

# 50<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

## 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session

### Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Monday 13 October 2014

#### 1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 3.15 pm.

#### 2. Prayers

Prayers were read by the Registrar, Mr Doug Marr.

#### 3. Procedural motions

##### 3.1 Amendment to the business paper for Monday 13 October 2014

Having been granted leave, Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod permits the alteration of today’s business paper in the manner set out on the paper circulated to Synod members headed ‘Amendments to the business paper for Monday 13 October 2014’.”

Seconded and carried

##### 3.2 Start time and Presidential Address

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod –

- (a) notes that the Presidential Address will be delivered from 4.30 pm, and
- (b) agrees to commence consideration of its business with items 3.2, 4 and 6-15 inclusive on this business paper, and
- (c) suspends any part of the business rules which would prevent these arrangements.”

Seconded and carried

##### 3.3 Election of Secretary of the Synod

Mr Doug Marr moved –

“Synod –

- (a) agrees to elect a Secretary of the Synod instead of a Clerical Secretary and a Lay Secretary of the Synod,
- (b) agrees that the functions exercised by the Clerical Secretary and Lay Secretary of the Synod are to be exercised by the Secretary of the Synod, and
- (c) suspends any part of the business rules which would prevent these arrangements.”

Seconded and carried

#### 4. List of members of the Synod

The President tabled a copy of the list of members of the Synod.

## 5. Document appointing a Commissary

The President tabled a copy of a document appointing a Commissary.

## 6. Elections

### 6.1 Secretary of the Synod

Dr Robert Tong AM moved –

“Synod hereby elects Mr Robert Wicks to be Secretary of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

### 6.2 Chairman of Committees

Dr Claire Smith moved –

“Synod hereby elects Dr Robert Tong AM to be Chairman of Committees.”

Seconded and carried

### 6.3 Deputy Chairman or Deputy Chairmen of Committees

Dr Claire Smith moved –

“Synod hereby elects Canon Phillip Colgan, Dr Karin Sowada, and the Hon Peter Young AO QC to be Deputy Chairmen of Committees.”

Seconded and carried

### 6.4 Committee of Elections and Qualifications

The Rev Dr Michael Stead moved –

“Synod hereby elects a Committee of Elections and Qualifications consisting of the following persons –

Mr Michael Easton

Mr Ian Miller

Mr Doug Marr

Dr Karin Sowada.”

Seconded and carried

### 6.5 Committee for the Order of Business

Dr Karin Sowada moved –

“Synod hereby elects a Committee for the Order of Business, consisting of the following persons –

The Secretary of Synod

Bishop Ivan Lee

The Rev Dane Courtney

Dr Robert Tong AM.”

Seconded and carried

### 6.6 Minute Reading Committee

Mr Doug Marr moved –

“Synod hereby elects a Minute Reading Committee consisting of the following persons –

Dr Bryan Cowling

Miss Jennifer Flower

Mr Clive Ellis

Dr Claire Smith.

The committee to operate on the basis that any 2 members may certify the minutes on behalf of the Committee.”

Seconded and carried

#### 6.7 Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Under section 12 of the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917, the Synod declares a vacancy in the office of member of the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney for Mr David Nelson and Dr Robert Tong AM both of whom have come to the end of their term of office.”

Seconded and carried

#### 6.8 Uncontested Elections

The list of the uncontested elections was tabled and the President declared the persons named to be elected.

### 7. Tabling of the minute book of the Standing Committee

The minute book of the Standing Committee was tabled.

### 8. Petitions

There were no petitions.

### 9. Procedural motion about asking questions

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod agrees to the following arrangements in relation to the asking of questions –

- (a) at the time in the order of business at which members may ask questions, a member called on by the President to do so shall make a brief statement informing the Synod of the subject matter of the question rather than reading to the Synod the full text of the question,
- (b) the full text of the question shall be handed to the Secretary of the Synod and printed in the business paper for the next day of the session,
- (c) on the day the question is answered by the President, the member who has asked the question shall not ask the question again, and
- (d) a written copy of the answer to the question will be handed to the member asking the question upon request made to a Secretary of the Synod,

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.”

Seconded and carried

### 10. Questions

Questions were asked by the following members –

- (1) The Rev Joseph Wiltshire
- (2) Miss Elaine Peterson
- (3) Mr Paul Fitzpatrick
- (4) The Rev John Reid
- (5) Ms Jill Faddy
- (6) Ms Lynette Bannerman
- (7) Mrs Sally Kliffen

- (8) Mrs Sally Kliffen
- (9) Mr Peter M G Young
- (10) Mr Peter M G Young
- (11) Mr David Warren-Gash
- (12) The Rev Graeme Howells
- (13) The Rev Graeme Howells
- (14) Dr David Oakenfull

## 11. Procedural motions

### 11.1 Reduction in time limits for certain speeches

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod agrees to the following time limits for speeches in respect of a motion that a proposed ordinance be approved in principle –

- (a) the mover may speak for up to 15 minutes, and up to 5 minutes in reply, and
- (b) other members may speak for up to 5 minutes,

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.”

Seconded and carried

### 11.2 Arrangements for the scheduling of business

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod –

- (a) agrees in principle to deal with its business in accordance with the Indicative Timetable for Synod Business including a 10 minute presentation from the Mission Property Committee on Monday 13 October 2014 and the Missionary Hour on Monday 20 October 2014, and
- (b) requests that the Committee for the Order of Business bring to the Synod at the beginning of each day any recommendations about amending the Indicative Timetable for Synod Business in light of the progress of business, and
- (c) suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements, or as would prevent the Synod from considering any recommendations from the Committee for the Order of Business.”

Seconded and carried

### 11.3 Consideration of the *Mission 2020* document

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees, for the purposes of considering the motion appearing at item 17.1 (the “In Principle Motion”), to the following arrangements –

- (a) the In Principle Motion will be taken to have been moved and seconded, and
- (b) the mover and seconder may combine for a joint presentation, including the use of overhead images, for up to 30 minutes about the *Mission 2020* document in support of the In Principle Motion, and
- (c) the procedures for the making of ordinances under Part 5 of the business rules (from and including rule 5.5(2) but excluding rules 5.7(3)(b), 5.9 and 5.10) are to apply as if the *Mission 2020* document were an ordinance except that a motion for the passing of a proposed ordinance as an ordinance of the Synod under rule 5.7(1) is to be replaced with the following motion –

“Synod welcomes the *Mission 2020* document and agrees to adopt *Mission 2020* set out in that document.”, and

- (d) if the motion specified in paragraph (c) is carried, the motion appearing at item 17.18 on today’s business paper may be moved forthwith,
- and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded and carried

#### 11.4 Consideration of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees to the following arrangements for the purposes of resuming consideration of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations (the “Governance Policy”) –

- (a) to incorporate into the Governance Policy the amendments shown in marked form in Annexure 3 of the report to the Synod on the Governance Policy, and
- (b) to consider the motion appearing at item 16.1 “that the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations pass as a policy of the Synod” at 8.00 pm on Monday 20 October 2014, and
- (c) if the motion referred to in paragraph (b) is carried, the mover of the motion may forthwith move the following –

“Synod –

- (a) requests each diocesan organisation to review the Governance Standards and Policy Guidelines in the Governance Policy and to take appropriate action to achieve conformity with the Governance Standards and, where appropriate, the Policy Guidelines, including through the promotion of amendments to the ordinance by which the diocesan organisation is constituted or otherwise regulated by the Synod, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to amend the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* to require the chair of each organisation to include as part of its annual report to the first ordinary session of each Synod a statement which –
  - (i) assesses the extent to which the organisation’s governance arrangements conform with the standards and guidelines in the Governance Policy, and
  - (ii) explains any areas of non-conformity, and
- (c) authorises the Standing Committee to make amendments to the Governance Policy unless before such amendment is made, any 3 members of the Standing Committee request in writing that the amendment be referred to the Synod and provided any amendment made by the Standing Committee is reported to the next ordinary session of the Synod.”

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded and carried

#### 11.5 Consideration of motion concerning alumni representatives on school councils

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees to the following arrangements for the purposes of considering the motion at item 17.6 (the “Motion”) on today’s business paper –

- (a) to commence consideration of the Motion at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 14 October 2014, and
- (b) to conduct the vote on the final form of the Motion by ballot,

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded

Bishop Robert Forsyth moved the following amendment –

‘Insert the following at the end of paragraph (b) –

“and

- (c) to treat the Motion as having been passed by the Synod only if at least two-thirds of the members present and who cast a formal vote indicate their support for the final form of the Motion.”.’

Seconded

Dr Laurie Scandrett moved the following amendment –

‘Insert the following at the end of paragraph (b) –

“and

- (c) authorises the distribution of a one page ‘Summary of “Alumni-elected” members on Diocesan School Councils’ to the members of Synod before consideration of the motion.”.’

Seconded

Bishop Forsyth’s amendment was not carried.

Dr Scandrett’s amendment was carried.

Mr Wicks’ motion, as amended, was carried.

#### 11.6 **Consideration of the Large Property Receipts Policy**

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees, for the purposes of considering the motion appearing at item 17.8 (the “In Principle Motion”), to the following arrangements –

- (a) the In Principle Motion will be taken to have been moved and seconded, and
- (b) the mover may speak up to 15 minutes about the In Principle Motion, and
- (c) the seconder may speak up to 5 minutes about the In Principle Motion, and
- (d) the procedures for the making of ordinances under Part 5 of the business rules (from and including rule 5.5(2) but excluding rules 5.7(3)(b), 5.9 and 5.10) are to apply as if the Large Property Receipts Policy were an ordinance,

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded and carried

#### 11.7 **Consideration of the Report of the Viability and Structures Task Force**

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees that following consideration of the motion at item 17.9 concerning the Report of the Viability and Structures Task Force (the “Viability Report”) and General Synod resolution 65/14 (the “Viability Resolution”) –

- (a) a period of up to 20 minutes be allocated to give Synod members the opportunity to informally comment for up to 2 minutes each on the Viability Report and Viability Resolution, and
- (b) a record of such comments be taken by the Secretary of the Synod and provided to the Standing Committee to be taken into account by the Standing Committee in its response to the Viability Report and Viability Resolution.’

Seconded and carried

## 11.8 Circulation of printed material

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod authorises the Secretary to approve any report or other material from a Diocesan body or organisation being made available to members in the foyer of the Wesley Theatre.”

Seconded and carried

## 12. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (1) Dr Barry Newman
- (2) The Rev Gavin Poole
- (3) The Rev Ian Millican
- (4) Bishop Robert Forsyth
- (5) The Rev Dr Mark Thompson
- (6) Ms Lynette Bannerman
- (7) Mrs Pamela Shaw
- (8) Professor Chris Bellenger
- (9) Canon Sandy Grant
- (10) The Rev John Reid

## 13. Calling of motions on the business paper

The President called the motions in order in which they appeared on the business paper, except those motions about a proposed ordinance.

### 13.1 Tabling and reception of accounts and reports etc

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod notes that the undermentioned reports etc have been tabled, receives them and resolves that they be printed at the discretion of the Standing Committee –

#### *Diocesan Organisations - Audited Accounts and Annual Reports*

- (1) Abbotsleigh, The Council of
- (2) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocesan of Sydney as trustee for the Endowment of the See Capital Fund
- (3) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocesan of Sydney as trustee for the Long Term Pooling Fund
- (4) Anglican Education Commission
- (5) Anglican Media Council
- (6) Anglican Retirement Villages: Diocese of Sydney
- (7) Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney (Anglican Youthworks)
- (8) Arden Anglican School Council
- (9) Archbishop of Sydney’s Anglican Aid (The)
- (10) Archbishop of Sydney’s Anglican Aid (The) as trustee of the Archbishop of Sydney’s Overseas Ministry Fund
- (11) Archbishop of Sydney’s Anglican Aid (The) as trustee of the Archbishop of Sydney’s Overseas Relief and Aid Fund
- (12) Arundel House Council
- (13) Barker College, The Council of
- (14) Campbelltown Anglican Schools Council
- (15) Department of Evangelism and New Churches, The Board of
- (16) Endowment of the See Committee – Expenditure Fund
- (17) Georges River Regional Council
- (18) Glebe Administration Board as trustee of the Diocesan Endowment
- (19) Glebe Administration Board as trustee of the St Andrew’s House Trust
- (20) Illawarra Grammar School Council, The

- (21) Kings School, The Council of
- (22) Macarthur Anglican Church School Council, The
- (23) Ministry Training and Development Council
- (24) Moore Theological College Council
- (25) Northern Regional Council
- (26) St Andrew's Cathedral Chapter
- (27) St Andrew's Cathedral School, The Council of
- (28) St Catherine's School Waverley, Council of
- (29) St John's Regional Cathedral Chapter, Parramatta
- (30) St Michael's Regional Cathedral Chapter, Wollongong
- (31) South Sydney Regional Council
- (31A) Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society (Anglicare)
- (32) Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee
- (33) Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation
- (34) Sydney Church of England Finance and Loans Board
- (35) Sydney Church of England Grammar School Council
- (36) Sydney Diocesan Secretariat
- (37) Tara Anglican School for Girls, Council of
- (38) Trinity Grammar School Grammar Council
- (39) Western Sydney Regional Council
- (40) William Branwhite Clarke College Council
- (41) Wollongong Regional Council

*Standing Committee Reports etc*

- (42) 2014 Report of the Standing Committee
- (43) Synod Funds Amalgamated Annual Financial Report for 2013
- (44) Parish Funds Amalgamated Annual Financial Report for 2013
- (45) *Faithfulness in Service*: Definition of "bullying" (6/13)
- (46) General Synod 2014 Legislation
- (47) General Synod 2014 Session
- (48) Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations
- (49) Large Property Receipts Policy
- (50) *Mission 2015-2020* (19/13)
- (51) Mission Property Committee
- (52) Ordinances passed by the Standing Committee
- (53) Parish Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisitions Levy for 2015
- (54) Responding to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse
- (55) Review of School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975 (4/13)
- (56) Safe Ministry Board and Professional Standards Unit Annual Report
- (57) Sale of Bishopscourt
- (58) Statement of Funding Principles and Priorities 2016-2018
- (59) Stipends, Allowances and Benefits for 2014 (2/05)
- (60) Synod attendance
- (61) Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee (35/09)
- (62) Georges River Regional Council – Annual Report for 2013
- (63) Northern Regional Council – Annual Report for 2013
- (64) South Sydney Regional Council – Annual Report for 2013
- (65) Western Sydney Regional Council – Annual Report for 2013
- (66) Katoomba, Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish to a parish
- (67) Wollongong Regional Council – Annual Report for 2013
- (68) Explanatory statements and reports on Bills'

Seconded and carried

### 13.2 Amendments to the *Faithfulness in Service* definition of bullying

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

'Synod, noting the report *6/13 Amendments to the Faithfulness in Service definition of bullying* –

- (a) adopts as an amendment to *Faithfulness in Service* the General Synod Standing Committee's proposed definition of "bullying" incorporating the amendments marked up on the Annexure to the report, and

- (b) recommends that the General Synod Standing Committee adopt these additional amendments to the *FIS* definition of “bullying”.’

Seconded and carried

### 13.3 Review of School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975

Mr Tony Willis moved –

“Synod, noting the report *4/13 Review of School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975*, requests the Standing Committee to consult with Chaplains and Heads of Diocesan Schools in respect to the exposure draft and to bring a bill for an ordinance to the 2015 session of the Synod having regard to any comments that are received.”

Seconded and carried

### 13.4 Deaconess Margaret Rodgers

Dr Robert Tong moved –

“Synod records its thanks to God for the life and witness of Margaret Rodgers who devoted her life to serve her Saviour and Lord particularly within the context of the Anglican Church of Australia.

As a student at Deaconess House she completed a Th.L with first class honours and then went on to earn a BA and BD (Hons) at Sydney University. Archbishop Marcus Loane invited her to become Principal of Deaconess House in 1976. She modernised the institution following the iconic tenure of Deaconess Mary Andrews AM. Educational standards were lifted and a fresh vision for women’s ministry was articulated.

The appointment to the position of Research Officer for the General Synod in 1985 allowed Margaret to combine her training in theology and history and apply this to national questions of policy and practice in the Anglican Church of Australia and beyond. Her final two positions as CEO, Anglican Media, Sydney in 1994 and subsequently in 2004, Archbishop’s Media Officer, enabled her personal skills, wide circle of friends and many years of Anglican networking to be harnessed in service to her home diocese and its Archbishop.

Within the Diocese of Sydney she served as a member of the Standing Committee for some 30 years, lay canon of the Cathedral Chapter, Chair of New College in the University of New South Wales and Director of Anglican Deaconess Ministries. Nationally, there were two decades of membership of the General Synod Standing Committee and membership of the Board of Electors for the Primate and the National Council of Churches.

International Anglican ministry included substantial media involvement with several Anglican Consultative Councils, the tumultuous 1998 Lambeth Conference and the Christian Conference of Asia.

Margaret was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2014.”

Seconded and carried

### 13.5 Bishop John McIntyre

Bishop Robert Forsyth moved –

“Synod records its gratitude to God for the life and ministry of John Charles McIntyre, the Eleventh Bishop of Gippsland from 2006 to 2014.

John was trained in London and at Ridley College in Melbourne, where he continued to serve as lecturer until 1990. He was Rector of South Sydney from 1990 from where he was appointed to the position of Bishop of Gippsland in 2006. John also served on the Sydney Diocesan Standing Committee and Social Issues Committee until 2001.

Synod prays for his widow Jan and their three children and with God's people in Gippsland, as they mourn the untimely death of Bishop McIntyre."

Seconded and carried

### 13.6 **Jesusbrings Campaign**

The Rev Archie Poulos moved –

"Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for our united evangelistic campaign *Jesusbrings*,
- (b) asks Evangelism and New Churches to work with the Standing Committee to propose a new campaign to further our working together in evangelistic mission (drawing from lessons learned in the initiatives of *Jesusbrings*), and
- (c) asks Evangelism and New Churches to quarantine any funds left over from *Jesusbrings* for this purpose."

