RESIGN

*Mr Sam Margrave* (Coventry) to move:

‘That this Synod call upon The Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, to resign.’

June 2023

## **SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS**

### **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

### **THE CONTRIBUTION OF FAITH TO THE REHABILITATION OF PRISONERS**

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

‘That this Synod, recognising that faith and belief can have a positive impact on an offender’s behaviour:

- (a) note with pleasure the decision made by the Probation Service to recognise faith and belief 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 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

## **SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS**

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 footprint, including, but not restricted to, the following immediate actions in respect of Church buildings:
  - a. 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
  - b. 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 to reflect the contribution made by parishes in support of such services.'

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--

- (d) affirm the dignity and value of purposeful work as a significant component of human flourishing
- (e) endorse and commend the five principles used for evaluating fair and dignified platform work in the gig economy by Fair.work and
- (f) 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

### **KAIROS PALESTINE**

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

‘That this Synod:

- (a) endorse the “Cry for Hope” expressed by Palestinian Christians and the ‘Global Kairos for Justice’ coalition (GKfJ);
- (b) request that the Faith and Order Commission produce a report which analyses and refutes any theological justifications, for example, those promoted by some Christian Zionists, for the oppression of Palestinians
- (c) instruct the Ethical Investment Advisory Group to provide guidance to the National Investing Bodies (NIBs) and Dioceses that will enable them to screen their investments and thereby make decisions regarding engagement with, and divestment from, companies which profit from the occupation.’

October 2021

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PCCS**

... to move on behalf of Chelmsford Diocesan Synod

‘That this Synod request that the General Synod request that the Archbishops’ Council carry out a review to consider:

- (a) the possibility of drawing up a Code of Conduct for PCC members and lay volunteers,

## **SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS**

- (b) the issues required to put in place a disciplinary process for their removal from the PCC in cases where this is not followed,
- (c) the resources required at national, diocesan and parish level to bring this about.'

March 2022

### **SAFER RECRUITMENT FOR PCCS AND SYNODS**

... to move on behalf of Lichfield Diocesan Synod:

That this Synod request that the Archbishops Council:

- (a) review current legislative provision dealing with disqualification from holding office on a PCC or synod constituted under the Church Representation Rules;
- (b) consult the National Safeguarding Team on appropriate safeguarding measures;
- (c) bring forward proposals to amend the Church Representation Rules and other relevant legislation to allow checks to be made as to the eligibility of individuals to hold office on a PCC or synod; and
- (d) bring forward legislation to provide a robust and effective means for preventing those who are disqualified on safeguarding or other grounds from being elected to, or holding, office.'

April 2022

### **CHURCH BUILDINGS**

... to move on behalf of Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Synod:

'That this Synod urge the National Church Institutions and Church Buildings Council to use their influence to press for:

- (a) a reduction in the financial burden of VAT on churches through the continued funding of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPofWGS) and a broadening of the criteria for eligible expenditure together with a reduction in the administrative burden to access the LPofWGS with a simplified application process;
- (b) an intentional briefing, and greater understanding by, the local representatives of Historic England and the amenity societies of the mission and ministry objectives of the Church of England, and;
- (c) money to be made available from nationally held funds to assist churches to make reasonable adjustments to provide basic facilities for the comfort of worshippers and visitors.'

May 2022

## **SPECIAL AGENDA IV – DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS**

### **DAY OF PRAYER AND ACTION FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH**

... to move on behalf of London Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod, in the light of the motion passed at the February 2022 Group of Sessions relating to the persecuted Church (i.e. item 18 on the Agenda, as amended), request the Archbishops’ Council to work ecumenically with other churches to establish a national day of prayer and action for the persecuted Church around the world.’

August 2022

### **FOOD BANKS AND INADEQUACIES IN SOCIAL SECURITY**

... to move on behalf of Sheffield Diocesan Synod:

‘That this Synod, mindful that the fourth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion is to “transform unjust structures of society”,

- (a) note the major contribution to social welfare being made by the churches and others in the provision of food banks
- (b) note with concern that levels of dependence on food banks have been increasing and that inflation is making the situation even worse
- (c) believe that this dependence reflects serious inadequacies in the social security system
- (d) note that the Trussell Trust has said: ‘we stand on the edge of a precipice with a clear decision to make: either we accept food banks as a ‘new normal’ or we work to create a more dignified, compassionate and humane society where everyone has enough money for essentials’
- (e) welcome the Chancellor’s intervention to help the least well-off households with their energy bills but note this will not remove the problem of increased dependency on foodbanks
- (f) call on the House of Bishops to urgently engage with HM Government, in particular the Secretary of State, to press it to review the adequacy of current social security provision.’

January 2023

### **REST PERIODS FOR OFFICE HOLDERS**

.... to move on behalf of Winchester Diocesan Synod

‘That this Synod request that the Archbishops’ Council lay before it for approval draft Regulations amending the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Regulations 2009 so that an office holder is entitled to not less than 36 hours (a day and a half) of rest in any period of seven days, to include an uninterrupted rest period of not less than 24 hours, but so that the statement of particulars of office may continue to specify that any rest period may not be taken on or include a Sunday or any or all of the principal Feasts of the Church of England or Ash Wednesday or Good Friday.’

April 2023