

Questions and Answers under Standing Order 27

1. "Anglicans Celebrate 150 Years" Booklet

Miss Joanna Warren asked –

- (a) What was the final total cost of printing and distributing all copies of the booklet "Anglicans Celebrate 150 Years" and how was this cost covered?
- (b) What was it thought that this booklet would achieve? To what extent has this been realised?

and

Mr John Pascoe asked –

- (a) Who was responsible for the publication of the booklet "Anglicans Celebrate 150 Years"?
- (b) How many copies of the booklet were produced and what was the approximate cost of production and distribution?
- (c) How much "advertising" revenue was received from Diocesan organisations and other bodies that were requested to "advertise" in the booklet?
- (d) What therefore was the net cost of production and distribution?
- (e) How (or by which Diocesan organisations) has this net cost been funded?
- (f) Was this project in any way condoned by Synod, for example by a Synod resolution or through the Appropriations Ordinance?

To which the President replied –

The 150th Celebrations including the visit by the Archbishop of Canterbury were organised by a small Sesqui-Centenary Committee appointed by the Archbishop as a result of Synod Resolution 22/95. At the request of that committee the Archbishop appointed a sub-committee to explore the idea of a Diocesan EXPO in Sydney Square. The committee convenor was The Reverend Howard Dillon. The committee advised that for many reasons, principally the costs and vagaries of the weather, the original idea was not feasible. However, the committee undertook two proposals, the Sydney Prom Praise and a book, 'Anglicans Celebrate 150 Years'. The purpose of the book was still a Diocesan EXPO but presented in a form which would -

- (a) show the wide range of Diocesan activities in terms of the Church fulfilling its Mission and ministry;
- (b) provide a coffee table quality book as a stimulus to conversation and witness enabling Anglican Christians to give to friends and neighbours an insight into this Church, and
- (c) form the basis of praise and thankfulness to God for His blessing over 150 years.

The book was supported by a "wrap-around" bulletin cover to focus the worship of the Church on Sunday, 3 August 1997.

No formal market research has been carried out to gauge the effectiveness of this booklet. I indicated to the Synod in my address the very widespread responses received from rank and file members of our Diocese.

The final total cost of printing and distributing the booklet has not yet been finalised but all known costs including the bulletin covers total \$161,842. 50,000 copies of the booklet were produced. This figure was determined from the advice that approximately 46,000 people actually attend worship on any Sunday. The 100 page booklet was distributed freely to worshipping Anglicans at an approximate unit cost of \$3.25 each.

The booklet indicates that the project was sponsored by the Glebe Administration Board and ANGLICARE. 61 individual pages were sponsored by various organisations and activities at rates of \$1,000 per full page and \$600 per half page. The Income received from individual pages was \$60,200 and the balance met by the sponsors.

This project did not require approval from the Synod. This project was designed to be self-funding as were most activities associated with the sesqui-centenary celebrations. The Sesqui-Centenary Committee did have an allocation of \$10,000 but none of this resource was used for this project.

2. Anglican Youth and Education Division Diocese of Sydney

The Rev Gary Nelson asked –

Is it intended that the amalgamated Youth Department and Education Department will, in addition to having a CEO, appoint separate CEO's for youth interests and for educational interests? If the answer is yes, will there be cost savings made in other areas to pay for the additional positions?

To which the President replied –

I am advised that the Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney Ordinance 1919 as recently amended provides for one Chief Executive Officer only for the Anglican Youth and Education Division, and that the arrangements for senior management positions within the Division are still to be determined by its Council.

3. New Sites land

The Rev Bruce Dingwall asked –

- (a) Is it present policy that when a new site is purchased by the New Sites Committee for a new Vision 2001 Church, that all monies spent must be repaid by that Parish to the New Sites Committee?
- (b) Is it true that in the case of the proposed new church at Hoxton Park in the Parish of Sadleir, that amount presently stands at \$730,000?
- (c) Will such debts hinder new churches from attaining full Parish status and full Synod representation?
- (d) Who is responsible for the current policy and how can it be changed?

To which the President replied –

I am advised that the New Sites Ordinance 1982 created a rolling fund with an initial loan of \$1 million from the Glebe Administration Board. Subsequently the Synod provided additional funds through the Appropriations Ordinance and from time to time Vision for Growth and its successor provided funds for the purchase of specific land.

