

## **GENERAL SYNOD**

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### **FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2024**

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#### **SEVENTH NOTICE PAPER**

##### **ERRATA – QUESTIONS NOTICE PAPER**

The answer to Q62 Mr Stephen Hofmeyr and Q63 Mr Jacob Wrigley should read as follows:

*The Archbishop of York to reply as Vice-Chair of the House of Bishops:*

A With permission, I will answer questions 62 and 63 together. In preparation for the meeting on 9 October 2023, the House of Bishops was provided with a joint paper from the Chief Legal Adviser and the Theological Adviser entitled Living in Love and Faith: Civil Marriage and Holy Matrimony. Although it was not prepared with the amendment in view, it contained advice on various aspects of the relationship between civil marriage and holy matrimony. As the position has yet to be considered in detail by the House of Bishops in the light of further advice from FAOC, the substance of the advice has not so far been published.

##### **MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

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

##### **ITEM 6 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCILS (GS 2335A AND GS 2335B)**

*Mr Adrian Greenwood (Southwark) to move as an amendment:*

*‘Leave out everything after “That this Synod” and insert:*

“call upon every PCC in the Church of England within 12 months of the date of this motion being passed to agree and adopt a Code of Conduct which

(i) is appropriate and proportionate to their scale of operations and which, among other things, sets out the standards of behaviour for members which are considered acceptable to enable the PCC to fulfil its responsibilities effectively and efficiently in a spirit of Christian charity and for the glory of God:

(ii) provides for members of the PCC whose behaviour persistently falls below the standards, particularly bullying, to withdraw or to be asked to withdraw, for a reasonable period of time; and

(iii) reflects the ‘Pastoral Principles for living well together’ already endorsed by Synod, particularly ‘paying attention to power’.”.’

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

*‘Leave out paragraph (b).’*

## **ITEM 9 SAFEGUARDING INDEPENDENCE (GS 2340)**

*Mr Martin Sewell (Rochester) to move the following amendments:*

*‘Leave out everything after “for their work” and insert “and accept the recommendations of their reports in full and the need to proceed with as much urgency as good governance will allow”.’*

*‘At the end insert:*

“Furthermore, that this Synod regretfully conclude that the responsibility for the “collapse” of confidence in the Safeguarding culture of the Church of England, as described by Professor Jay and evidenced by Dr Wilkinson lies principally and institutionally with

- 1) The Archbishops of Canterbury and York
- 2) Archbishops' Council
- 3) The Secretary General
- 4) The Lead Bishop for Safeguarding
- 5) The Senior Secretariat members”

‘At the end *insert*:

“That this Synod apologise to all members of the former Independent Safeguarding Board for the stress harm and professional embarrassment they have endured which have arisen as a result of the ISB formation, structuring, resourcing, implementation, and management for which they were not responsible.”.’

‘*Leave out* all the words from “and request” to the end.’

‘At the end *insert*:

“That this Synod cannot endorse the proposal for an implementations group as currently established en bloc, by an opaque process, comprising some members who may exemplify concerns or bear significant responsibility for the failures to date.”.’

‘At the end *insert*:

“That this Synod note the lack of significant external but informed voices and heed the warnings that such a group created in such a way will carry neither the confidence nor the support of the survivor community.”.’

‘At the end *insert*:

“That this Synod request that a new response group be formed by the Appointments Committee comprising nominees with no prior executive involvement with the ISB history and without having been personally subject to safeguarding complaint during the life of this Synod.”.’

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

‘At the end *insert*:

“That this Synod adopt and endorse the apologies expressed by the Archbishops to the Survivors impacted by the matters described within the Wilkinson Report, and specifically acknowledge and apologise for its own collegiate shortcomings within the scrutiny process.”.’

*Mr Clive Billenness* to move as an amendment:

‘After “for their work and” *insert* “call upon the Archbishop’s Council to:

(a) instruct independent legislative counsel to prepare a draft Measure giving effect to Professor Jay’s proposals in the manner recommended by Dr Wilkinson (i.e. using external consultants);

(b) to publish the draft Measure for open consultation by 30 April 2024; and

(c) to bring that draft, together with a report setting out responses to the consultation, for first consideration at General Synod in July 2024.”.’