Seconded and carried

### 13.7 **The Rev Peter Clark**

Bishop David Mulready moved –

"That this Synod on the eve of his retirement from full time Parish ministry recognises the long, faithful and effective ministry of the Reverend Peter and Heather Clark who have served the Lord Jesus for eight years in the Diocese of Armidale and for the last twenty-eight years in the Diocese of Sydney, in the Parishes of Wilberforce, Newport, Hunters Hill and Waverley and for some years as a part-time Chaplain with the RAAF. We pray that Peter and Heather's retirement ministry will be rewarding and fruitful."

Seconded and carried by acclamation

### 13.8 **Doctrine Commission report on fellowship meals for the proclamation of the Lord's death**

Dr Barry Newman moved –

'This Synod –

- (a) records its appreciation of the conscientious and diligent manner in which the members of the Standing Committee carry out their responsibilities on behalf of the Synod,
- (b) respectfully requests Standing Committee to forward to the Synod any report requested by the Synod of a committee or a commission, without seeking to have that report altered by that committee or commission, where that committee or commission is not required to have that report referred to Standing Committee for its consideration other than for distribution,
- (c) thanks the members of the Doctrine Commission for its report to the Synod in response to Synod resolution 38/07, concerning fellowship meals for the proclamation of the Lord's Death, tabled and discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on February 25, 2013,
- (d) notes that the Standing Committee having thanked the Doctrine Commission for its work on that report then requested "that the Doctrine Commission reconsider the report in the light of any comments received from members of the Standing Committee", and
- (e) respectfully requests Standing Committee to forward to the Synod at its earliest convenience the original report.'

Seconded and carried

### 13.9 Thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Mrs Ailsa Knox

The Rev Dr Mark Thompson moved –

“Synod gives thanks to God for the life and ministry of Mrs Ailsa Knox. We rejoice in her faithful witness to Christ, and her service to the kingdom of God, noting especially her role at Moore Theological College, where she ministered alongside her husband, Dr Broughton Knox, during his 26 years as principal, and at George Whitfield College in Capetown, South Africa, where he was founding principal.

Under God’s hand, Ailsa’s care and prayerful concern for generations of students and faculty, and their families, made a considerable contribution to progress of the gospel in the Diocese of Sydney and beyond.

Synod extends our condolences to her family, and yet rejoices with them in the resurrection hope of the gospel, and that we, along with Ailsa, will find eternal rest with Christ in the new creation.”

Seconded and carried

### 13.10 Overseas aid

The Rev Paul Perini moved –

“This Synod, recognising that Australian government aid and development assistance, according to the 2012-13 AusAid Annual Report, helped to –

- (i) vaccinate more than 3 million children against killer diseases,
  - (ii) provide safe water to more than 2 million people,
  - (iii) provide access to decent sanitation and better hygiene information for almost 2 million people,
  - (iv) enrol 1 million children in school, and
  - (v) provide almost 12 million people, caught in conflict or crisis, with life-saving assistance,
- (a) regrets the cuts of over \$600 million to overseas aid and development in the Federal budget presented in May 2014, and
  - (b) calls on the Federal Government to increase its overseas aid and development to 0.5% GNI as a matter of priority, to announce a timetable by which this will be achieved, and to reaffirm its commitment to reach 0.7% GNI for overseas aid and development.”

Seconded and carried

### 13.11 Social housing

The Rev Paul Perini moved –

“This Synod, recognising that –

- (i) availability of affordable housing, including social housing, is essential to the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, and
- (ii) lack of stable, secure and affordable housing may lead to housing insecurity, rental stress, food insecurity, relationship breakdown, mental or physical ill-health, reduced employment or educational opportunities and other adverse outcomes for low income households, as identified in Anglicare Sydney’s authoritative research and advocacy over the last five years,

recommends –

- (a) that the State Government commits to an increase of social housing stock across NSW with a numerical target of an additional 8000 social housing dwellings by 2020,
- (b) that the State Government and Local Governments ensure no net loss in social housing stock in any Local Government Area (LGA) and that new stock be located across LGAs consisting of low, medium and high socio-economic indexes, and

- (c) that Federal, State and Local Governments commit to developing, funding and implementing a five-year strategy to increase the supply of affordable, safe and sustainable housing.”

Seconded and carried

## 14. Presidential Address

The President delivered his address to the Synod.

## 15. Motions

### 15.1 **Appointment of The Rev Peter Lin as Bishop of the Georges River Region**

Having been granted leave, Mr Clive Ellis moved –

“Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for the godly, Bible-based and wise leadership provided by the bishops of this diocese,
- (b) thanks Bishop Peter Tasker and Archdeacon Ian Cox for their continued oversight of the Georges River Region in their retirement,
- (c) records its gratitude to the Archbishop for his concern for the Georges River Region, and his work in securing funding for a bishop for the Region,
- (d) thanks those bodies and individuals whose contributions have made this possible,
- (e) warmly welcomes the appointment of the Rev Peter Lin to the position of Bishop of Georges River Region, and
- (f) congratulates the Rev Peter Lin on his appointment, and assures him and Isobel and their family of our prayers for him and his family.”

Seconded and carried by acclamation

Canon Phillip Colgan led the Synod in prayer for Mr Lin and his family.

## 16. Adjournment

At 5:11 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.00 pm tonight.”

Seconded and carried

## Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.00 pm.

## 17. Motions

### 17.1 **Mission 2020 document**

The following motion was taken to be moved and seconded –

“That the *Mission 2020* document be approved in principle.”

The Rev Peter Lin and Mr Graham Murray combined for a joint presentation regarding the *Mission 2020* document in support of the motion.

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed *Mission 2020* document?”

There were questions.

After a time for questions the President asked –

“Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?”

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak against the motion, or move an amendment to it?”

There was no member who wished to speak against the motion or move an amendment to it.

The motion that the *Mission 2020* document be approved in principle was put and was carried.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to move an amendment to the text of the proposed *Mission 2020* document?”

A member of Synod indicated that they wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed *Mission 2020* document.

Mr Lin moved –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the *Mission 2020* document.”

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed *Mission 2020* document was considered by the Synod in Committee.

Before consideration of the text had been completed, Mr Lin moved –

“That the Chairman of Committees leaves the chair and reports progress.”

Seconded and carried

## 18. Motions

### 18.1 Katoomba: Reclassification as a Parish

The Rev Ray Robinson moved –

“Synod assents to the reclassification of Katoomba as a parish with effect from 1 January 2015.”

Seconded and carried by acclamation

Bishop Ivan Lee led the Synod in prayer for the provisional parish of Katoomba.

## 18.2 NSW Ecumenical Council

The Rev Dr James Collins moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) sends its prayerful good wishes to the New South Wales Ecumenical Council as it seeks to serve the churches and bear witness to Christ,
- (b) commends the Council’s website [nswec.org.au](http://nswec.org.au) to members,
- (c) commends to churches the Parish Workbook on Receptive Ecumenism entitled “The Gift of Each Other – Learning From Other Churches”, and
- (d) notes that the Diocese is currently unable to make a financial contribution to the work of the NSW Ecumenical Council and encourages interested individuals and parishes to become members of the Council and to consider making a financial contribution to the Council as part of their giving.’

Seconded

The Rev Gavin Poole moved the following amendment –

“Delete paragraph (d).”

Mr Poole’s amendment was carried.

Dr Collins’ motion, as amended, was carried in the following form –

‘Synod –

- (a) sends its prayerful good wishes to the New South Wales Ecumenical Council as it seeks to serve the churches and bear witness to Christ,
- (b) commends the Council’s website [nswec.org.au](http://nswec.org.au) to members, and
- (c) commends to churches the Parish Workbook on Receptive Ecumenism entitled “The Gift of Each Other – Learning From Other Churches”.’

## 18.3 Problem Gambling in NSW

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

“Synod welcomes the report of the NSW Legislative Council’s Select Committee on the Impact of Gambling published in August 2014.

Synod grieves that NSW has above-average expenditure on gambling on a per capita basis compared to national averages.

Therefore Synod commends its recommendations and calls on the NSW Government to implement effective harm minimisation measures, in particular –

- (a) introducing a \$1 maximum bet limit for poker machines in New South Wales,
- (b) stopping the disproportionate concentration of poker machines in lower socioeconomic areas, where they create greater harm,
- (c) implementing a freeze on the transfer of machine entitlements between venues and the creation of any new entitlements,
- (d) implementing a third-party exclusion scheme in the state’s clubs and hotels by 2017,
- (e) developing a scheme that requires venues to intervene to assist problem gamblers, and
- (f) launching an awareness campaign specific to the risks of online gaming.”

Seconded

Mr Mark Burgess moved a procedural motion –

“That further consideration of this motion be deferred to allow consultation on an amendment.”

Mr Burgess’ procedural motion was carried.

## 19. Mission Property Presentation

A presentation from the Mission Property Committee concerning Oran Park was given.

Mr Geoff Kyngdon led the Synod in prayer for the work of the Mission Property Committee.

## Adjournment

At 9:27 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3.15 pm tomorrow.”

We certify that, to the best of our recollection, these minutes are a correct record of the Synod’s proceedings.

Two Members of the            )  
Minute Reading Committee )

Signed by the President

14 October 2014

# 50<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

## 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session

### Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Tuesday 14 October 2014

#### 1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 3.15 pm.

#### 2. Devotions

The Synod was led in devotions by Bishop Peter Tasker.

#### 3. Minutes

The President signed the minutes for Monday 13 October 2014.

#### 4. Answers to Questions

##### 4.1 **Suspension of business rules**

The Rev Joe Wiltshire asked the following question –

How many times in the past 5 years have the business rules of Synod been adjusted to increase the amount of votes needed to pass a motion? On what issues were the rules adjusted?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

There has been no suspension of the Synod business rules in the last 5 years to accommodate the passing of a motion other than by simple majority.

##### 4.2 **Diocesan policy regarding preaching by women**

Miss Elaine Peterson asked the following question –

Is there a diocesan policy which –

- (a) discourages the preaching or teaching by qualified women to adult congregations which include men? and
- (b) if so, on which Biblical texts is this policy based?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Except in the context of the approval of Ordinances from time to time which permit women to preach, Synod has never adopted a policy concerning preaching or teaching by women.

Women who are ordained receive a licence from the Archbishop.

Licences issued by me to women clergy include the following –

“... with reference to the pastoral responsibilities pertaining to a Deacon, including preaching sermons, subject to the principles of church order contained within the Holy Scriptures but not including the exercise of authority which the apostle forbids in 1 Timothy 2:12, assisting the presbyter ...”

All women clergy who hold a licence from the Archbishop are licensed to preach.

Lay women involved in preaching and teaching in Anglican congregations receive a licence in accordance with the *Deaconesses, Readers and Other Lay Persons Ordinance 1981*.

However the polity of our Diocese is to authorise rectors to decide who preaches in their church.

#### 4.3 Ratios of parishes and clergy to population in each region

Mr Paul Fitzpatrick asked the following question –

Would the President please inform the Synod of –

- (a) the current ratio of –
  - (i) parishes to population, and
  - (ii) active clergy to population, and
- (b) the equivalent statistics for ten years ago, for all five diocesan regions.

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

We have not been able to compile an answer to this question within the timeframe, it is expected that the answer will be provided tomorrow.

#### 4.4 Notice period for termination of Assistant Ministers

The Rev John Reid asked the following question –

In the past two years, how many Assistant Ministers have had their position terminated under the Assistant Ministers Ordinance which requires only three months of termination?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Diocesan Registry is notified when an Assistant Minister’s licence comes to an end. However the Registry is not informed whether the termination is mutual or is the result of a notice issued under the *Assistant Ministers Ordinance 1990*.

#### 4.5 Gender balance on Moore College Council

Ms Jill Faddy asked the following question –

In the Circular to the Members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Synod, dated 1/8/14, at page 19, it is stated that Moore College Council has the question of gender balance “under active consideration” –

- (a) What are the factors that need to be considered?
- (b) If not completed yet, when will the active consideration be concluded?
- (c) If completed, what was the outcome?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

In accordance with the Moore *Theological College Ordinance 2009*, the Moore Theological College Council comprises the Archbishop, 4 lay persons elected by the Synod and 4 members of the clergy elected by the Synod, of whom 3 are to be incumbents of parishes within the Diocese.

The Moore College Governing Board is made up of the Council, the Principal, the chair of the College's Academic Board (an external academic), a member nominated by Anglican Deaconess Ministries, a member elected by the faculty, a member elected by the 4th Year students of the College, and two lay members elected by the College Council.

The Council continues to consider a range of factors, including the need for an appropriate gender balance consistent with its stated value of gender complementarity, when seeking to fill the two Council-elected vacancies on the Governing Board. Other factors include the need for particular skills in educational, legal, financial and property development areas.

Currently three members of the Governing Board are women: an elected laywoman, the nominee of Anglican Deaconess Ministries, and the member elected by the 4th year students.

#### 4.6 Funding under 'Work Outside the Diocese' grants in 2014

Ms Lyn Bannerman asked the following question –

- (a) What organisations or individuals are being funded under the Synod grants line "Work Outside the Diocese" in 2014?
- (b) How much is each receiving and what are the specific purpose(s) of each grant?
- (c) Has Standing Committee sought some form of acquittal, or reporting of outcomes, from each of the organisations or individuals receiving a grant, and if not, why not?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The answers to parts (a) and (b) are shown below.

	\$	
Diocese of Armidale	5,000	Ministry support
Diocese of North West Australia	47,000	Ministry support
Diocese of Tasmania	5,000	Support for Youth Ministry
Diocese of Northern Territory	38,000	Ministry support
NATSIAC	1,000	Indigenous ministry
Archbishop Davies, Bishop Jensen and Bishop Tasker	16,744	Overseas travel costs
Bishop Alfred Olwa + the Rev J Ramsay	8,220	African preaching conference in Uganda
The Rev Alan Lukabyo	3,010	Mauritius & Madagascar preaching/training
Seychelles	2,730	Funding for Bibles for PTC training
General Synod Office	5,000	Faithfulness in Service in simple English specifically for indigenous persons

In addition, at its meeting in November, the Work Outside the Diocese Committee expects to consider further requests from –

Diocese of the Northern Territory	
Indigenous training workshops	\$45,000
Ministry Development Officer	\$30,000
Growing Hope	

Myanmar Women's Conference	\$15,000
Bishop Tasker	
Overseas travel costs	\$2,308

Part (c). The Standing Committee has delegated to the Work Outside the Diocese Committee the responsibility for administering these funds. Applicants are required to submit a standard application form specifying:

- Name of Project
- Description of Project
- Funding sought
- History of support
- Other sources of funding
- Outcomes/reasons expected
- Accountability/milestones proposed

These details are reviewed by the Work Outside the Diocese Committee on behalf of the Standing Committee.

#### 4.7 **Moore College training in Pastoral Care**

Mrs Sally Kliffen asked the following question –

For those preparing for ordination to presbyteral ministry, what training is given at Moore College for equipment in Pastoral Care?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

All students seeking ordination to the Presbyterate must complete four years of training at Moore College.

Every student at Moore College must complete an assessable unit in Ministry & Mission every year.

Issues of pastoral care covered are –

1. Developing in listening skills
2. An introduction to personal and pastoral ministry
3. Case studies: depression; stress and anxiety
4. Ministering to the whole person (affections & embodiment)
5. Personal issues related to sexuality
6. Ministering across boundaries created by specific contexts (selected from women's ministry, men's ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry, indigenous ministry, ethnic ministry, ministry to the disabled, senior's ministry, ministry to the marginalized, blue-collar ministry)
7. The principles for communication across cultural boundaries
8. The best ways of resolving conflict & handling and giving criticism
9. Pastoring areas of conflict in families (including domestic violence) & in church
10. What creates optimal teams, and the threats with particular focus on conflict and change
11. Understanding and ministering to people involved in Domestic Violence.
12. Four 'safe ministry modules' developed by the Professional Standards Unit.

Co-curricular input on pastoral care occurs in chaplaincy group settings, and personal conversations with students through their engagement in student ministry positions.

#### 4.8 Support for 'solo staff' parishes

Mrs Sally Kliffen asked the following question –

Are there specialised support and resources given to the rectors of smaller, 'solo staff' parishes? If yes, what are they?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

There are no support and resources specifically directly towards the rectors of 'solo staff' parishes. However there are forms of support for rectors that are generally available throughout the Diocese.

The Regional Bishops and their Executive Assistants meet with and provide support to the clergy in their regions, and will make the mentoring and support of rectors in challenging parishes, which often includes 'solo staff' situations, a priority where this is appropriate and accepted. For example in most regions, the Bishop meets one-to-one annually with all rectors in their first three years for support and the discussion of ministry.

Most regions also run annual conferences and seminars which cover matters of particular concern and interest to new rectors and rectors in 'solo staff' parishes.

For the last five years, the South Sydney Region has run a year long program on the basics of intentional systemic leadership of a parish, called Sauerkraut. More recently this has begun to be offered to rectors outside the South Sydney Region.

Mission Areas also focus on supporting and encouraging mission thinking, and the sharing of ideas and resources through regular fellowship with other rectors.

Other informal networks for fellowship, help and encouragement also exist throughout the Diocese. It is also common for larger churches to support smaller churches.

The Department of Evangelism and New Churches is specifically tasked with supporting and mentoring the leaders of new fellowships.

#### 4.9 Percentage of Large Receipts allocated for diocesan purposes

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

What percentages have been allocated (for diocesan purposes) to Large Receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 over the past ten years in accordance with paragraph 10.12 of the current Diocesan Large Receipts Policy?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The answer to the question is shown below in tabular form.

The following table lists, by year and Parish, properties sold for a price exceeding \$1,000,000 and the percentage of each sale allocated to non-parish purposes, according to the Large Receipts Policy.