The concept of the rolling fund was that the Property Trust would purchase a "green fields" site (say 3 acres) and would later sell off the portion not required for purposes of the parochial unit. The parochial unit would repay the original cost of the land retained so that the rolling fund could purchase other sites. The proceeds from the sale of the unused portion would be used for future land purchases also.

There has been little unused land to sell and consequently if parochial units do not repay their costs then the Synod will need to provide additional funds for future land purchases or the programme will wind down.

The answers to the questions are –

- (a) Generally speaking, when a new site is purchased, the parochial unit must pay that proportion of the purchase price and costs which is equivalent to the area of the new site retained for the purposes of the parochial unit. No interest is payable and the amount payable does not increase as market values increase.
- (b) The Hoxton Park site was acquired for about \$766,000 including costs. If the Provisional Parish of Sadleir chooses to retain all 2.25 acres of the site then under the current policy it will be required to pay that amount.

Questions & Answers for the 1997 session of the 44th Synod

- (c) Not necessarily. In a recent case a loan facility was obtained by a Provisional Parish to extinguish the debt to the Property Trust and the Provisional Parish was able to become a Parish.
- (d) The Property Trust is responsible for the current policy under the New Sites Ordinance 1982. A request may be made to the Property Trust to change the policy or an ordinance can be promoted to amend the New Sites Ordinance. However a consequence of changing this policy is likely to be that the size of the rolling fund will be reduced, thereby limiting the ability to buy "green fields" sites in future unless the Synod provides additional funding.

4. Assistant Ministers

The Rev Ron Johnson asked –

- (a) Could you tell us how many men who have been ordained to the priesthood for a period of five years or longer, are currently serving in Parishes as Assistant Ministers?
- (b) How many women who have been ordained as Deacons are currently serving in Parishes as Assistant Ministers?

To which the President replied –

- (a) 19.
- (b) 13.

5. Authorised Services (1)

Mr Wayne Olling asked –

- (a) Further to Resolution 26/96 which requested the Archbishop (in consultation with the Diocesan Doctrine Commission and the Archbishop's Liturgical Panel) to detail to the General Synod Liturgical Commission this Dioceses reservations about a Prayer Book for Australia, has that submission been made and is a copy available?
- (b) Since the last Synod, how many applications have been made under Section 4 for permission to use variations to the authorised services? How many applications relate to APBA and how many relate to other services?
- (c) How many applications have been refused?
- (d) Are there any parts of APBA which will not be authorised for use if requested under Section 4 of the Constitution?

To which the President replied –

- (a) I have consulted with the Diocesan Doctrine Commission and the Liturgical Panel on the submission to the General Synod Liturgical Panel. Neither body has completed its work. Consequently no submission has yet been made.
- (b) 69. 45 for APBA and 24 for other services.
- (c) 2.
- (d) The section "Thanksgiving 3" on pages 133 - 135 of the full text edition will not be authorised under Section 4 of the Constitution.

6. Acting Rectors

Ms Judy Cale asked –

- (a) How many parishes in the Diocese do not currently have a rector?
- (b) What percentage of parishes presently have an acting rector?

To which the President replied –

- (a) 7.
- (b) 3.4%.

7. Low Fee Schools

Mr Greg Holmes asked –

In the light of Synod resolution 33 of 1994 in relation to low-fee schools what consultations have taken place between the Sydney Anglican School's Corporation and other "Anglicans in each area who are already involved in the management of low-fee paying Christian Schools" and has a protocol for such discussions been developed?

To which the President replied –

I am advised that the procedure for the development of plans for new schools depends on the particular circumstances in each case. Discussions with regional bishops, local parishes and nearby Christian schools are always part of the process undertaken before a new school is commenced. In this process, a number of Anglicans involved in Christian schools have been contacted and advised of plans in keeping with the Synod resolution 33/1994.

Plans are based on thorough demographic research to ensure both a proposed Anglican School and any other existing Christian school are viable.

Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation has also held discussions with the leadership of both the Christian Community Schools and Christian Parent Controlled Schools (which includes a number of Anglicans) regarding its plans for future Anglican Schools. These plans are made available to all parishes through SASC's Annual Reports to Synod.

8. Missionary Hour

Mr Alan Hohne asked –

In the light of his expressed concern that this Diocese and the members of its congregations play their part in the wider world, how does the Archbishop explain his exclusion of any voluntary society involved in foreign mission from the Missionary Hour of this Synod?

To which the President replied –

This is not a question which can be asked under Standing Order 27 as it seeks a personal opinion from me.