## **ITEM 10 LAND AND NATURE (GS 2319)**

*The Revd Andrew Yates* (Truro) to move the following amendment:

‘At the end *insert*:

“( ) request the Church Commissioners to report back to General Synod within three years about their progress with:

(i) enhancing and supporting biodiversity across their agricultural and forestry land,

(ii) engagement and collaboration with tenants about sustainable farming, and

(iii) their leadership amongst landowners in a way that recognises the importance of shared learning, support and respect in achieving these objectives.”.’

*Mr Robert Zampetti* (London) to move as an amendment:

‘In paragraph (b) at the end *insert* “that includes publishing an inventory of Glebe property listing each property’s book value and its current rating or ‘net zero score’, if such a score has been determined”.’

## **ITEM 12 FUTURE OF WORK (GS 2320A AND GS 2320B)**

*The Archbishop of Canterbury* to move as an amendment:

‘After paragraph (a) *insert*:

“( ) endorse the Rome Call for promoting an ethical approach to Artificial Intelligence”

*Mr Ian Johnston* (Portsmouth) to move as an amendment:

‘At the end *insert*:

“( ) request the Church Commissioners consider conditional investment in new technology companies as a means of spreading the Church of England’s approach to employment and helping to contribute actively to solutions to the climate crisis”.’

*Mrs Abigail Ogier* (Manchester) to move as an amendment:

‘In paragraph (a) after “purposeful work” *insert* “whether paid or unpaid,”

*Mrs Sandie Turner* (Chelmsford) to move as an amendment:

‘In paragraph (a) after “purposeful work” *insert* “, paid and unpaid, including child rearing and caring for the frail and old”

*Canon Alison Coulter* (Winchester) to move as an amendment:

‘In paragraph (c) at the end *insert* “, including specific advice on how these changes impact the work of women.”.’

*The Revd Lindsay Llewellyn-Macduff* (Rochester) to move as an amendment:

‘After paragraph (a) *insert*:

“( ) affirm the social and economic value of both the voluntary sector and domestic labour, and commend social and political efforts made to support it”.’

*Professor Roy Faulkner* (Leicester) to move as an amendment:

‘At the end *insert*:

“( ) that the committee considers the impact of immigration on the nature of work in the UK”

## **ITEM 15 ARCHBISHOPS COMMISSION ON FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS (GS 2321)**

*Dr Julie Maxwell* (Durham) to move as an amendment:

‘After paragraph (b) *insert*:

“( ) reaffirm the value of marriage, especially when loving, as providing the most stable and permanent environment for bringing up children”.’

## **ITEM 19 ESTATES EVANGELISM (GS 2345)**

*Mr Paul Waddell* (Southwark) to move the following amendments:

‘In paragraph (c) after “renewing churches on” *insert* “, and/or doubling the number of young active disciples in”.’

'At the end *insert*:

"( ) request the Estates Evangelism Task Group to work alongside diocesan vocations advisors, the 30,000 Project and other related bodies to ensure that priority is given to the formation of young people from estates and low income communities to serve as children's and young people's leaders, as well as in other forms of Christian ministry".'

## **ITEM 20 CLERGY PENSIONS (GS 2330A AND GS 2330B)**

*Mr Carl Hughes* (ex officio) (Archbishops' Council) to move as an amendment:

'*Leave out* all the words after "That this Synod" and *insert*

- "(a) request the Archbishops' Council, the Pensions Board, and the Church Commissioners to work together with dioceses to explore ways in which the level of clergy pensions and stipends might be improved in a sustainable manner, with reference being made to the impact of changes to clergy pension benefits and the National Minimum Stipend (NMS) since 1998, including the change in level of the pension benefit from 2/3 of NMS prior to 2011; and
- (b) in doing this work to have regard to the findings of the Clergy Remuneration Review (GS 2247 and GS Misc 1298) and in particular the policy that the National Minimum Stipend should, in future, on average, increase in line with inflation (as measured by CPIH) subject to three yearly reviews and the need to review this position if high levels of inflation establish themselves.".'