The following should be noted –

- The table is based on properties authorised for sale by Ordinance in the period 2004 – 2014 rather than actual sales data.
- The sale price is based on the valuation information provided by the Parish in support of the Ordinance since this is what is taken into account in determining large receipts. The property may have sold for a higher or lower figure.
- Where a valuation gave a range, we have applied the higher end of the range in determining if the Large Receipt is above \$1 million for the purposes of the question.

- Some of these sales may have involved the sale of a residence to buy a replacement residence. The Large Receipts Policy would not usually be applied in such an instance.

Year	Parish	Sale Price	Large Receipts Policy Percentage Applied
2004	Glenbrook (Lower Mountains)	\$1,200,000 - \$1,400,000	No L.R.P applied
2004	Neutral Bay	\$2,400,000	No L.R.P. applied *
2004	Neutral Bay	\$3,750,000	Proceeds to MPC
2005	Panania	\$1,200,000	No L.R.P. applied
2006	Thornleigh – Pennant Hills	\$1,600,000	The balance after payments in subclause 4(1)(a)-(e) **
2007	Newport	\$1,100,000 - \$1,300,000	No L.R.P. applied
2008	Manly	\$3,500,000 - \$4,000,000	15% of surplus after purchase of 2 residential properties
2010	Bowral	\$3,000,000	15%
2010	Merrylands	\$1,100,000 - \$1,250,000	15%
2011	Darling Street	\$3,600,000 - \$4,100,000	15%
2011	East Sydney (Darlinghurst)	\$3,000,000 - \$4,250,000	No L.R.P. applied
2011	St James King Street	\$1,000,000 - \$1,200,000	No L.R.P. applied
2011	South Sydney	\$1,200,000 ***	20% ****
2012	Broadway	\$3,200,000	No L.R.P. applied
2012	Narellan	\$3,600,000	15%
2012	Riverstone	\$1,200,000 *****	No L.R.P. applied
2012	St James King Street	\$1,300,000	No L.R.P. applied
2013	Beecroft	\$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000	10% of 1 <sup>st</sup> \$1,000,000 and 25% of sale proceeds exceeding \$1,000,000
2014	Concord West	\$1,250,000 - \$1,350,000	No L.R.P. applied
2014	Gladesville	\$4,000,000 - \$5,500,000	No L.R.P. applied
2014	Jamberoo	\$800,000 - \$1,200,000	No L.R.P. applied

Notes:

- \* This sale was part of a dual sale of the Rectory and Church Site, with the Parish relinquishing its interest in the Church Site to the Mission Property Fund.
- \*\* The balance was applied to advance the Diocesan Mission after loans totalling \$680,000 were repaid, a residence was acquired, and approx \$100,000 applied to refurbishments and extensions on the church site.
- \*\*\* Valuation of \$1,200,000 obtained in 2008, land not sold until at least 2011.
- \*\*\*\* 20% added to the capital of the funds held under the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Ordinance 2002
- \*\*\*\*\* Valuation of \$1,200,000 obtained in 2010, land not sold until at least 2012.

#### 4.10 Attendance levels at Synod of clergy and laity

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

What were the approximate attendance levels of laity and clergy (separately) as the Sydney Anglican Diocesan Synod for all five days and for both afternoon and evening sessions for the years from 2005 until 2012 (inclusive)?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Only total Synod attendance is recorded. It is not practical to record the attendance of lay and clerical members separately.

A table showing the approximate number of total members present during the afternoon and evening on each day of each session of the Synod since 2005 will be posted on the notice board in the foyer.

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 Elect.	2013
Day 1	afternoon	514	500	510	515	558	499	556	538	663	526
	evening	1,286	534	437	487	493	437	440	451	767	500
Day 2	afternoon	517	470	430	514	486	474	514	501	?	453
	evening	628	521	468	472	556	467	575	569	?	522
Day 3	afternoon	479	423	401	461	418	465	466	463		421
	evening	607	479	386	497	500	498	519	498		452
Day 4	afternoon	430	452	409	493	458	480	467	?		
	evening	607	462	412	487	444	542	463	?		
Day 5	afternoon	477	542	384	434	431	452	438	?		
	evening	537	494	384	436	450	431	474	?		

\* Day 1 in 2005 was held in the Town Hall with additional parish invitees.

#### 4.11 Wearing of the surplice in parish churches

Mr David Warren-Gash asked the following question –

What is the current legislation concerning the wearing of the surplice in parish churches?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

*The General Synod – Use of the Surplice Canon 1977 Adopting Ordinance 1977.*

#### 4.12 New churches in the Diocese in the past 6 years

The Rev Graeme Howells asked the following question –

What are the number and location of all of the known new churches begun or planted by parishes or diocesan organisations within the Diocese in the past 6 years?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The following church buildings have been licensed in the last 6 years –  
Hoxton Park Anglican Church

St John's Rockdale  
 St Barnabas Broadway  
 St Peter's Lower Mountains

The Department of Evangelism and New Churches has been fostering and promoting church planting since 2010. In that time the following new churches have been planted under the auspices of ENC –

SOMA, Marsfield  
 New Life, Oran Park (now a provisional parish)  
 Vine Church, Surrey Hills  
 Berkley Life Centre, Berkley Vale  
 Soul Revival, Kirrawee  
 Point Church, Breakfast Point (now the provisional parish of Concord North)  
 Living Water Community, Redfern  
 Grace City Church, Green Square  
 Grace Church, East Roseville  
 Christ at the College, Penrith

Of these 10 church plants, it is expected that a further 2 will become independent of ENC by end 2014 (that is, either a Provisional Recognised Church or Provisional Parish).

Some schools and diocesan organisations also undertake church-like ministries within their communities, though we do not have formal records.

#### 4.13 **SRG members' prior ministry in greenfield areas**

The Rev Graeme Howells asked the following question –

How many members of the SRG (Strategic Research Group) presently live and minister in the greenfields areas, or have lived and ministered in those areas in the past 5 years?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

None.

#### 4.14 **Potential church plants identified by the ENC**

The Rev Graeme Howells asked the following question –

What are the number and location of the future church plant sites that have been identified by ENC (Evangelism and New Churches) in the greenfields for new churches?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

ENC has not been tasked with identifying locations for greenfield church plants. This is the task of the Mission Property Committee.

#### 4.15 **Potential church plants identified by the MPC**

The Rev Graeme Howells asked the following question –

What are the number and location of the future church plant sites that have been identified by the MPC (Mission Property Committee) in the greenfields for potential land acquisitions?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The MPC has identified that the Diocese has inadequate land holdings in 33 of the 99 greenfield locations across the Diocese.

Land has already been acquired for construction of future ministry centres in the South West at Oran Park, Austral and Leppington, and in the North West at Stanhope Gardens and Riverstone.

The MPC has targeted 1 or more land acquisitions per annum and is actively searching for land in 6 identified priority areas of rapid population growth in the North West including Marsden Park and Box Hill, in the West at St Marys ADI, in the South West at Wilton Junction and North Bringelly/Badgerys Creek and in the Illawarra at West Dapto.

#### 4.16 Membership of the Sydney Diocesan Doctrine Commission

Dr David Oakenfull asked the following question –

What is the current membership of the Sydney Diocesan Doctrine Commission?

How are members of the Commission appointed?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The current members are –

The Rev Dr Peter G Bolt	The Rev Anthony J Payne
Bishop Robert C Forsyth	The Rev Gavin Perkins
Archdeacon Kara L Hartley	The Rev Robert S Smith
Canon Ivan Head	The Rev Dr Mark D Thompson
The Rev Dr David A Hohne	Canon John W Woodhouse

The Commission is appointed by the Archbishop in consultation with the Standing Committee pursuant to a request from the Synod in resolution 19/81 which provides –

Synod requests the Archbishop, in consultation with the Standing Committee, to appoint a Diocesan Doctrine Commission to consider and report on issues which may be referred to it by the Synod, the Standing Committee or by boards and committees set up by the Synod. The Commission to be comprised of 10 persons.

Since 1981, the Commission has been reappointed following the first session of each Synod.

## 5. Petitions

There were no petitions.

## 6. Questions

Questions were asked by the following members –

- (1) Mr Clive Ellis
- (2) Mr Robert Gowing
- (3) The Rev Peter Tong
- (4) Mr Thomas Mayne
- (5) Mrs Susan Hooke
- (6) Mrs Susan Hooke
- (7) The Rev Nigel Fortescue
- (8) Mr David Flakelar

- (9) Mr Glenn Murray
- (10) The Rev Alistair Seabrook
- (11) The Rev Robert James Happer
- (12) The Rev Zachary Veron
- (13) The Rev Dr Roger Chilton
- (14) The Rev Philip Wheeler

## 7. Procedural motions from members

### 7.1 Identifying and sharing large income receipts

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

'Synod agrees, that if a motion that the Large Property Receipts Policy pass as a policy of the Synod is carried, it will forthwith consider the following motion –

“Synod, noting that under the Large Property Receipts Policy the sharing of large income receipts beyond the reasonable property needs of a parish is limited to rental income from leases which require the authorisation of an ordinance, requests the Standing Committee to develop, for consideration by the Synod, a more equitable means of identifying and sharing large income receipts beyond the reasonable property needs of a parish which excludes offertory income but which is not limited to the sharing of rental income from leases requiring the authority of an ordinance.”

Seconded and carried

### 7.2 Facilitating the consideration of amendments

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod –

- (a) notes that an Amendment Sheet is prepared, printed and distributed to members on each day of the Synod to facilitate the consideration of Synod's business, and
- (b) requests that, whenever possible, members submit to the Synod Secretary proposed amendments to motions or to the text of ordinances or other documents by 11.00 am on the relevant day so they can be included on the Amendment Sheet for that day.”

Seconded and carried

## 8. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (1) Bishop Chris Edwards
- (2) The Rev Dr Michael Jensen
- (3) The Rev David Ould
- (4) Dr Karin Sowada

## 9. Calling of motions on the business paper

The President called the motions in order in which they appeared on the business paper, except those motions about a proposed ordinance.

### 9.1 Theology of Baptism

Dr Barry Newman moved –

“This Synod requests the Doctrine Commission to consider a theology of baptism with particular reference to the Scriptures and the Anglican formularies and to bring a report on this matter to the Synod at a convenient time.”

Seconded and carried

### 9.2 Global Anglicanism

The Rev Gavin Poole moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) gives God thanks for the success of GAFCON 2013 (Global Anglican Future Conference) being made up of 1358 delegates from 39 countries including the 99 delegates from Australia,
- (b) recognises that GAFCON is an emerging instrument of communion when others have failed to provide the well needed leadership at a time of growing liberalism within Anglicanism, aggressive secularism, militant Islamism and seductive syncretism,
- (c) encourages and supports GAFCON/FCA (Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans) in its desire to expand its membership, develop networks, authorise and affirm those who have been excluded by their dioceses or provinces,
- (d) recognising Synod’s desire to be in full communion with the ACNA (Synod resolution 46/09), Synod congratulates the Most Reverend Foley Beach on his consecration as Archbishop to the ACNA (Anglican Church of North America),
- (e) encourages the development of FCA Australia and its inaugural conference, “The Anglican Future Conference” to be held in Melbourne next year,
- (f) looks forward to the next GAFCON as a principle gathering of leaders in the Anglican Communion, and
- (g) requests the Secretary to write to The FCA Primates’ Council, The ACNA and FCA Australia informing them of this.’

Seconded and carried

### 9.3 Yoga and other such activities

The Rev Ian Millican moved –

“Synod –

- (a) notes that in multi-cultural Australia there are many activities available for public participation which are based on, or derived from, Eastern religious practices and beliefs, including yoga, tai chi, some martial arts, and dragon boating,
- (b) notes that some of our Diocesan churches and organisations offer such activities or allow them to be held on their premises,
- (c) notes that some Christians believe such activities are contrary to the gospel, and lead those involved in them to inadvertently worship idols and false gods, and access evil spiritual forces; and accordingly,
- (d) requests the Social Issues Committee of the Diocese to report back to the next Session of Synod as to whether such activities are inconsistent with the gospel, and if so, should not be offered by our churches or Diocesan organisations, or allowed to be held on their premises.”

Seconded and carried

#### 9.4 **The Rev Dr Gregory Anderson**

Bishop Robert Forsyth moved –

“Synod records its thankfulness to God for the election of the Rev Dr Gregory Anderson to become Bishop of the Northern Territory and assures Dr Anderson of its continued interest and prayerful support for him as he takes on this important post.”

Seconded and carried by acclamation

Bishop Forsyth led the Synod in prayer for Mr Anderson.

#### 9.5 **Sydney Diocesan Secretariat**

Ms Lyn Bannerman moved –

“This Synod –

- (a) commends the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat (SDS) and the Glebe Administration Board for their excellent Annual Reports for 2013, which include their full audited Financial Reports, and
- (b) notes that these are publicly available on the internet, through the SDS website, and encourages other Diocesan organisations also to make their Annual Reports and full audited financial reports publicly available through an appropriate website.”

Seconded and carried

#### 9.6 **Pastoral Care**

Mrs Pamela Shaw moved –

“Synod requests that the Standing Committee establish a committee of lay and clergy representatives to bring recommendations to the 2015 session of Synod on ways of providing pastoral care to people attracted to others of the same sex.”

Seconded and carried

#### 9.7 **Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee**

Professor Christopher Bellenger moved –

“Synod –

- (a) notes that the report from TEMOC on Ministry to TAFE and CVET students is in partial fulfilment of its charter to “prepare for Synod’s consideration a diocesan policy framework, measurable goals and strategies of ministry” for the sector,
- (b) endorses the recommendation to trial different ministry initiatives,
- (c) encourages individual parishes and Mission Areas to select and trial an initiative and share outcomes with TEMOC,
- (d) notes that TEMOC proposes to collate and report outcomes of such trials to Synod in 2018, and
- (e) requests Standing Committee to consider modest additional funding to TEMOC for TAFE/CVET ministry grants in the 2016-2018 triennium.”

Seconded and carried

#### 9.8 **Reconciliation Action Plans**

The Rev John Reid moved –

“That Synod –

- (a) notes the launch of Anglicare Sydney’s inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in May 2014 as a significant indication of the organisation’s commitment to the development of deeper understanding and closer relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people,

- (b) welcomes progress made to date as a result of Anglicare's Reconciliation Action Plan through direct service delivery, increased cultural awareness amongst staff and the provision of employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and
- (c) encourages individual parishes as well as diocesan organisations and schools to develop their own Reconciliation Action Plans aimed at enhancing relationships, respect and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Sydney Diocese."

Seconded and carried

## 10. Motions

### 10.1 Problem Gambling in NSW

Debate resumed on the following motion moved yesterday by Canon Sandy Grant –

"Synod welcomes the report of the NSW Legislative Council's Select Committee on the Impact of Gambling published in August 2014.

Synod grieves that NSW has above-average expenditure on gambling on a per capita basis compared to national averages.

Therefore Synod commends its recommendations and calls on the NSW Government to implement effective harm minimisation measures, in particular –

- (a) introducing a \$1 maximum bet limit for poker machines in New South Wales,
- (b) stopping the disproportionate concentration of poker machines in lower socioeconomic areas, where they create greater harm,
- (c) implementing a freeze on the transfer of machine entitlements between venues and the creation of any new entitlements,
- (d) implementing a third-party exclusion scheme in the state's clubs and hotels by 2017,
- (e) developing a scheme that requires venues to intervene to assist problem gamblers, and
- (f) launching an awareness campaign specific to the risks of online gaming."

Mr James Flavin moved the following amendment –

'Add at the end a new paragraph as follows –

"Synod calls on Sydney Anglican affiliated organisations to divest of any investments in any company whose revenue from gambling exceeds either 10% of revenue or \$50 million per annum by December 31, 2014, or to report to the Synod the mission imperatives of owning shares in gambling companies."

Seconded

Mr Mark Burgess moved the following amendment –

'After paragraph (f), insert –

- "(g) responding to research on the relationship between gaming machine design features and gambling harms, and
- (h) approaching the Australian Government to request that a set of standards be established for online wagering websites."

Seconded

Miss Tiffany Davy moved the following amendment to Mr Flavin's amendment –

'In Mr Flavin's amendment –

- (a) replace the words "whose revenue" with the words "who receives any income", and
- (b) delete the words "exceeds either 10% of revenue or \$50 million per annum".'

Seconded

Mr David Savage moved the following amendment –

'Insert a new paragraph (g) as follows –

- "(g) to put in appropriate controls for the sale of scratchies especially to the youth."

Seconded

The mover accepted the amendments of Mr Burgess and Mr Flavin.

Mr Savage's amendment was not carried.

The amendments of Mr Burgess and Mr Flavin were carried.

Miss Davy's amendment to Mr Flavin's amendment was not carried.

Canon Grant's motion, as amended, was carried in the following form (with editorial amendments) –

'Synod welcomes the report of the NSW Legislative Council's Select Committee on the Impact of Gambling published in August 2014.

Synod grieves that NSW has above-average expenditure on gambling on a per capita basis compared to national averages.

Therefore Synod commends its recommendations and calls on the NSW Government to implement effective harm minimisation measures, in particular –

- (a) introducing a \$1 maximum bet limit for poker machines in New South Wales,
- (b) stopping the disproportionate concentration of poker machines in lower socioeconomic areas, where they create greater harm,
- (c) implementing a freeze on the transfer of machine entitlements between venues and the creation of any new entitlements,
- (d) implementing a third-party exclusion scheme in the state's clubs and hotels by 2017,
- (e) developing a scheme that requires venues to intervene to assist problem gamblers,
- (f) launching an awareness campaign specific to the risks of online gaming,
- (g) responding to research on the relationship between gaming machine design features and gambling harms, and
- (h) approaching the Australian Government to request that a set of standards be established for online wagering websites.

Synod calls on Sydney Anglican affiliated organisations to divest themselves of any investments in any company whose revenue from gambling exceeds either 10% of revenue or \$50 million per annum by December 31, 2014, or to report to the Synod the mission imperatives of owning shares in gambling companies.'

## 10.2 Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014

Mr Michael Easton moved –

"That Synod permit the introduction of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014."