The Committee established to advise the Archbishop as to the form of future Synod meetings recommended that the Missionary Hour be reduced to 30 minutes in order that additional time be made available for the business of the Synod, and the Standing Committee recommended that the Missionary Hour be discontinued (see page 63 of the "salmon book").

The major missionary societies have been rotated through this time slot during the last few years. I decided that the Missionary "Hour" would be reduced to 30 minutes. Bush Church Aid Society has been a regular part of the Missionary Hour and because more people will be visiting Sydney than ever before in 2000 AD I have included the Olympic Games Task Force in this year's presentation.

9. Area Deanery Chapters

The Rev Stephen Gabbott asked –

For what purpose or purposes are the Area Deanery Chapters constituted?

To which the President replied –

Area Deaneries - formerly Rural Deaneries - are an ancient institution of the Anglican Church.

The Standing Committee reported to the Synod on "Rules for the Formation and Guidance of Rural Deanery Chapters" in 1871 where Chapters were seen to be constituted for the "edification of members and the extension of religion within the Rural Deanery and throughout the church."

In February 1996 a report stated that Area Deanery Chapters were “to bring clergy into closer union and to develop the advantages of the parochial system. Parishes may well be able to do in co-operation more than each can achieve on their own.”

One of the responsibilities of the Area Dean is to convene meetings of the Chapter and to make such meetings useful forums for real discussion and refreshment.

A majority of Chapter under the provisions of the Area Deanery Conference Ordinance 1965 may call for an Area Deanery Conference for the purposes of discussing matters of mutual or common interest in the life of the church.

10. Faculties

Canon B.A. Ballantine-Jones asked –

How many faculty applications were received by the Registry in the calendar year 1996? How many were refused? If there were any refusals, what was the nature of the faculty applied for?

To which the President replied –

36. 2 were refused. 1 for the erection of a plaque and 1 for the addition of an ornament.

11. Appointments to Anglican Schools

Mrs Lesley Hicks asked –

In view of the aim that our schools should both teach and model the Christian faith to their students, what policies apply regarding the allegiance and commitment to the Christian faith of people applying for appointment as principals and to the teaching staff of the various types of Anglican schools in this diocese?

To which the President replied –

There are 14 school councils created by ordinance of the Synod. Each school council is responsible for the development of policies for the management of the school. Some ordinances specifically require the school council to appoint a Christian as principal.

Each school council is responsible for developing and implementing policies for the appointment of the principal and staff.

The Standing Committee's policy is that to “maintain the Christian ethos of organisations and schools the Standing Committee considers it vital that senior management positions in ... organisations (including schools) be held by Christians”. This policy is printed on page 14 of the Standing Committee's Report but can only be a voluntary code unless there is a provision in the ordinance constituting a school council requiring compliance.

Item 6.12 of the Standing Committee's Supplementary Report refers to the Standing Committee having received a lengthy report on various aspects of church school councils, including the appointment of principals, and indicates that a detailed report will be made on the outcomes of the debate on that report.

Schools not under Synod ordinances but which refer to themselves as “Anglican” develop their own policies in this area.

12. Sexual Misconduct Protocol

Ms Faye Hansen asked –

- (a) How many formal complaints have been made since the Protocol re Sexual Misconduct by clergy and church workers has been in operation?
- (b) What have been the outcomes of these complaints?

Questions & Answers for the 1997 session of the 44th Synod

- (c) Has counselling been provided or funded for those who have claimed to have been victims of sexual misconduct by clergy or church workers?
- (d) What criteria has been used to determine how much is given for counselling support to those who have claimed to be victims?
- (e) Have any alleged offenders been referred to professional counselling or treatment programmes?

To which the President replied –

This is a very sensitive matter. Synod has a right to know that its money is being spent well, however I hope you understand that matters of confidentiality are involved.

- (a) A number of complaints have been made.
- (b) Each case has been dealt with on an individual basis and as thoroughly as possible.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Every case has been looked at individually. Professional advice has been sought in particular cases.
- (e) Yes.

13. Lambeth Conference

The Rev Neil Macken asked –

- (a) What does the Lambeth Conference Bursary in Line Item 10 (page 233 Standing Committee Report) refer to?
- (b) Is there any other provision made in the Appropriations Ordinance for enabling the Archbishop and the Regional Bishops to attend the Lambeth Conference in 1998?
- (c) If there is no provision made, how will any costs be paid?
- (d) If Lambeth Conference costs are to be paid out of some other fund, will the Synod or the Standing Committee have any involvement in approving those costs?
- (e) Do the estimated costs include payment for any expenses not directly incurred by the Bishops who will attend?
- (f) If some provision has already been made, what are the details of that provision, i.e. fares, accommodation, conference costs etc?