*Mr Ian Boothroyd* (Southwell & Nottingham) to move as an amendment:

‘At the end *insert* “and request the Archbishops' Council, the Pensions Board and the Church Commissioners to consider what steps may be taken to remedy the fall in the real value of pensions for clergy retiring since 2021, and to avoid such a fall reoccurring in any future period of high inflation.”.’

## **ITEM 21 LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH (GS 2347)**

*Mr Andrew Cornes* (Chichester) to move as an amendment:

‘At the end *insert* “paying attention particularly to a restoration of, and growth in, mutual trust, especially over theological, pastoral and legal matters”.’

## **ITEM 23 REMOVAL OF DIVORCE IMPEDIMENT TO ORDINATION (GS 2349A AND GS 2349B)**

*The Revd Jeremy Moodey* (Oxford) to move as an amendment:

‘At the end *insert* “and that alongside such legislation, the Archbishops issue new directions on the enquiries to be made of ordination candidates to ensure that the circumstances of any candidate's remarriage and previous divorce are such as not to risk causing hostile public comment or scandal should the candidate be recommended for ordination and that enquiries of previous spouses are only made in exceptional cases”.’

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS (GS 2340)**

Mr Clive Billenness (Europe) to move the following amendments:

### **Standing Order 34 (adjournment of debate)**

In Standing Order 34, after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) Where the motion for the Adjournment of Debate does not specify a time for the resumption of the interrupted debate, it is in order for any member to move an amendment to the motion that would specify such a time; and SO 30(4) applies to a motion under this paragraph as if it were a special procedural motion.”

***Explanatory statement:*** *this amendment would provide that, where the mover of a motion for the Adjournment of Debate does not specify the time at which the interrupted debate would resume, it is in order for any member to move an amendment to specify such a time.*

In Standing Order 34, after paragraph (4) insert—

“(4A) If the motion as amended under paragraph (1A) is carried, the Business Committee may, where it is of the opinion that it would be for the better conduct of the Synod’s business, vary the time specified in the motion as amended for the resumption of the interrupted debate.”

***Explanatory statement:*** *this amendment would give the Business Committee power to vary the time specified in an amendment to the motion for Adjournment for Debate, where it considers that doing so would assist the conduct of the Synod’s business.*

### **Consequential amendments**

In Standing Order 26, in paragraph (3)(a), after “procedure” insert “, other than an amendment under SO 34(1A) to the Adjournment of Debate”.

In Standing Order 34, in paragraph (2), before “may then be further debated” insert “and any amendment under paragraph (1A)”.

In Standing Order 34, in paragraph (3), after “the motion” insert “or on an amendment under paragraph (1A)”.

### **Standing Order 38 (procedure on voting)**

In Standing Order 38, after paragraph (2), insert—

“(2A) A bell must be rung for the purposes of paragraph (2) if—

- (a) the Chair so directs, or
- (b) at least 25 members stand in their places or, if unable to do so without difficulty, indicate by some other means that they wish the bell to be rung.”

**Explanatory statement:** *this amendment would ensure that, if the Chair does not direct that a bell is to be rung before a counted vote of the whole Synod, it is open to at least 25 members to indicate that they wish the bell to be rung.*

### **Consequential amendment**

In Standing Order 38, in paragraph (2), for “if the Chair so directs” substitute “if that is required by paragraph (2A)”.

### **Standing Order 38 (procedure on voting)**

In Standing Order 38, in paragraph (3), after “otherwise” insert “; but if, where the Chair does direct otherwise, at least 25 members stand in their places or, if unable to do so without

difficulty, indicate by some other means that they wish a bell to be rung for the purpose mentioned in paragraph (2), it must be rung”.

**Explanatory statement:** *this amendment would ensure that, if the Chair directs that a bell is not to be rung before a counted vote by Houses, it is open to at least 25 members to indicate that they wish the bell to be rung.*