Seconded and carried

Mr Easton moved –

“That Synod agree to consider forthwith a motion that the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 be approved in principle.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Easton moved –

“That the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 be approved in principle.”

Seconded

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?”

There were questions.

After a time for questions the President asked –

“Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?”

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak against the motion, or move an amendment to it?”

There was no member who wished to speak against the motion or move an amendment to it.

The motion that the ordinance be approved in principle was put and was carried.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance?”

A member of Synod indicated that they wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance.

Mr Easton moved –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed ordinance was considered by the Synod in Committee. Before consideration of the text had been completed, Mr Easton moved –

“That the Chairman of Committees leaves the chair and reports progress.”

Seconded and carried

## 11. Adjournment

At 5:55 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.00 pm tonight.”

Seconded and carried

## Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.00 pm.

### 12. Motions

#### 12.1 Signing of statement of personal Christian faith by alumni representatives

Dr Laurie Scandrett moved –

‘Synod –

- (i) recognising that alumni associations are significant stakeholders in a number of diocesan schools constituted or regulated by ordinance of the Synod, and
- (ii) recognising that the constituting ordinance for some of these diocesan schools make provision for representatives of the alumni association to be elected or appointed as members of the school’s governing board or council, and
- (iii) recognising that at present some alumni representatives, while able to express support for the Christian ethos and charter of the school, may not be able to profess a personal Christian faith in the form of a statement determined by the Synod,

declares its view that –

- (a) each diocesan school must have at its heart the object of advancing the purposes of the Diocese and ultimately, therefore, promoting the kingdom of Christ and giving glory to God, and
- (b) each member of the governing board or council of a diocesan school must, as a matter of good governance, be personally committed to such object of the school, and
- (c) such personal commitment should be demonstrated, among other ways, through the profession of a personal Christian faith in the form of a statement determined by the Synod, and
- (d) in order to accommodate the current position of alumni associations, any person elected, or appointed as an alumni representative on the governing board or council of a diocesan school until 30 June 2020 should have the option of signing a statement of support for the Christian ethos and charter of the school in a form determined by the Synod as an alternative to signing the statement of personal Christian faith provided that no person may become chair of the board or council without signing the statement of personal Christian faith, and
- (e) from 1 July 2020 any person elected or appointed, as an alumni representative on the governing board or council of a diocesan school must sign the statement of personal Christian faith,

and agrees to give effect to the declared view of the Synod by inserting the matter “before 1 July 2020” before the words “may sign a statement of support for the Christian ethos and charter of the school” in paragraph 10 of Appendix 2 of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations and by suspending so many of the business rules as would prevent this.’

Seconded

Mrs Carolyn Blanden moved the following amendment –

- ‘(a) Add the following to the end of paragraph (e) –

“unless special approval is given by the Archbishop or his delegate”,  
and

- (b) Omit the rider after paragraph (e) and insert the following instead –

“and agrees to give effect to this declared view of the Synod by –

- (f) inserting the matter “before 1 July 2020” before the words “may sign a statement of support for the Christian ethos and charter of the school” in paragraph 10 of Appendix 2 of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations, and
- (g) inserting in paragraph 10 of Appendix 2 the following before the words “The initial forms” –
  - “However if on or after 1 July 2020 an alumni association informs the chair of the school board that it is unable to put forward a representative who is able to sign the statement of personal faith, the Archbishop or his delegate, on request of the chair, may approve the appointment of an alumni representative to the school board who is able to sign a statement of support for the Christian ethos and charter of the school.”, and
- (h) suspending so many of the business rules as would prevent this.”

Seconded

Eight members requested a vote on the amendment be taken by ballot.

Before a vote on the amendment was taken by ballot, Dr Scandrett moved as a procedural motion –

“That so many of the business rules be suspended to prevent a vote on the amendment being taken by ballot.”

Seconded and carried

Mrs Blanden’s amendment was put but was not carried.

Eight members requested that the vote on the motion be taken by Houses.

A vote on Dr Scandrett’s motion was taken by ballot by Houses.

The President announced the results of the vote held by ballot and by Houses.

	Yes	No	Informal
Lay	229	160	2
Clergy	114	76	0

The President declared Dr Scandrett’s motion carried without amendment.

## 12.2 Working with Children Check (Clerical Licences) Ordinance 2014

Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the Working with Children Check (Clerical Licences) Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Marr moved –

“That Synod agree to consider forthwith a motion that the Working with Children Check (Clerical Licences) Ordinance 2014 be approved in principle.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Marr moved –

“That the Working with Children Check (Clerical Licences) Ordinance 2014 be approved in principle.”

Seconded

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?”

There were questions.

After a time for questions the President asked –

“Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?”

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak against the motion, or move an amendment to it?”

There was no member who wished to speak against the motion or move an amendment to it.

The motion that the ordinance be approved in principle was put and was carried.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance?”

No member indicated that they wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance.

Mr Marr moved –

“That the Working with Children Check (Clerical Licences) Ordinance 2014 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

### 12.3 Ministry of Anglican schools and Christians in government schools

The Rev Andrew Katay moved –

“Synod –

- (a) notes that in the Diocese of Sydney around 40,000 students are enrolled in Anglican schools which engage students for 30 hours per week, for 40 weeks per year and for up to 14 of the most formative years of their life,
- (b) recognises the growing demand for Anglican schooling as an opportunity for bringing the whole counsel of God to bear on all areas of life,
- (c) recognises the importance of supporting the ministry of Christian principals, teachers, students and voluntary SRE teachers in government schools,
- (d) calls on our churches to support the Christian ministry of Anglican schools, and
- (e) calls on our churches to encourage Christian young people to consider teaching as a strategic vocation and commends the Anglican Education Commission for its work in recruiting Christians into teaching.”

Seconded and carried.

## Adjournment

At 9:27 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3.15 pm tomorrow.”

We certify that, to the best of our recollection, these minutes are a correct record of the Synod’s proceedings.

Two Members of the )  
Minute Reading Committee )

Signed by the President

15 October 2014

# 50<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

## 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session

### Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Wednesday 15 October 2014

#### 1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 3.15 pm.

#### 2. Devotions

The Synod was led in devotions by Bishop Peter Tasker.

#### 3. Minutes

The President signed the minutes for Tuesday 14 October 2014.

#### 4. Declaration of Contested Elections

The President declared the results of the contested elections.

The list of the results of the contested elections was laid upon the table.

#### 5. Answers to Questions

##### 5.1 Ratios of parishes and clergy to population in each region

Mr Paul Fitzpatrick asked the following question –

Would the President please inform the Synod of –

- (a) the current ratio of –
  - (i) parishes to population, and
  - (ii) active clergy to population, and
- (b) the equivalent statistics for ten years ago, for all five diocesan regions.

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The figures will shortly appear on the screen, but some prior explanation is required.

Given population data is based on Census figures it is not possible to calculate ratios for 2014 and 2004. They have instead been calculated for 2011 and 2001 since these years coincide with the last two censuses.

The clergy numbers are based on 2010 registry data but applied to 2011 Census population figures. It has not been possible to compile clergy numbers by region for 2001 within the timeframe given the limitations of the Registry Database System.

All Census population data has been supplied by Anglicare's Social Policy & Research Unit.

#### Average Population

	Per Parish		Per Active Clergy
	2011	2001	2011
<b>Georges River</b>	22,314	18,788	12,037
<b>Northern</b>	12,098	11,310	5,739
<b>South Sydney</b>	14,757	13,126	5,506
<b>Western Sydney</b>	21,023	20,759	8,942
<b>Wollongong</b>	16,203	16,320	8,177
<b>Total Diocese</b>	16,900	15,760	7,674

## 5.2 Contents insurance valuations of parishes

Mr Clive Ellis asked the following question –

- (a) Are the contents valuations for parishes the basis of insurance cover?
- (b) Was there a particular reason for the huge reductions in contents valuations for at least some parishes (reportedly as much as 75%) in the 2012 valuations?
- (c) What action does SDS or the Property Trust take to ensure that parishes are adequately covered for contents insurance?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The valuations are necessary to obtain insurance but are not solely determinative of the extent of cover. The policy wording of the industrial special risk policy provides a generous latitude for the replacement of contents as shown by the payments over and above the declared values made to several parishes over recent years that incurred total loss of contents through fire damage.
- (b) In 2012, the Property Trust engaged an industry specialist insurance valuation consultant to value buildings and contents of all parishes and some diocesan organisations for insurance purposes. This involved a physical inspection of every site. The consultant undertakes insurance valuations for the Roman Catholic Church and schools across Australia, Uniting Church properties in NSW, Victoria and Tasmania, various Anglican dioceses in Queensland and one in Victoria, and the Lutheran church and schools in Queensland.

2012 marked the first diocesan-wide robust insurance valuation undertaken for many decades, so it was anticipated that the values ascribed in 2012 would vary somewhat to historical values. Following the 2012 valuations, most building/contents insurance valuations changed by less than 10%.

- (c) Given the credentials of the insurance valuation consultant, the Property Trust has high confidence in the efficacy of the valuations. However if a parish considers that the contents value on a valuation report is understated or overstated, there is scope to revisit the values by contacting the Manager Insurance Services.

## 5.3 Parish income from which Parish Cost Recoveries are levied

Mr Robert Gowing asked the following question –

Which elements of parish income are Parish Cost Recoveries (PCR) levied on and is income from the sale or rent/licence of properties included?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The variable charge component of PCR applies to a parish's "net operating receipts" in a calendar year.

A parish's "net operating receipts" is the product of its "gross operating receipts" minus certain exclusions and deductions.

The items which comprise the "gross operating receipts" of a parish, and the exclusions and deductions therefrom, are set out in clauses 12, 13 and 14 of the Cost Recoveries Framework Ordinance 2008.

I don't propose to recite the full list of items, but in relation to property income –

- Income from leasing parish property is included (but reduced by any expenses of that leased property),
- Income from licensing parish property is included, and
- Income from the sale of property is excluded.

#### 5.4 ***Jesusbrings* financial report**

The Rev Peter Tong asked the following question –

Could we have a financial report for *Jesusbrings* including how many parishes participated financially and how the money was spent?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the latest figures for this answer are as follows –

147 Sydney Parishes participated in the campaign, along with some diocesan organisations and a number of churches from other dioceses and denominations.

There was an initial allocation from the Mission Board/Standing Committee of \$90,000, which was the balance of the left over funds from Connect 09.

A comparison of income to expenses is shown on the screen as follows -

<u>Income</u>	
Allocation from the balance of Connect 09 funds	\$90,000
Contribution from parishes and participating organisations	\$366,000
Total Income	\$456,000
<u>Expenses</u>	
Campaign & resource development, promotion & events	\$94,000
Resource production & distribution	\$299,000
Staffing & Administration	\$41,000
Total Expenses	\$434,000
<u>Surplus</u>	\$22,000

As per Synod resolution, Evangelism and New Churches has been asked to quarantine any surplus funds from *Jesusbrings* for a future diocesan evangelistic campaign.

#### 5.5 **Regional prayer days for *Mission 2020***

Mr Tom Mayne asked the following question –

Given that without prayer we can achieve little, would the 2020 Mission's SRG consider having venues in each of the five regions set apart for a special prayer day and night each year commencing in 2015 to saturate the Diocese in prayer as was done during the Billy Graham crusades?

To which the President replied –

I thank Mr Mayne for this proposal and encourage him with the knowledge that many prayer meetings have been taking place in Mission Areas. However I shall draw this to the attention of my Regional Bishops, who in consultation with their Regional Councils and their Mission Areas, will no doubt give this the priority it deserves.

#### 5.6 **Reference to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry in *Mission 2020***

Mr Tom Mayne asked the following question –

Could there not be a reference to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry in the mission statement?

To which the President replied –

Yes. The questioner could consider moving an amendment.

#### 5.7 **Year that Large Receipts Policy thresholds were determined**

Mrs Susan Hooke asked the following question –

In what year were the amounts referred to in paragraph 10.10 of the Large Receipts Policy determined?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The sale proceeds threshold of \$500,000 was determined on 26 July 2004.

The lease income threshold of \$50,000 was determined on 12 November 2012.

#### 5.8 **Synod consideration of the Statement of Funding Principles 2016-2018**

Mrs Susan Hooke asked the following question –

When is this Synod to be given the opportunity to approve, disapprove or amend the Statement of Funding Principles and Priorities 2016-2018?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Synod Estimates Ordinance 1998 requires the Standing Committee to prepare, for the first ordinary session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Synod and the first ordinary session of each Synod thereafter, a Statement of Funding Principles and Priorities to guide the Synod estimates process.

While the Ordinance does not provide for the Synod to “approve, disapprove or amend” the Statement, the Synod is able to express its mind on the Statement at any time by resolution.

#### 5.9 **Greenfields land acquisition levy ordinance**

The Rev Nigel Fortescue asked the following question –

With regard to the greenfields land acquisition levy ordinance:

- (a) How much money is it anticipated to secure in 2014?
- (b) How much of this will be spent on acquiring new church sites?
- (c) How much will be spent on acquiring co-located or nearby school or retirement village sites?
- (d) How much money is anticipated being given by SASC or ARV for acquiring church sites?
- (e) Is SASC paying the entire cost of future school sites?
- (f) Is ARV paying the entire cost of future retirement village sites?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) \$2 million
- (b) 100%, though the timing depends on the identification of suitable sites.
- (c) Nil. By way of explanation, the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation utilised its own funding to independently acquire the land adjoining the Mission Property Committee site in Leppington. Opportunities for cost savings such as shared use of car parking areas will be considered in future planning. Anglican Retirement Villages currently has no specific plans to acquire a greenfields site for the co-location of a retirement village and church.
- (d) Nil
- (e) Yes
- (f) Yes

#### 5.10 Industries excluded by the Diocese in its ethical equities portfolio

Mr David Flakelar asked the following question –

In determining its ethical equities portfolio, which specific industries does the Diocese exclude?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Investment of Church Trust Property Ordinance 1990 (the “1990 Ordinance”) contains general provisions for the investment of church trust property.

The 1990 Ordinance does not generally authorise investments in shares, but it authorises investments in managed investment schemes through which share investments are commonly made.

In relation to investments in such schemes the 1990 Ordinance further provides that an investment is not permitted if the scheme or an underlying pooled product –

- (a) conducts as its main business, or one of its main businesses, a “disapproved business”, or
- (b) invests mainly in the securities of a corporation or scheme which conducts a “disapproved business” as its main business or one of its main businesses.

The Synod or the Standing Committee can by resolution declare a business to be a disapproved business.

Currently, the Standing Committee has disapproved the following businesses –

- the manufacture, promotion, distribution or sale of armaments,
- a business which is illegal or immoral,
- the manufacture, promotion, distribution or sale of tobacco,
- the business of gambling or betting or directly connected therewith,
- the manufacture, promotion, distribution or sale of liquor,
- the production, sale or distribution of 'X' or 'R' rated video or digital images, videos or films.

Specific diocesan organisations may have additional investment powers specified in their ordinance. For example, in relation to the Diocesan Endowment, the Glebe Administration Ordinance 1930 gives Glebe Administration Board wide powers to invest in shares, units and other interests and securities, provided that such shares, units interests or securities are not those of a corporation or trust which the Synod or the Standing Committee may by resolution disapprove. Under the 1930 Ordinance, GAB does not invest in a corporation or trust which conducts a “disapproved business” declared under the 1990 Ordinance.

### 5.11 **Students becoming Christians whilst enrolled at Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation schools**

The Rev Barry Macalister asked the following question –

Are there any statistics being recorded, showing the number of students enrolled in the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation group of schools, who have begun to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour during their time enrolled in those schools?

If so, how many?

If not, are there any plans to do so?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The first two (and principal) Strategic Objectives in the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation Strategic Plan 2020 are –

1. To provide high quality education within a Christian worldview shaped by the Bible, and
2. To communicate in word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ to students, staff, parents and the wider community.

The current Strategic Plan also includes the following measurable goals which are directly pertinent to these Strategic Objectives –

- The proportion of enrolled students who identify as professing Christians is increased.
- The proportion of families involved in Bible-based Churches is increased.

These two goals were introduced as part of a review of all the Strategic Plan's goals in 2013.

At present no statistics are held by the Corporation about the number of students across the Corporation who have begun to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour during their time enrolled in its schools. Individual schools may complete such statistics about themselves but if they do it is likely that each one does so in a different way – such that at this time it would not be possible to consolidate them.

Nevertheless as these two goals have been recently adopted after the 2013 review of the Strategic Plan, the Corporation schools need now to be working together to produce such statistics that are meaningful across the Corporation so that the achievement or otherwise of these goals can be measured.

Despite the current lack of statistical evidence there is much non-statistical evidence that students enrolled in Corporation schools have begun to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour during their time enrolled.

One anecdote: A family with two children recently left a Corporation school because the father's work moved them interstate. At their exit interview the parents explained that they had enrolled their children in order for them to receive a high quality education, which they were most pleased that the children had received. One more thing, they said:

“When we enrolled the children we did not know that as a family we would leave Christian.”

### 5.12 **Electronic lodgement of questions, amendments and motions for Synod**

Mr Glenn Murray asked the following question –

- (a) Could the Secretariat provide an electronic interface (or app for iPhone and Android equipment) to permit members to lodge questions, amendments and motions just before and during Synod sittings?
- (b) Are there modifications to Synod rules and ordinances to permit the above to occur so as to maintain the procedures and good practices for Synod sessions?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Secretariat is always looking for ways to streamline the Synod process. This may include the use of an electronic interface for the lodgement of material.

#### 5.13 **Amendment of the Statement of Funding Principles and Priorities in light of *Mission 2020***

The Rev Alistair Seabrook asked the following question –

If “Mission 2020” passes as a policy of the Synod, how will the “Statement of Funding Principles and Priorities” for the next triennium be amended to reflect how the Synod has decided to focus our Mission for the next 5 years?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Synod Estimates Ordinance 1998 provides that the statement of principles and priorities is for the purpose of guiding the Synod estimates process “for the purposes of the Diocesan Mission”.