To which the President replied –

Some introduction to the answer is necessary. For the last 130 years, every 10 years the Archbishop of Canterbury has called a conference of bishops of the Anglican Communion, known as the Lambeth Conference. There are 31 Provinces of the Anglican Communion (of which the Anglican Church of Australia is one), and another 23 associated churches.

Lambeth Conferences provide bishops with the invaluable opportunity to study together, to share with each other and to pray together. A conference is held at the same time for the spouses of bishops. As I indicated in my Synod Address, Lambeth has provided me with the opportunity to confer with other Bishops in the Anglican Communion and put an evangelical point of view.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has invited all diocesan and assistant bishops, and their wives, to the 1998 Conference. After consultation with the Standing Committee I have approved of four of our Assistant Bishops, and their wives joining Pam and me in attending the Conference.

Now to answer the specific questions.

- (a) The Special Grant of \$54,000 approved by our Synod last year is the Sydney share of a \$250,000 target contribution by the Anglican Church of Australia to help bishops from less developed countries, and their spouses, attend the Lambeth Conference in August 1998.
- (b) No.

(c)-(f) The costs of the Archbishop and Assistant Bishops are not and have not been a charge on the Synod for many years. They are met from the Endowment of the See. Some details of this fund are given on page 8 of the *7th Handbook* and page 11 of the Standing Committee's report, and the audited accounts for 1996 were tabled in the Standing Committee and in this Synod session. The costs of attendance at the Lambeth Conference in 1998, of the Archbishop, 4 Assistant Bishops and wives are estimated at up to \$100,000. While it is anticipated that actual costs for airfare tickets will be less, the initial estimates were based on the following published standard costs for 1 person.

Airfare (in 1996)	\$ 6,500
Delegate's Fee	2,550
Incidentals	<u>950</u>
	<u>\$10,000</u>

In terms of the trusts, the Standing Committee has "determined" the ongoing payments for the stipends, expenses and support of the Archbishop and Assistant Bishops, and those packages have been approved by the Archbishop.

For the 1998 Lambeth Conference expenses, in February 1996 the Standing Committee advised the Property Trust to make a provision of \$100,000 and that provision has been made.

14. Authorised Services (2)

The Rev Richard Sewell asked –

- (a) Does the Liturgical Panel (Page 6 Standing Committee Report) have an arrangement to refer new services to the Doctrine Commission to ensure that constitutional standards are maintained? If there is no arrangement what steps do the Liturgical Panel take to ensure that Constitutional standards are maintained?
- (b) Has the Doctrine Commission (Page 6 Standing Committee Report) any reference to review new services submitted to the Archbishop for approval under Section 4 of the Constitution? If so, what are the terms of the reference?

To which the President replied –

- (a) The Liturgical Panel does not believe it has authority to refer matters to the Diocesan Doctrine Commission since the Panel is appointed by the Archbishop to assist him in exercising his powers under Section 4 of the 1961 Constitution. When it makes a report to the Archbishop on any Order of Service referred to it, the Panel recommends that the Archbishop refer that Service to the Commission for comment.
- (b) No, but I may choose to refer a service or services to the Diocesan Doctrine Commission for advice and in fact I am doing so in one case.

15. Admission of Children to Holy Communion

Mr Stephen Hodgkinson asked –

If the Archbishop assents to the General Synod - Admission of Children to Holy Communion Canon 1985 Adopting Ordinance 1997 how will the Archbishop regulate the practice and procedure of admission of children to Holy Communion as allowed for under section 3 of the Canon?

To which the President replied –

The question is out of order under Standing Order 27 because it asks for a disclosure of future intentions. The matter is however under consideration.

16. Glebe Stewardship Investment Trusts

Mr Ray Sommer asked –

Questions & Answers for the 1997 session of the 44th Synod

While our Lord's Parable of the Talents, as recorded in Matthew 25:14-30, refers to all kinds of human talents, but certainly does not EXCLUDE financial talents or assets, I would like to know -

- (a) is it a fact that Parishes may NOT invest their endowment or similar funds in the *Glebe Stewardship Investment Trusts* of Glebe Asset Management Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Glebe Administration Board which in turn is wholly owned and controlled by our church?;
- (b) if the answer is yes, why is this so?; and
- (c) if a restriction is imposed by an Ordinance, what steps need to be taken to have the Ordinance amended to allow investments in Funds controlled by Glebe Asset Management Limited?

