

**Sunday 25 February 2024**

**2.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.**

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**ORDER PAPER IV**

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**OPENING WORSHIP**

**RACIAL JUSTICE: FURTHERING THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF ‘FROM LAMENT TO ACTION’**

*The Bishop of Dover* to move:

**13** ‘That this Synod:

- (a) commend the practical and positive outcomes in *From Lament To Action* but recognising the need to further embed racial justice in the life and practice of our Church, request that the national Church ensures crucial resources remain available including appropriate governance arrangement and funding, recommend that Dioceses give priority to the collection, monitoring and measuring of relevant data, and encourage parishes and deaneries to develop local action plans to address issues of racial injustice.
- (b) note that the Archbishops’ Commission for Racial Justice shall complete its mandated three-year term in November 2024 and request the Archbishops’ Council ensure effective structures exist for monitoring actions and outcomes on racial justice, including a possible review and strengthening of the role of the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns, and that the Synod Group Sessions in February 2025 review the progress made by Dioceses, the NCIs and other related institutions in implementing the recommendations in *From Lament To Action*.’

**SPECIAL AGENDA III:  
PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

**BULLYING BY LAY OFFICERS (GS 2339A AND GS 2339B)**

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

- 14 '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;
  - (c) 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.'

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

*The Revd Canon Joyce Jones* (Leeds) to move that the following amendment be made with effect from 28 February 2024:

26 **Standing Order 31 (the Closure)**

'In Standing Order 31, after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) The motion may not be moved unless there has been an opportunity for at least one speech to be made against the item on which the motion would be moved.”.’

***Explanatory statement:*** *this amendment would provide that, where the only speeches on an item have been in support, the motion for the Closure on that item may not be*

*moved until the Chair has given an opportunity for there to be a speech against the item.*

*Mr Clive Billenness (Europe) to move that the following amendments be made with effect from 28 February 2024:*

**48 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.*

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

*“(4A) 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.*

**Items 50, 51 and 52 to be moved if item 48 is carried**

**50 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”.’*

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

**52** 'In Standing Order 34, in paragraph (3), after "the motion" insert "or on an amendment under paragraph (1A)".'

**53 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.*

With the permission of the Chair, *the Revd Canon Joyce Jones* (Leeds) to move as an amendment item 53

**54** 'In the new paragraph (2A)(b), before "at least 25 members" insert "where the vote is to take place under SO 39(4) (suspension of Standing Orders: majority of three-quarters required),”.'

**Explanatory statement:** *this amendment would provide that the opportunity for 25 members to request the bell to be rung before a counted vote of the whole Synod takes place would be available only on a motion to suspend Standing Orders, for which a majority of three-quarters is required.*

**Item 55 to be moved if item 53 is carried**

**55 Consequential amendment**

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

**56 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.*

With the permission of the Chair, *the Revd Canon Joyce Jones* (Leeds) to move as an amendment to item 56

**57** 'After "direct otherwise" insert "on a vote under SO 36(4) (cases where majority of two-thirds required)".'

**Explanatory statement:** *this amendment would provide that the opportunity for 25 members to request the bell to be rung before a counted vote by Houses takes place would be available only on a question under SO 36(4) for which a majority of two-thirds is required.*

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**ARCHBISHOPS' COMMISSION ON FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS (GS 2321)**

*The Bishop of Durham* to move:

**15** '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.’

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

**58** ‘After paragraph (b) *insert:*

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

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*Evening Worship*

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