If “Mission 2020” is passed it will constitute the Diocesan Mission for the purposes of the Ordinance and the Statement of Funding Principles and Priorities for the next triennium will reflect “Mission 2020”.

#### 5.14 **Payment of full stipends to Rectors**

The Rev Robert Happer asked the following question –

- (a) How many parishes/provisional parishes within the Diocese do not pay their Rector/Minister in Charge a full stipend?
- (b) What provisions are in place to assist Rectors/Ministers in Charge who are not receiving a full stipend?
- (c) How many parishes within the Diocese are struggling with viability?
- (d) What strategies are in place to assist parishes that are struggling with viability to grow and blossom?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Payment of clergy stipends are a matter for the relevant Parish Council. Usually the only time when the stipend paid to the rector is notified to the Registry is when a parish falls vacant. Accordingly it is not possible to determine how many rectors do not receive a full stipend at other times.
- (b) Unlike some Australian diocese, the expectation in the Diocese of Sydney is that each parish is responsible for the payment of the stipend and emoluments of its rector. There are no funds generally available to support rectors who do not receive a full stipend.
- (c) The net operating receipts of parishes in the Diocese are shown on pages 81 to 86 of the report of the Standing Committee. The 2014 local revenues threshold to qualify for parish status is \$83,215.
- (d) The Regional Bishops and Regional Councils take an interest in struggling parishes and help in whatever ways they can.

#### 5.15 **Church attendance statistics**

The Rev Zac Veron asked the following question –

- (a) What purposes are the annual church attendance statistics, gathered by the Diocesan Registrar, used for?

- (b) How can Synod members access the statistical data gathered?
- (c) Since 2005, what are the average total attendance figures for the Diocese in these groups:
  - (i) adults
  - (ii) teenagers
  - (iii) children

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Attendance statistics collected each year by the Registrar enable analysis of attendances not only for the parish concerned but also for the Region and the Diocese as a whole.
- (b) Each parish has online access to its own historical statistical data. Statistics for other parishes or groups of parishes are available for research or other appropriate purposes on application to the Registrar.

The statistics for the Diocese as a whole are published in the year book (see page 147 of current year book).

- (c) Statistics collected each year are only split between those over and under 18 years of age. Attendance at weekly services for the years 2005 to 2013 is shown in the table on the screen. This answer can also be viewed on the notice board in the foyer.

	<b>Adult 18+</b>	<b>Children/Youth Under 18</b>	<b>Total</b>
2005	46,884	7,698	54,582
2006	47,388	7,719	55,107
2007	47,001	8,489	55,490
2008	44,855	6,372	51,227
2009	46,862	5,797	52,659
2010	47,082	6,670	53,752
2011	46,509	6,653	53,162
2012	46,649	6,332	52,981
2013	46,679	6,629	53,308

#### 5.16 **Expectation of communicant membership for senior Diocesan staff and clergy**

The Rev Dr Roger Chilton asked the following question –

Is it a requirement or an expectation of the Archbishop that heads of Diocesan organisations, principals of Diocesan schools, and senior members of the clergy appointed to Diocesan positions, attend and are communicant members of an Anglican church in the Diocese?

To which the President replied –

As Archbishop I would expect Heads of Diocesan organisations and Heads of Diocesan schools to be regular church-attending members of a Bible-based church, which is preferably Anglican. All my episcopal colleagues are regularly involved in preaching and teaching across the churches of their region, and as such may not have a particular home church. While clearly communicant members of the Anglican Church of Sydney, they would not necessarily be eligible to vote in an AGM of any one Anglican parish. The Archdeacon of Women's Ministry, when not visiting other Anglican churches, is a communicant member of St John's Sutherland.

## 5.17 Excess borrowing by parishes

The Rev Philip Wheeler asked the following question –

Noting Standing Committee report item 3.19, how many parishes have engaged in excess/unwise borrowing as evidenced by the parish requiring financial assistance from the Diocese or foreclosure by a lender in the last 10 years?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

There have been no instances of a bank or other lender commencing legal action to force a parish to sell assets to reduce or clear its debts.

However, several parishes have been noticeably impacted by high levels of debt that has caused financial distress. Anecdotally, this has resulted in parishes obtaining regional council support, voluntarily selling parish property assets, reducing ministry staffing levels, requesting temporary relief from loan repayments, payments to creditors being held back (including payments from MEAs) and ongoing financial appeals to parishioners to meet debt obligations.

Currently, parishes that seek a mortgage ordinance are now subject to a credit review process of the borrowing proposal, with the review forming part of the Standing Committee consideration of that mortgage ordinance.

## 6. Petitions

There were no petitions.

## 7. Questions

Questions were asked by the following members –

- (1) The Rev Joseph Wiltshire
- (2) The Rev Bruce Stanley
- (3) The Rev Bruce Stanley
- (4) Mrs Kristen Young
- (5) The Rev Jonathan Squire
- (6) Miss Michele Willsmore
- (7) The Rev Dr Roger Chilton
- (8) Mrs Marguerite Robson
- (9) Mrs Marguerite Robson
- (10) Ms Lynette Bannerman
- (11) Dr Alan Watson
- (12) Dr Alan Watson
- (13) Mr Clive Ellis
- (14) Mr Rodney Cosier
- (15) Mrs Tara Sing
- (16) Mr Richard Glover
- (17) Mrs Sally Kliffen
- (18) Mr Nathan Heyer
- (19) Mr Nathan Heyer

## 8. Procedural motions from members

### 8.1 Revised form of motion concerning Synod attendance

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod agrees to incorporate into the motion at item 9.15 of today’s business paper the amendments shown in marked form and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.”

Seconded and carried

## 9. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (1) Dr David Oakenfull
- (2) Mrs Susan Hooke
- (3) Mr Glenn Murray
- (4) The Rev Ramon Robinson
- (5) Canon Sandy Grant
- (6) The Rev Zac Veron

## 10. Calling of motions on the business paper

The President called the motions in order in which they appeared on the business paper, except those motions about a proposed ordinance.

### 10.1 **Theology of communion and catholicity**

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

“In light of the Primate’s Address at the 16<sup>th</sup> General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in Adelaide and recent comments made by the Archbishop of Canterbury on what constitutes membership of the Anglican Communion (in an interview with the editor of the *Church of Ireland Gazette*), this Synod requests the Sydney Diocesan Doctrine Commission to prepare a report on the theology of communion and catholicity with special reference to contemporary Anglicanism in Australia and to report back to the next session of this Synod.”

Seconded and carried

### 10.2 **Moore College learning and teaching centre**

Dr Karin Sowada moved –

“Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for the generous provision that has made possible commencement on the Moore College learning and teaching centre,
- (b) recognises that Synod has itself contributed substantially to this project over many years, as have many members of its churches, and
- (c) commits to continued support and prayer, asking particularly that the Lord would provide the necessary funds to complete this strategically important initiative.”

Seconded and carried

## 11. Motions

### 11.1 **Immigration policy and child detention**

The Rev Dr Michael Jensen moved –

“Synod, noting –

- (i) the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for us, compels us to love neighbours and even enemies, and

- (ii) the difficulty of framing a just refugee policy in a war torn and poverty stricken world, and
- (iii) the intention of political leaders to achieve a just outcome in trying circumstances, and
- (iv) the concern of bodies like the AMA for the mental health of children of asylum seekers in detention, and
- (v) that there remain many hundreds of such children in detention, and
- (vi) recognising that, as with the lawyer's question to Jesus in Luke 10:29 our sinful evasion of responsibility for siblings and neighbours continues –
- (a) calls on the government to remove children from all forms of detention under Australian jurisdiction, and
- (b) commits to pray for the Prime Minister and for the Minister for Immigration in their work."

Seconded

The Rev Christopher Pears moved the following amendment –

'In paragraph (a), insert the word "immigration" before the word "detention".'

Seconded

Dr Jensen accepted the amendment of Mr Pears.

Mr Michael Meek SC moved a procedural motion –

"That further consideration of this motion be deferred to allow consultation on a further amendment."

Seconded and carried

## 11.2 Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014

Consideration of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 resumed.

Mr Michael Easton moved –

"That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider further the text of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014."

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed ordinance was considered by the Synod in Committee. Before consideration of the text had been completed, Mr Easton moved –

"That the Chairman of Committees leaves the chair and reports progress."

Seconded and carried

## 11.3 Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

"That Synod permit the introduction of the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014."

Seconded and carried

Mr Wicks moved –

“That Synod agree to consider forthwith a motion that the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014 be approved in principle.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Wicks moved –

“That the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014 be approved in principle.”

Seconded

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?”

There were questions.

After a time for questions the President asked –

“Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?”

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak against the motion, or move an amendment to it?”

There was no member who wished to speak against the motion or move an amendment to it.

The motion that the ordinance be approved in principle was put and was carried.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance?”

A member of Synod indicated that they wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance.

Mr Wicks moved –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed ordinance was considered by the Synod in Committee. After consideration of the text had been completed, the Chairman reported the proposed ordinance with amendments.

Mr Wicks moved –

“That the report of the Chairman of Committees be adopted.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Wicks moved –

“That Synod agrees to consider on Monday 20 October a motion that the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

## 12. Motions

### 12.1 Ministries of Christ-like compassion

The Rev David Ould moved a procedural motion –

‘Synod agrees to print the motion which appears at item 9.18 on today’s business paper in the business paper for Monday 20 October 2014 in the following form –

“Synod notes –

- (i) the imperative to love our neighbour as ourselves,
- (ii) that Jesus urges us to do good works so that those around us will praise our Father in heaven,
- (a) affirms its commitment to ministries of Christ-like compassion that seek to not only love those in need but, as a matter of priority, seek to do so in a manner that provides every opportunity to proclaim the gospel,
- (b) commends the work of Anglicare in its mission of good works and gospel proclamation through Christ-centred services, which are conducted in partnership with parishes wherever possible,
- (c) commends the upcoming “Festival of Just Ideas” hosted by Anglican Aid on Saturday 25 October, and
- (d) encourages parishes and other organisations to consider and enact ways in which they may love their neighbours and be involved in such ministries of Christ-like compassion.”

Seconded and carried

## 13. Adjournment

At 5:45 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.00 pm tonight.”

Seconded and carried

## Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.00 pm.

### 13.1 Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014

Consideration of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 resumed.

Mr Michael Easton moved –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider further the text of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed ordinance was considered by the Synod in Committee. After consideration of the text had been completed, the Chairman reported the proposed ordinance with amendments.

Mr Easton moved –

“That the report of the Chairman of Committees be adopted.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Easton moved –

“That Synod agrees to consider on Monday 20 October a motion that the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

### 13.2 **Mission 2020 document**

Consideration of the *Mission 2020* document resumed.

The Rev Peter Lin moved –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider further the text of the *Mission 2020* Document.”

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed *Mission 2020* document was considered by the Synod in Committee. After consideration of the text had been completed, the Chairman reported the proposed document with amendments.

Mr Lin moved –

“That the report of the Chairman of Committees be adopted.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Lin moved –

“That Synod –

- (a) requests that the version of the *Mission 2020* document marked to show the amendments made during committee be provided to members on Monday, and
- (b) agrees to consider next week a motion that the Synod welcomes the *Mission 2020* document and agrees to adopt *Mission 2020* set out in that document.”

Seconded and carried

## 14. Motions

### 14.1 **Consideration of motions about proposed ordinances from 4:00 pm on Monday 20 October**

Mr Robert Wicks moved a procedural motion –

“Synod agrees to consider any motion about a proposed ordinance from 4:00 pm on Monday 20 October 2014 and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.”

Mr Wicks’ procedural motion was carried.

## Adjournment

At 9:02 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3:15 pm on Monday 20 October 2014.”

We certify that, to the best of our recollection, these minutes are a correct record of the Synod's proceedings.

Two Members of the )  
Minute Reading Committee )

Signed by the President

20 October 2014

# 50<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

## 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session

### Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Monday 20 October 2014

#### 1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 3.15 pm.

#### 2. Devotions

The Synod was led in devotions by Bishop Peter Tasker.

#### 3. Minutes

The President signed the minutes for Wednesday 15 October 2014.

#### 4. Answers to Questions

##### 4.1 Voting at board meetings

The Rev Joe Wiltshire asked the following question –

In board meetings of Sydney Anglican organisations, if less members vote on an issue than constitute a quorum of that meeting (due to abstentions), is the vote valid? In the case where the majority of present members abstain from voting on an issue is the meeting considered competent to Sydney Anglican standards to decide on the issue?

To which the President replied –

This question is out of order under business rule 6.3(4)(f) as it seeks a legal opinion.

##### 4.2 Requirements for rectories

The Rev Bruce Stanley asked the following question –

Regarding parish rectories –

- (a) What are the current requirements for rectories in the Sydney Diocese?
- (b) Are these requirements uniform across the Diocese or do they differ across regions?
- (c) Currently, the SDS website refers wardens to the Regional Archdeacon. To whom should these enquiries about requirements now be made, and is it possible for these requirements to be made accessible on the SDS website?
- (d) How many parishes currently do not own a rectory meeting Diocesan requirements?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The *Nominations Ordinance 2006* requires a minister be "provided with the free use of a residence or otherwise housed in accommodation approved as suitable by the Archbishop". The *Parishes Ordinance 1979* also stipulates a similar criterion for status as a parish. While there are no longer any formal guidelines on the standard of accommodation that is considered suitable, the former guidelines are still used as a reference for determining suitability.
- (b) Yes

- (c) Each Regional Bishop is also licensed as Regional Archdeacon so enquiries should be addressed to the relevant regional Bishop or his assistant.
- (d) It is not known how many parishes do not own a suitable residence. The proposed housing arrangements are considered each time a rector is licensed, so the arrangements are reassessed each time a parish falls vacant.

#### 4.3 SRE teacher accreditation

The Rev Bruce Stanley asked the following question –

Regarding SRE teacher accreditation –

- (a) Who is currently responsible for the writing and development of the training modules for SRE teacher accreditation?
- (b) Who is responsible for reviewing and overseeing this material?
- (c) How often are these modules reviewed?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Rev Jon Thorpe, the Director of Youthworks Ministry Support Team, is responsible for overseeing the development of the SRE Accreditation Training modules. The modules are written and updated by Youthworks Ministry Support staff. The staff responsible for developing the training have qualifications in education and theology with one staff member currently completing doctorate level study in SRE Pedagogy.
- (b) Mr Thorpe is also responsible for overseeing the material and ensuring the material is reviewed regularly by the Ministry Support Team. He has been developing and delivering training for local ministries and diocesan organisations for 10 years. The material is reviewed on the basis of the following criteria –
  - Skills necessary for preparing our 2500 teachers to deliver quality SRE.
  - Government guidelines pertaining to SRE.
  - Diocesan guidelines pertaining to SRE.
  - Critical reflection by staff delivering the training to assess the current strengths and weaknesses of the training methodology used in the material.
  - Youthworks actively seeks written and verbal feedback from Local SRE Accreditation Trainers, Senior Accreditation Trainers and SRE teachers participating in the training.
- (c) The modules are under constant review with minor changes incorporated annually. The Youthworks Ministry Support Team has completed one major review of the material since accreditation was first launched in 2010.

#### 4.4 Non-proselytisation agreements

Mrs Kristen Young asked the following question –

Are there diocesan bodies, organisations or parishes which have current signed, non-proselytisation agreements or other contracts which restrict verbal witness? If yes, how many?

For these organisations, how many have signed such agreements in relation to receiving government funding?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

So far as we can ascertain there are none, subject to a couple of exceptions, though it has not been practical to seek a direct answer from every diocesan body, organisation or parish within the timeframe.

The exceptions are as follows –

Firstly, in respect to Anglicare –

Principle 4 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Civil Chaplaincies Advisory Committee (CCAC) and the Ministry of Health states: “The primary focus of Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care is the needs of patients, families and staff for spiritual care. Active proselytising is not a function of Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Services.”

Anglicare is not a signatory to this MOU and is not the recognised member of the CCAC. The Anglican Church of Australia, NSW Province, is the Member Organisation. However Anglicare Chaplains operating in public hospitals are expected to operate under the provisions of this MOU.

There is a similar provision in the MOU between the CCAC and Corrective Services NSW.

There are many examples of how Anglicare Chaplains in prisons and hospitals are not restricted in their ‘verbal witness’, while not proselytising; in the blog ‘Good News in Hard Places’ on the website [sydneyanglicans.net](http://sydneyanglicans.net).

Secondly, in respect to Anglican Aid –

The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct requires Anglican Aid to clearly delineate between aid and development and non-aid and development (including religious purposes) in its fundraising, programs and other activities.

Anglican Aid requires its overseas partners who are undertaking aid and development to sign an Activity Agreement which limits the partner's use of funds to the purposes and activities outlined in the project proposal. To the extent funds are for aid and development purposes, they cannot be used for evangelism or any religious activity.

It should be noted that all overseas partners of Anglican Aid are evangelical churches or non-government organisations which have an evangelical focus. These churches and NGOs are in regions of the world where both the spiritual and physical needs of people are acute.

Whilst Anglican Aid does not use or direct aid and development funds for evangelistic purposes, it is well aware that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached to project beneficiaries by its project partners and their church members in other contexts. A significant number of project beneficiaries are non-Christian.

Anglican Aid also operates a non tax deductible Ministry Fund which provides which provides theological education for clergy in training and the support of Bible Colleges. The ACFID Code of Conduct does not apply to this aspect of Anglican Aid's work.