To which the President replied –

The modes of investment in which Churchwardens may invest parish funds are prescribed by the Investment of Church Trust Property Ordinance 1990. Generally speaking, such funds may only be invested in –

- (i) Glebe Administration Board (Sydney Anglican Deposit Plan), a bank or certain building societies;
- (ii) Sydney Anglican Property Fund and Sydney Anglican Church Investment Trust;
- (iii) certain government stocks, debentures or securities;
- (iv) certain bank accepted or endorsed bills of exchange; and
- (v) if the funds are held under a specific trust instrument, such modes of investment as are authorised by that instrument.

An investment of a type not permitted by the Ordinance is an unauthorised investment. Churchwardens who make an unauthorised investment could be personally liable for any loss suffered by the parish as a result of that investment.

Details about the investment of church funds and the Investment of Church Trust Property Ordinance 1990 can be found on pages 94 and 95 of *The 7th Handbook*.

Turning now to consider the specific questions –

- (a) parish funds may not be invested in the Glebe Stewardship Investment Trusts unless those funds are held under a specific trust instrument which expressly authorises that investment;
- (b) clause 9 of the Investment of Church Trust Property Ordinance 1990 prohibits the investment of funds in any mode not authorised by that Ordinance;
- (c) it is competent for any person to promote an amending ordinance to the Standing Committee or Synod as set out generally on pages 77 to 80 of *The 7th Handbook*.

17. Address details of Synod Members

Mr John Roe asked –

- (a) On what conditions are Synod members' private address details provided to individuals or groups other than the Diocesan Secretariat?
- (b) Which groups or individuals have been supplied with private address details of Synod members?
- (c) Is it envisaged that members of Synod might be given the opportunity to prohibit the retailing of their private address details to other parties as is the case when many commercial address lists are compiled?

To which the President replied –

I am advised that the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat provides the hardware and software for the maintenance of our mailing list by Registry staff and that the list can be accessed in several groupings, depending on what the initiator of a mailing wishes to achieve.

Sets of mailing labels can be sold with the Registrar's approval for all groupings where addresses are available in the Year Book.

The names and addresses of all clerical members of the Synod are accessible through the Diocesan Year Book. Every three years a full Synod membership list, without addresses, is published in the Year Book. The purchaser of a Year Book is entitled to use the name and address information in it.

In answering the question, it is assumed that the words "Diocesan Secretariat" include the Archbishop, the Synod, the Standing Committee, the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat and other bodies to which the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat provides services.

With that preamble, the answers to the specific questions are –

- (a) The Standing Committee's policy is that sets of mailing labels for the Synod member groups can be sold, on the authorisation of the Diocesan Secretary, to any member of Synod wishing to circulate information in connection with the work and ministry of the Diocese. Otherwise, a request for the sale of a set of labels may be referred to the Standing Committee.
- (b) This part of the question can be answered only within a time frame. For this session of Synod, the Diocesan Secretary sold three sets of labels comprising all Synod members groups.

To Dr L.A. Scandrett, acting for Canon B.A. Ballantine-Jones to enable the circulation of information on elections and a dinner for Synod members.

To Mr J. Kasses of The Church Missionary Society, to enable the circulation of information about church supplies available during "Synod week" as a service to Synod members.

To Mrs L. Ramsay to enable the circulation of material on the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood.

There have not been any other sales of mailing labels for all Synod member groups this year.

- (c) This is not under consideration and the Synod mailing labels are not being sold for the compilation of commercial address lists as this part of the question could be thought to imply. The availability of information sometimes brings unwanted attentions, but the withdrawal of information from the Year Book or the curtailment of communication among Synod members could have unwanted effects. On request we are able to "sanitise" the name and address of a parish secretary by using the title only and the general parish mailing address. This seems hardly practicable for Synod members where the timing of communication is often essential.

18. Conference re Women's Ministry

The Rev Stephen Gabbott asked –

In the event of a conference being called by the Archbishop to discuss matters related to agenda items 8(4), 8(5) and 8(6) on the Synod business paper for 14 October 1997, with whom does he intend discussing the planning and implementation of such a conference?

To which the President replied –

The question is out of order under Standing Order 27 because it asks for a disclosure of future intentions. The matter is however under consideration.