#### 4.5 Church planting in greenfields areas

The Rev Jonathan Squire asked the following question –

With regard to the Mission Property Committee's purchase of church sites in greenfields areas –

- (a) What was the cost of acquiring the land in Leppington for a future church building?
- (b) Approximately how many other similar new church sites are the MPC anticipating to purchase in greenfields areas by 2020?
- (c) If church plants are started on each of these sites by 2020, will this meet the ‘Mission 2020’ goal to “plant 15 new churches in Greenfield areas by 2020”?
- (d) Have other models of MPC property support for new churches in Greenfield areas been considered by the MPC? If so, what are they?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) \$2.8 million
- (b) Subject to availability of funds, the MPC has targeted the acquisition of one site per year, so 6 sites over the next 6 years (2015-2020).
- (c) The MPC's current acquisition program will not achieve this goal on its own.
- (d) Several alternative models have been considered, the most notable of which are -

Firstly, the option of provision of ministry housing to support a church planter who would conduct church services in buildings owned by others, for example land owned by other Anglican organisations (ARV, SASC, Anglicare) or public school and community halls. In comparison to the provision of ministry housing, the construction of new ministry centres is relatively more expensive and beyond the reach of most parishes, and as such is a relatively higher priority. In the context of limited funding, the MPC has determined to provide ministry housing only in those greenfield locations where land has also been acquired for the construction of a new ministry centre.

Secondly, consideration has also been given to leasing or acquiring relatively cheaper land in industrial areas for use as a mid-week ministry hub or for Sunday services. However given the relatively larger population catchments proposed for each ministry centre of between 25,000 to 50,000 persons, the preference is for a relatively more prominent geographical location for each ministry centre on the fringe of the proposed town centres, and within the residential community.

Other models may also be considered by Regional Bishops, Regional Councils and Evangelism and New Churches.

#### 4.6 **Bishopscourt**

Miss Michele Willsmore asked the following question –

With reference to Item 3.13 in the Report of the Standing Committee, and the Report from the Property Trust on page 104, is it intended that Archbishop Davies will move into Bishopscourt pending the sale of the property?

To which the President replied –

In October 2012 Synod passed the *Bishopscourt Sale Ordinance 2012* giving the Property Trust the authority to sell Bishopscourt at any time before October 2017. Following the retirement of Archbishop Jensen, the Property Trust arranged for the property to be put up for sale but two marketing programs have not yet produced an offer at a price which the Property Trust considers appropriate. Bishopscourt remains on the market and it is intended that it be sold in accordance with the Synod ordinance.

Earlier this year the matter of the housing of the Archbishop was discussed by the Endowment of the See Committee and it was agreed that, after some relatively minor renovations, I would move into Bishopscourt. The necessary approvals for the planned changes have recently been received from the local council and work has commenced. It is currently expected I will move into Bishopscourt before the end of this year. I have willingly given an undertaking to relocate whenever Bishopscourt is sold.

#### 4.7 **Welcome to country**

The Rev Dr Roger Chilton asked the following question –

At the start of your Presidential Address, you recognised the traditional custodians of the land on which the Wesley Centre stands. Is there a diocesan policy concerning such recognition of Indigenous custodians at diocesan events? Is it your desire that parishes and clergy observe such recognition at local events, meetings and services?

To which the President replied –

There is no diocesan policy concerning an Acknowledgment of Country, as it has come to be known, whereby one recognises the original custodians of the land wherein we live and minister. Such a policy would need to be determined by the Synod.

My reason for including it in my Presidential Address was to model how such an acknowledgment might be made. I consulted the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee, who appreciated the inclusion of such an acknowledgment, as well as the form of words which I was proposing to use. In my opinion, any Acknowledgment of Country in a Christian context should include an acknowledgment that the land belongs to God, as Creator, and that in his goodness he has given it to human custodians to be used for his glory. Those who have responsibility for leading public events must make their own decisions as to the appropriateness of delivering an Acknowledgment of Country in their own setting and particular context. My chief desire is that when such an Acknowledgment is made, it be distinctively Christian, so that we might honour Christ as Lord in every community.

#### 4.8 **Moore Theological College External Studies Correspondence course**

Mrs Marguerite Robson asked the following question –

What were the student enrolment numbers in Moore College External Studies Correspondence course, for those students living within the Diocese –

- (a) for 2013 in –
  - (i) Preliminary Theological Certificate
  - (ii) Intermediate Theological Certificate
  - (iii) Advanced Theological Certificate
- (b) for 2014 in –
  - (i) the new revised Preliminary Theological Certificate
  - (ii) Introduction to Theological Studies (ITS)

To which the President replied –

We are still working with Moore Theological College to formulate an answer to this question. We anticipate providing an answer tomorrow.

#### 4.9 **Theology Certificate**

Mrs Marguerite Robson asked the following question –

How many students living within the Diocese, who were previously enrolled in Theology Certificate (ThC) studies –

- (a) successfully transitioned to ITS and continued with Moore College External Studies?
- (b) did not successfully transition to ITS?

To which the President replied –

We are still working with Moore Theological College to formulate an answer to this question. We anticipate providing an answer tomorrow.

#### 4.10 **Work Outside the Diocese Committee**

Ms Lynette Bannerman asked the following question –

In 2012, 2013 and 2014 the Dioceses of Armidale, North West Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory received grants from the Synod fund "Work Outside the Diocese".

- (a) Are all Australian Dioceses given the opportunity to apply for assistance from Sydney Diocese?
- (b) Specifically has Bathurst Diocese been considered for assistance?
- (c) Have any Dioceses applied for assistance and been refused, and if so, which?
- (d) Will all Dioceses, including Bathurst, be given an opportunity to apply for 2015 grants?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) There is no restriction on applications for funding for work outside the Diocese. The Work Outside the Diocese Committee welcomes all applications for funding from dioceses, organisations and individuals.
- (b) The Work Outside the Diocese Committee has not received any application from the Diocese of Bathurst.

The Bathurst Bishop in Council and Property Trust and the individual members of these bodies are currently defendants in legal proceedings before the Supreme Court of NSW. The key issues in the court cases concern amounts in excess of \$20 million owed to the Commonwealth Bank. As Archbishop, I have frequent and extensive contact with the Bishop of Bathurst about these matters. The Standing Committee continues to monitor the situation as mentioned in item 6.4 of the Report of the Standing Committee.

There are complex legal, financial and pastoral issues involved in this matter. Together with the Standing Committee, I am seeking to do what is best for all involved. The Bishop of Bathurst has expressed his appreciation of our support and fellowship on a number of occasions.

- (c) All applications for funding are considered by the Work Outside the Diocese Committee in the context of the limited funds made available by the Synod. Every application from a Diocese is considered but it is not uncommon for the amount approved to be lower than the amount sought in the application.
- (d) All Dioceses, including Bathurst have the opportunity to apply for 2015 grants.

#### 4.11 Affiliated churches

Dr Alan Watson asked the following question –

The Standing Committee has declared Flooding Creek Community Church, Sale, Victoria, affiliated with the Diocese of Sydney (2014 Report 4.11).

- (a) What other churches outside our geographical boundaries have thus affiliated with our Diocese since 2005 (*Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005*)?
- (b) What do we know about the effect such affiliation has had on the church(es) involved?
- (c) What pastoral oversight do we offer?
- (d) What do we know about the response of the local Diocese in which they are located to such an affiliation?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Since 2005, we have affiliated with the following 9 churches –

Albury Bible Church	(Albury, NSW)
Crossroads Christian Church	(Lyneham ACT)
Flooding Creek Community Church	(Sale, VIC)
Maitland Evangelical Church	(East Maitland, NSW)
Northern Lakes Evangelical Church	(Woongarah, NSW)
Stanthorpe Evangelical Community Church	(Stanthorpe, QLD)
Stromlo Christian Church formerly Central Evangelical Church	(Chapman, ACT)
The Lakes Evangelical Church	(Berkeley Vale, NSW)
The Point Community Church	(Port Macquarie, NSW)

A current list of affiliated churches is published in each Year Book.

- (b) The feedback received from our affiliated churches from time to time indicates that they value this relationship. First and foremost, I believe they value our prayers and partnership in the gospel. Beyond this, the feedback points to a number of other things which are valued, including –
- The information available from the Diocese on a wide range of matters, for example professional standards and remuneration of ministry staff, and the willingness of Diocesan staff to speak with them about such matters.
  - The commendation given by affiliation that they are Bible-based churches and the natural referral effect this has for those of our members who move or are visiting outside Sydney.
  - The assurance we give in the ordinance that Anglican clergy who pastor an affiliated church will suffer no prejudice if they decide to return to a position in the Diocese.

Perhaps the best way to gain a sense of the significance of affiliation, at least for one church, is to read a note received earlier this year from a pastor of one affiliated church. He writes –

“We have very much appreciated the generosity of your Diocese in extending affiliation to our church.

Over the last 8 years the biggest help has been through your Professional Standards Unit, OH&S matters and fellowship. We are also intending to send our pastoral staff to one of the Faithfulness in Services conferences this year.

It is difficult to imagine how a young, small church like ours would keep abreast of professional standards etc without your help.

Your prayers and encouragement are also wonderful!”

- (c) It is important to note that our affiliates are non-Anglican churches which are and remain independent from us. Our relationship with these churches is one of mutual support and encouragement. We do not offer pastoral oversight.
- (d) Under the processes adopted by the Standing Committee for considering requests for affiliation, we notify the bishop of the diocese in which the church is situated of our intention to affiliate. We do this as a courtesy. In most cases, the bishop has expressed some unhappiness with our intention to affiliate, usually based on an incorrect belief that such churches are somehow Anglican or at least a church plant of this Diocese.

#### 4.12 Archbishop of Canterbury and GAFCON

Dr Alan Watson asked the following question –

I note that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently welcomed the role of GAFCON in challenging the wider Anglican Communion and thereby creating “healthy discomfort”; could you inform the Synod of the –

- (a) relationship of the Diocese to the leadership of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and
- (b) the role our participation in GAFCON is playing to create “healthy discomfort” to the wider communion?

To which the President replied –

- (a) The Anglican Diocese of Sydney, like the Anglican Church of Australia, is in communion with the Church of England.

The Archbishop of Canterbury occupies a unique historical role in the worldwide Anglican Communion which continues to the present time. In May this year I had the considerable pleasure of sharing a meal with Archbishop Welby and his family in their private apartment in Lambeth Palace. I then had a private time of bible study and prayer with the Archbishop. I met Archbishop Welby again when he visited Melbourne in August.

- (b) The Diocese of Sydney as a whole, and individual members of our Diocese, are active in GAFCON, as noted in several motions of our Synod. It is not clear what is encompassed by the term "healthy discomfort". I trust that any discomfort we cause is helpful and godly.

#### 4.13 Frequency and cost of Tribunals

Mr Clive Ellis asked the following question –

- (a) How many tribunals have been conducted in each of the last 5 years?  
 (b) What were the lowest, highest and average costs of these tribunals?  
 (c) What are the major components of the costs?  
 (d) How are the tribunals funded?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Since October 2009 there have been 3 matters which could be considered as "Tribunals". Two matters were concluded in 2011 and one is currently in process.

Financial details of the two concluded matters are -

##### Matter A - Ordained person

Investigation costs	\$48,940
Legal costs	\$11,459
Transcription services	\$5,236
Total external payments	\$65,635

##### Matter B - Ordained person

Investigation costs	\$46,155
Legal costs	\$17,378
Total external payments	\$63,533

##### Matter C - Lay person

Tribunal currently in process

Minimal costs to date but significant costs expected in due course

Additional costs not included above are –

- Each Tribunal matter involves substantial PSU and other staff time which is estimated at \$20,000 to \$40,000 for each matter.
- It is common for a matter before a Tribunal to also involve counselling costs for both the complainant and respondent and their immediate families.
- Subject to the outcome, a Pastoral Care and Assistance payment is usually made to the complainant.

The cost of staff time is included in the operating costs of the PSU and other relevant departments. The external payments are funded from Synod resources.

#### 4.14 Transfers from the Northern Region to the Georges River Region

Mr Rodney Cosier asked the following question –

Between 1 January 2004 and the present time how many rectors of parishes in the Northern Region have resigned to take up a cure of souls in the Georges River Region?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Of the 34 current Rectors in the Georges River Region, 2 were rectors of parishes in the Northern Region immediately prior to their appointment. As a point of interest, this is twice the rate of the other regions.

#### 4.15 Synod and Standing Committee members under 30 years of age

Mrs Tara Jane Sing asked the following question –

How many members of Synod and also Standing Committee are under thirty years of age?

How does this compare to the last three Synods?

What steps, if any, have been taken to encourage participation by younger members?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

This Synod is the first time comprehensive information has been collected about the age of Synod members. There are currently 29 members of Synod aged 18 to 29. As a point of interest, the youngest member is 18 and the oldest member is 86.

There are no current members of Standing Committee aged under 30.

Few formal steps have been taken to encourage the election of younger members, though renewal is at the forefront of the leadership of the Diocese. One example has been the establishment of the Sydney Anglican Lawyer's Network which has a considerable number of younger members.

Parishes may also wish to give consideration to this matter in the election of their Synod representatives.

#### 4.16 Social Issues Committee

Mr Richard Glover asked the following question –

- (a) What is the current membership of the Diocesan Social Issues Executive?
- (b) How are members of SIE appointed?
- (c) How may Synod members go about requesting that particular issues be investigated by SIE?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Social Issues Committee, previously known as the Social Issues Executive, is currently comprised of the following members –

Mr Angus Belling, Dr Megan Best, the Rev Andrew Errington, the Rev Dr Andrew Ford, Mr Darren Mitchell and Dr Karin Sowada.

- (b) The members are appointed by the Standing Committee.

- (c) The Social Issues Committee provides advice to the Archbishop and to the Standing Committee on matters referred to it by them, but may also identify and initiate study and discussion on other social issues. Members of Synod could write to the secretary of the Social Issues Committee with any suggestions.

#### 4.17 Pastoral Care training

Mrs Sally Kliffen asked the following question –

Stemming from the generous and detailed answer to my question at 3.7 of yesterday's Business Paper (14<sup>th</sup> October) and acknowledging that currently the four years of training at Moore College for those seeking ordination to the Presbyterate includes an assessable unit in Ministry and Mission where at least 12 issues of Pastoral Care are covered –

What Pastoral Care training is provided for current parochial ministers who graduated from Moore College before some or all of those 12 issues were covered?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Ministry Training and Development run a Ministry Development Program for new parochial ministers in the first 3 years after their graduation from theological college. Training in pastoral care is integrated throughout the whole program.

Moore Theological College also launched a new Centre for Ministry Development in the first half of 2013, which is headed by the Rev Archie Poulos. The Centre offers a highly tailored individual ministry development program to ministers. The Program involves consideration of the particular skills and needs of the minister, and also their ministry context, in order to focus on specific areas of development. For example, if a minister needs assistance with grief counselling, a program of coaching and assistance can be tailored accordingly.

#### 4.18 Greenfields land purchases

Mr Nathan Heyer asked the following question –

In regard to the greenfields land purchase –

Is there is a time limit in which a building must be placed?

How could the funds be raised?

Also from where would the funds be raised?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Development consents issued by Local Councils typically require physical commencement of the construction of the church building within 2 to 5 years from obtaining development approval. In certain locations there is also a time limit imposed by the developer. For example at Oran Park the church building was required to be constructed within 5 years of acquisition, and in Stockland developments buildings are required to be constructed within 2 years of acquisition. The town planning background of the MPC's executive manager greatly assist in mitigating the risks associated with compliance with developments consents.

The Archbishop has proposed the launching of a Capital Fundraising Campaign through his office. Other possible sources are the sale of surplus lands held by the Mission Property Committee and the proposed sale of 'large receipts' properties by parishes.

#### 4.19 Contingency plans for changes in Local Government Rules

Mr Nathan Heyer asked the following question –

In relation to the greenfields area is there a contingency plan if the Local Government Rules change in relation to the building, zoning and length of time before completion?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Prior to any strategic land acquisition, the MPC conducts robust due diligence which includes an exit strategy to mitigate the risk that a site may no longer be suitable for a church building at the time development consent is sought. The due diligence process includes meetings with the NSW government (including the relevant Minister or their department heads) and local council representatives and independent specialist advice from property professionals (valuation, architectural, town planning, engineering, environmental, traffic etc).

## 5. Petitions

There were no petitions.

## 6. Procedural motions from members

### 6.1 Consideration of further amendments to the text of the *Mission 2020* document

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees to the Rev Peter Lin moving the following procedural motion immediately following the Missionary Hour this evening –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the proposed further amendments to the text of the *Mission 2020* document numbered 1 to 3 on today’s Amendment Sheet.”

Seconded

Canon Sandy Grant moved an amendment to Mr Wicks’ motion –

‘Omit the matter “3” and insert “4”.’

Seconded and carried

Mr Wicks’ motion, as amended, was carried.

### 6.2 Consideration of further amendments to the text of the *Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014*

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

‘Synod agrees to Mr Garth Blake moving the following procedural motion immediately before consideration of the motion at item 7.2 on today’s business paper –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the proposed further amendments to the text of the *Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014* numbered 1 on today’s Amendment Sheet.”,

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent the consideration of the motion at 7.2 immediately following consideration of this amendment.’

Seconded and carried

### 6.3 Calling over of motion concerning General Synod legislation

Dr Robert Tong moved –

“Synod agrees to include the motion at item 7.6 on today's business paper in today's calling of motions on the business paper.”

Seconded and carried

#### 6.4 **Consideration of the Large Property Receipts Policy**

The Rev Craig Roberts moved –

“Synod agrees that if the motion at item 7.13 on today's business paper is carried then –

- (a) further consideration of the Large Property Receipts Policy (the Policy) be referred to the next ordinary session of the Synod in 2015, and
- (b) the Standing Committee be requested to consult with parishes about the Policy with a view to bringing a revised form of the Policy to the next ordinary session of the Synod taking into account feedback received during the consultation together with any proposed amendments to the text of the Policy appearing on tomorrow's Amendment Sheet.”

Seconded and carried

#### 6.5 **Withdrawal of motion on identifying and sharing large income receipts**

Canon Grant moved –

“That the motion at item 7.13.1 on today's business paper be withdrawn.”

Seconded and carried

#### 6.6 **Withdrawal of motion on decisions for funding**

Mrs Susan Hooke moved –

“That the motion at item 7.19 on today's business paper be withdrawn.”

Seconded and carried

### 7. Calling of motions on the business paper

The President called the motions in order in which they appeared on the business paper, except those motions about a proposed ordinance.

#### 7.1 **General Synod 2014 Legislation**

Dr Robert Tong moved –

“Synod receives the report on General Synod 2014 Legislation and adopts the recommendations made in that report.”

Seconded and carried

#### 7.2 **Ministries of Christ-like compassion**

Having been granted leave, the Rev David Mansfield moved –

“Synod notes –

- (i) the imperative to love our neighbour as ourselves,
  - (ii) that Jesus urges us to do good works so that those around us will praise our Father in heaven,
- (a) affirms its commitment to ministries of Christ-like compassion that seek to not only love those in need but, as a matter of priority, seek to do so in a manner that provides every opportunity to proclaim the gospel,

- (b) commends the work of Anglicare in its mission of good works and gospel proclamation through Christ-centred services, which are conducted in partnership with parishes wherever possible,
- (c) commends the upcoming “Festival of Just Ideas” hosted by Anglican Aid on Saturday 25 October, and
- (d) encourages parishes and other organisations to consider and enact ways in which they may love their neighbours and be involved in such ministries of Christ-like compassion.”

Seconded and carried

### 7.3 Sydney Diocesan Doctrine Commission membership and reports

Dr David Oakenfull moved –

“That Synod requests that –

- (a) the membership of the Sydney Diocesan Doctrine Commission be posted on the Diocesan website, and
- (b) links to the full texts of the Commission’s reports since the year 2000 be provided at the same web location.”

Seconded and carried

### 7.4 Church Land Acquisitions Levy

Mr Glenn Murray moved –

‘Synod requests the Standing Committee to provide the 2015 Synod session with a report of the mid and long term views of the need for the Mission Property Committee (MPC) “Church Land Acquisitions Levy”.

Synod requests that this report should also outline possible future strategies for raising these funds from parishes and other sources so that parishes may be informed of expected financial commitments for mid and long term planning purposes.’

Seconded and carried

### 7.5 Retention of marriage licence and same sex marriage

The Rev Ramon Robinson moved –

Synod requests Standing Committee to establish a working party to consider the wisdom of clergy keeping their marriage licence if same sex marriage becomes a reality.

Seconded and carried

### 7.6 Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Bill

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

“Synod notes the exposure draft of the Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Bill 2014 currently being considered in the Australian Senate.

Consistent with its previous resolutions, Synod advises all federal senators from NSW that it would oppose passing into law in Australia this bill or any similar bill permitting euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide.

Synod urges legislators to put their efforts into funding the improved provision of palliative care.”

Seconded and carried

The President noted with thanks the evidence given by Dr Megan Best on behalf of the Diocese at the recent Senate Committee hearing on the Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Bill 2014.

## 7.7 Ministry progress and brownfields' grants

The Rev Zac Veron moved –

“Synod rejoices in the ministry progress of the 10 brownfields churches which received grants from the \$20 million taken out of the Diocesan Endowment last decade for various church building projects, and Synod gives thanks to God for the 28% growth in church members in total for the 9 of those churches which have reliable attendance statistics spanning the years 2004 to 2013, lifting diocesan offertories in 2013 by \$2,722,588 more than what was received by those 9 churches in total in 2004 (121% increase in offertories from those 9 churches).

Synod requests the Standing Committee to investigate what conclusions can be drawn from these statistics, including whether adequate church building facilities is an important strategy in assisting growing brownfields churches to grow further and introduce Jesus to more people, and whether more resources raised from parishes and/or the Diocesan Endowment, and then applied to similar projects that the \$20million was applied to, will assist further and accelerated growth in church attendance across the Diocese. Synod further requests that Standing Committee’s investigation be reported to the Synod in 2015, together with any possible recommendations flowing from the investigation on how more capital funds could be raised for brownfields church building enhancement projects.”

Seconded and carried

## 8. Motions

### 8.1 Thanksgiving for the ministry of Dean Phillip Jensen

The Rev Ray Galea moved –

“This Synod, recognising that this will be the last session at which Dean Phillip Jensen will be present, thanks God for the long and valuable ministry of Phillip Jensen in this Diocese. Phillip’s ministry at the Department of Evangelism, the University of New South Wales, St Matthias Centennial Park, and most recently at St Andrews Cathedral, and at the Department of Ministry, Training and Development, as well as on many boards and as a member of many organisations in the Diocese has been outstanding. His energy, his single-minded devotion to Christ and his gospel, his passion for evangelism, fuelled by that of the Lord Jesus himself, have all contributed to a ministry of extraordinary faithfulness and extraordinary effectiveness. He revitalised the Katoomba Conventions ministry and created both the Ministry Training Strategy and Matthias Media. Under his leadership, a generation of men and women were mobilised for ministry both here and around the world. Phillip is recognised by evangelicals all over the world as one of the most significant Christian leaders to have emerged from Sydney in the last fifty years and this Diocese has been blessed by God through him. Many in this Synod can give more personal thanks to God for Phillip’s ministry, by which they were brought to faith or deepened in faith or challenged to give their lives to the proclamation of Christ to a needy world. As he moves into another sphere of ministry, this Synod thanks God for both Phillip and Helen and commits ourselves to pray for them and for the work they will continue to do to see the Lord Jesus honoured in this city and around the world.”

Seconded and carried

The Rev David Mansfield led the Synod in a prayer of thanks for Dean Jensen and his family.

### 8.2 Thanksgiving for the ministry of Bishop Peter Tasker

Having been granted leave, Mr Clive Ellis moved –

“Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Right Reverend Peter Tasker, to this Synod, our Diocese and world mission, and in particular –

- (a) his indefatigable commitment to the Georges River Region as Bishop of Liverpool from 2002-09;
- (b) his willingness to continue as Acting Bishop for the Georges River Region from 2009 onwards, while he exercised his role as Archbishop of Sydney's Bishop for International Relations from 2009;
- (c) his tireless commitment to and promotion of cross-cultural mission in the Synod as well as through his role as CMS NSW General Secretary (1978-92);
- (d) his faithful decade of ministry as rector of Dapto (1992-2001);
- (e) his missionary service in the Diocese of Singapore and West Malaysia when he served with CMS in Penang (1969-76);
- (f) his commitment to the work of the gospel and the glory of God over 50 years of ordained ministry.

Synod expresses its gratitude to Peter and wishes him and his wife, Joan, God's blessing upon them as they continue to serve the risen Christ in their 'retirement'."

Seconded and carried

The Rev Dr Margaret Powell led the Synod in a prayer of thanks for Bishop Tasker and his family.

### 8.3 Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014

Mr Garth Blake SC moved –

"That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the proposed further amendments to the text of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 numbered 1 on today's Amendment Sheet."

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed ordinance was further considered by the Synod in Committee. After consideration of the text had been completed, the Chairman reported the proposed ordinance with a further amendment.

Mr Michael Easton moved –

"That the report of the Chairman of Committees be adopted."

Seconded and carried

Mr Easton moved –

"That the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2014 pass as an ordinance of the Synod."

Seconded and carried

### 8.4 Further review of the Discipline Ordinance 2006

Mr Garth Blake SC moved –

"Synod requests the Standing Committee to appoint a committee consisting of three lay persons and three members of the clergy together with a person to be appointed by the Archbishop with the following terms of reference –

- (a) to review the *Discipline Ordinance 2006* and related disciplinary ordinances,
- (b) to consult with the other Dioceses in the Province with a view to exploring the feasibility of a uniform disciplinary regime in the Province,

- (c) to bring a report and any proposed amending or replacement ordinance or ordinances to the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Synod.”

Seconded and carried

**8.5 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014**

Ms Michelle England moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

Ms England moved –

“That Synod agree to consider passing the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014 formally.”

Seconded and carried

Ms England spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The President asked –

‘Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?’

There were no questions.

Ms England moved –

“That the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014 pass formally as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

**8.6 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014**

Ms Michelle England moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

Ms England moved –

“That Synod agree to consider passing the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014 formally.”

Seconded and carried

Ms England spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?”

There were no questions.

Ms England moved –

“That the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014 Assenting Ordinance 2014 pass formally as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

**8.7 General Synod – Use of Church Names Canon 1989 Amendment Canon 2014 Adopting Ordinance 2014**

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the General Synod – Use of Church Names Canon 1989 Amendment Canon 2014 Adopting Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Wicks moved –

“That Synod agree to consider passing the General Synod – Use of Church Names Canon 1989 Amendment Canon 2014 Adopting Ordinance 2014 formally.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Wicks spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?”

There were questions.

After a time for questions, the President asked –

“Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?”

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

Mr Wicks moved –

“That the General Synod – Use of Church Names Canon 1989 Amendment Canon 2014 Adopting Ordinance 2014 pass formally as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

**8.8 Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1998 Amendment Ordinance 2014**

Mr Neil Cameron moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1998 Amendment Ordinance 2014.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Cameron moved –

“That Synod agree to consider passing the Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1998 Amendment Ordinance 2014 formally.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Cameron spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The President asked –

"Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?"

There were questions.

After a time for questions, the President asked –

"Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?"

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

Mr Cameron moved –

"That the Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1998 Amendment Ordinance 2014 pass formally as an ordinance of the Synod."

Seconded and carried

## 8.9 Immigration policy and child detention

Debate resumed on the following motion moved by the Rev Dr Michael Jensen –

"Synod, noting –

- (i) the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for us, compels us to love neighbours and even enemies, and
- (ii) the difficulty of framing a just refugee policy in a war torn and poverty stricken world, and
- (iii) the intention of political leaders to achieve a just outcome in trying circumstances, and
- (iv) the concern of bodies like the AMA for the mental health of children of asylum seekers in detention, and
- (v) that there remain many hundreds of such children in detention, and
- (vi) recognising that, as with the lawyer's question to Jesus in Luke 10:29 our sinful evasion of responsibility for siblings and neighbours continues –
- (a) calls on the government to remove children from all forms of detention under Australian jurisdiction, and
- (b) commits to pray for the Prime Minister and for the Minister for Immigration in their work."

Having been granted leave, the Rev Christopher Pears revised the form of the amendment to the motion he previously moved to read as follows –

'Insert the word "immigration" before the word "detention" in paragraph (iv).'

Mr Michael Meek SC moved the following amendment –

'Omit paragraph (a) and insert instead the following –

- "(a) calls on the Australian government to end the immigration detention of children, and".'

Dr Jensen accepted the amendment Mr Meek and the revised form of Mr Pears' amendment.

Dr Jensen's motion, as amended, was carried in the following form –

"Synod, noting –

- (i) the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for us, compels us to love neighbours and even enemies, and
- (ii) the difficulty of framing a just refugee policy in a war torn and poverty stricken world, and

- (iii) the intention of political leaders to achieve a just outcome in trying circumstances, and
- (iv) the concern of bodies like the AMA for the mental health of children of asylum seekers in immigration detention, and
- (v) that there remain many hundreds of such children in detention, and
- (vi) recognising that, as with the lawyer's question to Jesus in Luke 10:29 our sinful evasion of responsibility for siblings and neighbours continues –
- (a) calls on the Australian government to end the immigration detention of children, and
- (b) commits to pray for the Prime Minister and for the Minister for Immigration in their work.”

#### 8.10 **Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014**

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“That the *Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 Amendment Ordinance 2014* pass as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

### 9. Adjournment

At 5:34 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.00 pm tonight.”

Seconded and carried

### Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.00 pm.

### 10. Missionary Hour

Dr Wendy LeMarquand and the Rt Rev Grant LeMarquand from Ethiopia gave a presentation about the work of the Diocese of Egypt in the Gambella Region of the Horn of Africa. Following the presentation, the Archbishop led the Synod in prayer for this work.

### 11. Motions

#### 11.1 **Mission 2020 document**

The Archbishop made a statement about the development and purpose of the *Mission 2020* document.

The Rev Peter Lin moved –

“That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the proposed further amendments to the text of the *Mission 2020* document numbered 1 to 4 on today's Amendment Sheet.”

Seconded and carried

The text of the proposed *Mission 2020* document was further considered by the Synod in Committee. After consideration of the text had been completed, the Chairman reported the proposed *Mission 2020* document with amendments.

Mr Lin moved –

“That the report of the Chairman of Committees be adopted.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Lin moved –

“That Synod agrees to consider tomorrow a motion that the Synod welcomes the *Mission 2020* document and agrees to adopt *Mission 2020* set out in that document.”

Seconded and carried

## 11.2 Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations

Dr Laurie Scandrett moved –

“That the *Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations* pass as a policy of the Synod.”

Seconded

Mr Ian Miller moved as a procedural motion –

“That the Synod resolve itself into the Synod in Committee to consider further the text of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations.”

Mr Miller’s procedural motion was not carried.

Dr Scandrett’s motion was carried without amendment.

## 11.3 Implementation of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations

Dr Laurie Scandrett moved –

“Synod –

- (a) requests each diocesan organisation to review the Governance Standards and Policy Guidelines in the Governance Policy and to take appropriate action to achieve conformity with the Governance Standards and, where appropriate, the Policy Guidelines, including through the promotion of amendments to the ordinance by which the diocesan organisation is constituted or otherwise regulated by the Synod, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to amend the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* to require the chair of each organisation to include as part of its annual report to the first ordinary session of each Synod a statement which –
  - (i) assesses the extent to which the organisation’s governance arrangements conform with the standards and guidelines in the Governance Policy, and
  - (ii) explains any areas of non-conformity, and
- (c) authorises the Standing Committee to make amendments to the Governance Policy unless before such amendment is made, any 3 members of the Standing Committee request in writing that the amendment be referred to the Synod and provided any amendment made by the Standing Committee is reported to the next ordinary session of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

## 11.4 Solidarity and support for Christians in Iraq and Syria

The Rev Michael Williamson moved –

‘Synod, remembering that our Lord said –

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first” (John 15:18),

- (a) expresses its dismay at the horrific persecution of Christians throughout Iraq and Syria in recent months,

- (b) commits to pray for Christians throughout the region, including Canon Andrew White (St George's Anglican Church Baghdad), for protection, provision and perseverance,
- (c) encourages all Christians in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East to stand firm in the faith, to proclaim the Gospel, to trust in God, who is our constant strength and refuge, and to pray, and
- (d) calls upon all Sydney Anglicans and Christians everywhere to support these persecuted brothers and sisters by –
  - (i) continuing faithfully in prayer, asking God to give them peace and assurance and a renewed commitment to forgiveness along with a passion to share the Gospel of hope,
  - (ii) warmly welcoming them into our churches and communities and considering what practical steps can be taken to assist them in their strife,
  - (iii) giving generously to the Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid Iraq Relief Appeal,
  - (iv) increasing awareness of their plight by sharing accurate reports from the region (to promote prayer and concern),
  - (v) considering the use in social media and other contexts of the Arabic letter 'N' which has been painted on the doors of Christians throughout the region, thus making them targets of persecution,
  - (vi) calling on our Australian Government to act wisely and compassionately in light of this crisis, and
  - (vii) keeping our own eyes fixed on the living hope we have in Christ, despite the persecution of Christians throughout the world.'

Seconded and carried

The Rev Michael Kellahan led the Synod in prayer for this matter.

## 12. Procedural motion

### 12.1 Consideration of the *Mission 2020* document and the Large Property Receipts Policy

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod agrees to suspend so many of the business rules as would prevent the consideration of any motion concerning the *Mission 2020* document and the Large Property Receipts Policy from 4.00 pm tomorrow.”

Seconded

Mr Doug Marr moved as an amendment –

‘That the words “any motion concerning the *Mission 2020* document and the Large Property Receipts Policy” be deleted and the words “any remaining business” be inserted instead.’

Having been granted leave, Mr Marr withdrew his amendment.

Mr Wicks' procedural motion was carried.

## 13. Motions

### 13.1 Christians and other persecuted minority groups in Iraq and Syria

Bishop Robert Forsyth moved –

“Synod –

- (a) expresses its deep sorrow and dismay at the extreme religious and political persecution currently being faced by Christians and other minority groups in northern Iraq and Syria,
- (b) prays that God might graciously impart compassion and profound wisdom on all those involved in responding to alleviate the plight of such peoples, and
- (c) commends the Federal Government on its actions to date in setting aside 4,400 places in the Special Humanitarian Program in 2014-15 for Iraqi and Syrian people facing persecution,
- (d) noting that other Western democracies including Germany, Norway and Sweden have increased their overall intake of asylum-seekers in order to accept additional numbers of Iraqi and Syrian refugees, calls on the Federal Government to –
  - (i) temporarily increase the places available in the 2014-15 and 2015-16 Special Humanitarian Program to allow for additional resettlement of Christians and other persecuted groups of people from Iraq and Syria, and
  - (ii) take any necessary steps to process all applications for asylum in Australia as expeditiously as possible, and
- (e) respectfully requests the Archbishop to convey the above terms of this resolution to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection.”

Seconded

The Rev Michael Kellahan moved the following amendment –

‘That a new paragraph be inserted (with consequent relettering of existing paragraph (e)) –

- “(e) respectfully requests the Archbishop to thank the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection for the many times he has taken an interest in refugees who have been in our own church communities, and”

Seconded

Mr Kellahan’s amendment was carried.

Bishop Forsyth’s motion, as amended, was carried in the following form –

“Synod –

- (a) expresses its deep sorrow and dismay at the extreme religious and political persecution currently being faced by Christians and other minority groups in northern Iraq and Syria,
- (b) prays that God might graciously impart compassion and profound wisdom on all those involved in responding to alleviate the plight of such peoples, and
- (c) commends the Federal Government on its actions to date in setting aside 4,400 places in the Special Humanitarian Program in 2014-15 for Iraqi and Syrian people facing persecution,
- (d) noting that other Western democracies including Germany, Norway and Sweden have increased their overall intake of asylum-seekers in order to accept additional numbers of Iraqi and Syrian refugees, calls on the Federal Government to –
  - (i) temporarily increase the places available in the 2014-15 and 2015-16 Special Humanitarian Program to allow for additional resettlement of Christians and other persecuted groups of people from Iraq and Syria, and
  - (ii) take any necessary steps to process all applications for asylum in Australia as expeditiously as possible, and

- (e) respectfully requests the Archbishop to thank the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection for the many times he has taken an interest in refugees who have been in our own church communities, and
- (f) respectfully requests the Archbishop to convey the above terms of this resolution to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection.”

## Adjournment

At 9.27 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3:15 pm on Tuesday 21 October 2014.”

We certify that, to the best of our recollection, these minutes are a correct record of the Synod’s proceedings.

Two Members of the )  
Minute Reading Committee )

Signed by the President

21 October 2014

# 50<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

## 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session

### Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Tuesday 21 October 2014

#### 1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 3.15 pm.

#### 2. Devotions

The Synod was led in devotions by Bishop Peter Tasker.

#### 3. Minutes

The President signed the minutes for Monday 20 October 2014.

#### 4. Motions

##### 4.1 Leadership of Devotions

Having been granted leave, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“Synod records its appreciation of the preaching and leadership of Bishop Peter Tasker for the Synod Service and the devotions during remainder of this session.”

Seconded and carried by acclamation

#### 5. Answers to Questions

##### 5.1 Moore Theological College External Studies Correspondence course

Mrs Marguerite Robson asked the following question –

What were the student enrolment numbers in Moore College External Studies Correspondence course, for those students living within the Diocese –

- (a) for 2013 in –
  - (i) Preliminary Theological Certificate
  - (ii) Intermediate Theological Certificate
  - (iii) Advanced Theological Certificate
- (b) for 2014 in –
  - (i) the new revised Preliminary Theological Certificate
  - (ii) Introduction to Theological Studies (ITS)

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answers are as follows -

- (a) Based on postcode there were 2,196 enrolments in total from within the geographical area of the Sydney Diocese. The introduction of changes in the distance education program in 2012/2013, including the size of each stage and the difference between core and elective subjects, make a precise number in each stage difficult to calculate.

- (b)(i) 615 enrolments from students within the geographical area of the Sydney Diocese.
- (ii) 66 different people have been enrolled in a unit of the Introduction to Theological Studies course over the three terms of this year from students within the geographical area of the Sydney Diocese. Over the same period there were an additional 1,018 enrolments in the Theology Certificate course.

## 5.2 Theology Certificate

Mrs Marguerite Robson asked the following question –

How many students living within the Diocese, who were previously enrolled in Theology Certificate (ThC) studies –

- (a) successfully transitioned to ITS and continued with Moore College External Studies?  
 (b) did not successfully transition to ITS?

To which the President replied –

This question is difficult to answer as the transition is still in process for some. For the same reason it is difficult to identify those who did not successfully transition to the Introduction to Theological Studies course. Some people are still considering which of the new available options suit them the best.

At this point in time (with an entire academic term to go in 2014) the following gives the number of PTC/ITC students from 2013 who are enrolled in one of the new programs -

Introduction to Theological Studies	8
Moore Access	116
New PTC	49
Continuing PTC	324

## 6. Petitions

There were no petitions.

## 7. Procedural motions from members

### 7.1 Calling of motion concerning the Viability and Structures report

Dr Robert Tong moved –

“Synod agrees to include the motion at item 7.4 on today's business paper in today's calling of motions on the business paper.”

Seconded

Dr Tong's procedural motion was not carried.

## 8. Motions from members

### 8.1 Bishop Ken Short

Having been granted leave, Bishop Peter Tasker moved –

‘This Synod notes with great sorrow the death of Bishop Ken Short last Sunday evening. We give thanks to God for the extraordinary ministry of Ken, who has faithfully served his Lord and Saviour throughout his life and has been a blessing to others in his various ministries as an elder statesman of the Diocese of Sydney, missionary in Tanganyika, evangelist, parish rector, military chaplain, regional bishop, Dean of Sydney and Bishop of the Defence Forces. We pray for his widow Gloria and the family as they grieve their

loss; yet rejoice with them in the sure and certain knowledge that our brother Ken is now “at home with the Lord”.

Seconded and carried by acclamation

Bishop Tasker led the Synod in a prayer of thanksgiving for Bishop Short and for his family.

## 8.2 **Motion concerning the Rev Barry Lee**

Having been granted leave, Canon Sandy Grant moved –

“Synod recalls that ‘God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honour to the parts that lacked it’ (1 Corinthians 12:24), gives great thanks to God for the ‘unsung heroes’ of the ministry in our diocese, and express our gratitude for their quiet and faithful service.

We note especially that this is the last Synod of the Reverend Barry Lee, after almost 40 years of ordained ministry in our diocese, as Curate at Camden, Lalor Park with Seven Hills, Normanhurst, Rector of Ashbury, Assistant Minister at St Philip's Castle Cove in the parish of Roseville East, and as Curate-in-Charge, then Rector of Robertson for the last 15 years.”

Seconded and carried by acclamation

## 8.3 **Former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam**

Having been granted leave, the Rev Bob Cameron moved –

“Synod notes with sadness the death of former Prime Minister of Australia, Gough Whitlam, acknowledges his diverse and significant contribution to our national life, and assures all those who are mourning his death of its prayers for them.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Cameron led the Synod in a prayer of thanks for the life of Gough Whitlam and for his family.

## 9. Calling of motions on the business paper

There were no items called over.

## 10. Motions

### 10.1 **Mission 2020 document**

The Rev Peter Lin moved –

“Synod welcomes the *Mission 2020* document and agrees to adopt *Mission 2020* set out in that document.”

Seconded and carried unanimously

The Rev Hayden Smith led the Synod in prayer, concluding with the Lord’s Prayer.

### 10.2 **Strategic Research Group**

Having been granted leave, Bishop Ivan Lee moved his motion in the following form –

“Synod –

- (a) welcomes the establishment of the Strategic Research Group (SRG),
- (b) encourages the SRG to identify, research, evaluate and develop high level vision, strategy and structure which optimise the capacity of the diocesan network to achieve the Mission goals,

- (c) encourages the SRG to investigate ways of church gathering and mission that may prove effective in reaching those people who are unlikely to attend the majority of our current churches,
- (d) encourages the SRG to develop strategies to assist parishes to clarify, research, evaluate and implement ways to achieve the Mission goals as appropriate to their local context, and
- (e) invites all Anglican organisations within the Diocese, including schools, to embrace the vision of seeing Christ honoured in their communities and to partner with parishes in light of the four Priorities of the Mission.”

Seconded

The Rev Dr Martin Bragger moved the following amendment –

‘Replace the matter at paragraph (c) with the following –

“requests the SRG to research and investigate the development of alternative models of church that are –

- theologically Anglican
- not our current ‘Christendom’ form
- essentially missional”

Seconded

The Rev Jodie McNeill moved the following amendment –

‘Insert a new subparagraph (c) after subparagraph (b) (with consequential renumbering of the remaining subparagraphs) as follows –

“(c) requests that the SRG engage the services of the NCLS to conduct an annual survey of parishes in order to report every year to the Synod on the progress of the measurable goals of the Mission, and agrees that necessary funding for this reporting be allocated within the coming triennial budget,”

Seconded

The Rev Raj Gupta moved the following as an amendment to Mr McNeill’s amendment –

“(c) requests the SRG to consider the feasibility of engaging the services of the NCLS to conduct an annual survey of parishes, in order to report every year to the Synod on the progress of the goals of the Mission, and requests Standing Committee to consider funding such a project if requested by the SRG.”

Seconded

The Rev Simon Flinders moved the following amendment –

“Delete paragraph (c).”

Seconded

Mr James Mann moved the following motion –

‘In paragraph (b), delete the words, “high level vision”.’

Seconded

Canon Rick Smith moved the following amendment –

‘In paragraph (e), insert the words “as Lord and Saviour” after the words “seeing Christ honoured”.’

Seconded

Bishop Lee accepted the amendment of Canon Smith.

The amendments of Mr Mann, Dr Bragger and Mr Flinders were not carried.

Mr Gupta’s amendment to Mr McNeill’s amendment was carried.

Mr McNeill’s amendment, as amended, was not carried.

Canon Smith’s amendment was carried.

Bishop Lee’s motion, as amended, was carried in the following form –

“Synod –

- (a) welcomes the establishment of the Strategic Research Group (SRG),
- (b) encourages the SRG to identify, research, evaluate and develop high level vision, strategy and structure which optimise the capacity of the diocesan network to achieve the Mission goals,
- (c) encourages the SRG to investigate ways of church gathering and mission that may prove effective in reaching those people who are unlikely to attend the majority of our current churches,
- (d) encourages the SRG to develop strategies to assist parishes to clarify, research, evaluate and implement ways to achieve the Mission goals as appropriate to their local context, and
- (e) invites all Anglican organisations within the Diocese, including schools, to embrace the vision of seeing Christ honoured as Lord and Saviour in their communities and to partner with parishes in light of the four Priorities of the Mission.”

### 10.3 Large Property Receipts Policy

The following motion was taken to have been moved and seconded –

“That the Large Property Receipts Policy be approved in principle.”

The President asked –

“Does any member have a question about the proposed policy?”

There were questions.

After a time for questions the President asked –

“Does the Synod consider that sufficient time has been allowed for questions?”

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

## 11. Procedural motions

### 11.1 Consideration of business until 7.00 pm

Mr Robert Wicks moved the following procedural motion –

“Synod agrees to continue dealing with its remaining business until 7:00 pm tonight (without the 20 minute informal discussion following consideration of the Viability and Structures Report) with a view to adjourning the session at or about that time.”

Seconded

Mr Wicks’ procedural motion was not carried.

## 12. Adjournment

At 5:55 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.00 pm tonight.”

Seconded and carried

## Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.00 pm.

## 13. Motions

### 13.1 Large Property Receipts Policy

Consideration of the Large Property Receipts Policy resumed.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak against the motion, or move an amendment to it?”

There was a member who wished to move an amendment to the motion.

The Rev Andrew Katay moved the following amendment –

‘Add the following text to the end of the motion –

“subject to confirmation that, in the Chancellor’s opinion, the varying of trusts for the purpose of implementing the large receipts policy is legal.”

Seconded

The Rev Brian Tung moved the following amendment –

‘Add the following text to the end of the motion –

“provided that the operation of the existing policy will be suspended until the Synod endorse the new policy as a policy of the Synod, provided that the existing policy will still apply to transactions that are the subject of the policy prior to this resolution taking effect, such as leases or renewal of leases under ordinances that are the subject of the policy.”

Seconded

Having been granted leave, Mr Katay moved a procedural motion –

“That the amendment in my name be withdrawn.”

Seconded and carried

Mr Tung's amendment was not carried.

The motion that the policy be approved in principle was put and was carried without amendment.

### 13.2 Synod attendance

Ms Nicola Warwick-Mayo moved –

“Synod, noting the report on Synod attendance and the desirability of seeking ways to increase the attendance and participation of members at Synod sessions, agrees to trial the following arrangements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the Synod in 2015 –

- (a) consistent with resolution 31/13, continue to hold the session over 5 appointed days but, pursuant to rule 1.1(2) of the business rules, commence meeting at the later time of 3.45pm on each appointed day,
- (b) schedule a shorter dinner break from 5.45 to 6.45pm on each appointed day (other than the first day),
- (c) schedule the conclusion of business at the earlier time of 9.00pm on each appointed day,
- (d) schedule all business involving the consideration of motions (other than formal and procedural motions, motions for the unopposed introduction of a proposed ordinance and motions for the reclassification of a provisional parish) after 4.30pm on each appointed day, and
- (e) beyond the Presidential Address and the Missionary Hour, keep to a minimum presentations and other business not involving the consideration of motions and, to the extent possible, schedule such business before 5.00 pm on each appointed day, including the Presidential Address and Missionary Hour,

and –

- (f) requests the Standing Committee to ensure, as far as possible, that the business it promotes to the Synod focuses on significant issues of policy and strategic direction and that it avoids promoting to the Synod technical or administrative business which can be dealt with by the Standing Committee under its delegated authority,
- (g) requests members who are likely to be unable to attend and participate in any part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the Synod in 2015 to take early action to investigate and pursue options and arrangements that will enable them to attend and participate in the whole of the session, and
- (h) requests members who, after exhausting such avenues, are still unable to attend and participate in any part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the Synod in 2015 to consider, in the case of parochial ministers and parochial representatives, appointing an alternate for the session or, in the case of elected or appointed members, resigning their membership to enable the election or appointment of those who can.”

Seconded

Mrs Margaret Rumbold moved the following amendment –

‘Omit the paragraph (e) and insert instead as follows –

- “(e) all presentations and business not involving the consideration of motions be kept to a minimum, with the exception of the Presidential Address and the Missionary Hour; and that, as far as is possible, all such presentations and business, including the Presidential Address and the Missionary Hour, be scheduled before 5.00pm on each appointed day”.’

Seconded

Miss Joanna Warren moved the following amendment –

'In paragraph (e), insert the word "not" before the word "including".'

Seconded

The Rev David Clarke moved the following amendment –

'Insert new paragraph (i) as follows –

- "(i) requests the Standing Committee to review the procedures and ordinances relating to alternate and replacement synod representatives with a view to streamline the process and remove obstacles."

Seconded

Mr Bruce York moved a procedural motion –

"That voting be taken separately for paragraphs (a) – (e) and then for paragraphs (f) – (i)."

Seconded

Mr James Flavin moved an amendment to Mr York's procedural motion –

"That each paragraph of the motion be put seriatim."

Seconded

Mr Flavin's amendment to Mr York's procedural motion was carried.

Mr York's procedural motion, as amended, was put and carried.

The amendments of Miss Warren, Mrs Rumbold and Mr Clarke were carried.

The paragraphs of Ms Warwick-Mayo's motion, as amended, were put seriatim –

- (a) – not carried
- (b) – not carried
- (c) – not carried
- (d) – not carried
- (e) – not carried
- (f) – carried
- (g) – carried
- (h) – carried
- (i) – carried

Miss Warwick-Mayo's motion was declared carried in the following form (with editorial and consequential amendments) –

"Synod, noting the report on Synod attendance and the desirability of seeking ways to increase the attendance and participation of members at Synod sessions –

- (a) requests the Standing Committee to ensure, as far as possible, that the business it promotes to the Synod focuses on significant issues of policy and strategic direction and that it avoids promoting to the Synod technical or administrative business which can be dealt with by the Standing Committee under its delegated authority,
- (b) requests members who are likely to be unable to attend and participate in any part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the Synod in 2015 to take early action to investigate and pursue options and arrangements that will enable them to attend and participate in the whole of the session,
- (c) requests members who, after exhausting such avenues, are still unable to attend and participate in any part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the Synod in 2015 to consider, in the case of parochial ministers and parochial representatives,

appointing an alternate for the session or, in the case of elected or appointed members, resigning their membership to enable the election or appointment of those who can, and

- (d) requests the Standing Committee to review the procedures and ordinances relating to alternate and replacement synod representatives with a view to streamlining the process and removing obstacles.”

### 13.3 Report of the Viability and Structures Task Force

Dr Robert Tong moved –

‘Synod, noting –

- (i) the Report of the Viability and Structures Task Force (the “Viability Report”) considered at this year’s session of General Synod, and
  - (ii) the response of the General Synod to the Viability Report in resolution 65/14 (the “Viability resolution”), particularly the referral of the Viability Report to the dioceses for their consideration and response to the Standing Committee of the General Synod by 31 October 2014,
- (a) expresses its preliminary view that changing the structures, policies and leadership of the Anglican Church of Australia (the “ACA”) will not, of itself, adequately address the underlying challenges faced by the ACA, although agrees that the focus of work in these areas may best be pursued on a provincial basis,
  - (b) calls on the Standing Committee of the General Synod to ensure that clarity and confidence in the content of the gospel message and its faithful proclamation in word and deed across the ACA, particularly in the context of local Anglican churches, are at the fore of any proposal to respond to these challenges,
  - (c) affirms its commitment to the diocese as the unit of organisation of the ACA and therefore calls on the Standing Committee of the General Synod to ensure that it consults widely with dioceses about the Viability Report and the Viability Resolution over a reasonable time frame before formulating any significant proposals which may require the support of dioceses,
  - (d) opposes as a matter of principle any proposal which would involve an increase in the central powers of the General Synod as a means by which the challenges faced by the ACA are sought to be addressed,
  - (e) considers that the expectation of a considered response from dioceses to the Viability Report by 31 October 2014 is unrealistic,

and invites Synod members to send any comments on the Viability Report and Viability resolution to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 December 2014 and requests our Standing Committee to respond to the Viability Report and the Viability Resolution taking any comments from Synod members into account.’

Seconded and carried

A period of 30 minutes followed the consideration of the motion during which members provided informal comment on the Viability Report and Viability Resolution, with a record of such comments being taken by the Secretary of the Synod to be taken into account by the Standing Committee in its response to the Viability Report and Viability Resolution.

The Archbishop led the Synod in prayer for the Anglican Church in Australia.

## 14. Closure

### 14.1 Officers of the Synod

Having been granted leave, Bishop Robert Forsyth moved –

“Synod records its appreciation of –

- (a) the President for his chairmanship, and
- (b) the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Committees for their work in the Committee stages of ordinances, and
- (c) the members who helped during the session by giving advice and serving on committees, and
- (d) the services given by the Secretary, the staff of SDS, the Archbishop’s Office and Anglican Media, the music team and all those who have helped with the arrangements for sittings.”

Seconded and carried

**14.2 Minutes of 21 October 2014**

Having been granted leave, Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod authorises the President to sign the minutes of 21 October 2014 upon the production to the Standing Committee of the certificate of any 2 members of the Minute Reading Committee.”

Seconded and carried

**14.3 Hymn and Benediction**

Members joined in the singing of the hymn “Your Hand, O God, Has Guided” after which the President gave the Benediction.

**14.4 Adjournment**

Mr Doug Marr moved –

“Synod adjourns without appointing another day of meeting.”

Seconded and carried

The Archbishop led the Synod in the Grace.

We certify that, to the best of our recollection, these minutes are a correct record of the Synod’s proceedings.

Two Members of the )  
Minute Reading Committee )

Signed by the President

10 November 2014