

51st Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

2nd Ordinary Session

Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Wednesday 17 October 2018

1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 3.15 pm.

2. Bible study

The Rev John Lavender led the Bible study.

3. Minutes

The President signed the minutes for Tuesday 16 October 2018.

4. Declaration of Contested Elections

The Archbishop declared the results of the contested election.

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

5. Recommendation from the Order of Business Committee

Mr Daniel Glynn moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) agrees to reschedule items of business as shown in marked form on the Timetable for Synod Business,
- (b) agrees that the Bill at B1 is to be taken no later than 8:00 pm tonight, followed by the Bill at B2,
- (c) agrees to schedule a callover on Tuesday 23 October at 7:00 pm in addition to the afternoon callover,
- (d) agrees to consider the motion at M14 (Gender representation on Diocesan boards and committees) at any suitable time, including on the callover, from Monday 22 October,
- (e) notes that the following matters are not scheduled, and agrees to consider these as a matter of priority at a suitable time as available –
 - (i) B11: Sydney Anglican Use of Church Property Ordinance 2018,
 - (ii) B12: Property Use Policy,
- (f) requests the President not to read aloud answers to questions today or any future day of this session of Synod, as would otherwise be required by business rule 6.3(5), and
- (g) notes that answers to questions –
 - (i) for today are now available on the SDS website and will shortly be posted on the noticeboard in the foyer, and
 - (ii) for future days will be posted on the noticeboard and the SDS website prior to the commencement of the sessions on Monday 22 October and Tuesday 23 October (if required),

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

Seconded

Bishop Peter Hayward moved as an amendment to Mr Glynn's motion –

'Omit paragraph (f).'

Seconded

Ms Lyn Bannerman moved as an amendment to Mr Glynn's motion –

'Amend paragraph (d) as follows –

- (a) omit the matter, 'consider' and insert instead the word, 'schedule', and
- (b) omit the matter, ', including on the callover,'.

Seconded

Ms Bannerman's amendment was not carried.

Bishop Hayward's amendment was carried.

Mr Glynn's motion, as amended, was carried in the following form –

'Synod –

- (a) agrees to reschedule items of business as shown in marked form on the Timetable for Synod Business,
- (b) agrees that the Bill at B1 is to be taken no later than 8:00 pm tonight, followed by the Bill at B2,
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 - (i) B11: Sydney Anglican Use of Church Property Ordinance 2018,
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and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.'

6. Answers to Questions

6.1 Non-conformity with Diocesan Governance Guidelines

The Rev Christopher Braga asked the following question –

Which Diocesan organisations have boards with a membership larger or smaller than the number recommended by the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations Policy Guidelines? What is the number of board members of each such board, and what explanation has been given by the chair of each such organisation for the non-conformity?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Policy Guidelines in the Governance Policy apply to Diocesan Organisations that are incorporated.

Under the Policy Guidelines, the total number of board members should be no less than 9 and no more than 14.

Clause 14(e) of the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* requires that the annual report submitted by a Diocesan Organisation to the first session of a Synod include an assessment of the extent to which the constituting ordinance of the Organisation conforms to the Standards and Guidelines in the Governance Policy and an explanation of any areas of non-conformity.

The following table identifies the Diocesan Organisations that are incorporated and have constituting ordinances that provide for a membership that is, or may be, larger or smaller than the range set out in the Policy Guidelines. For completeness, organisations that have constituting ordinances which provide for a range that is partially outside the range set out in the Policy Guidelines have been included in the table.

The table also sets out the membership of the organisations. In the time available, we have not been able to ascertain that any of the listed organisations have provided an explanation for the non-conformity.

Organisation	Number of members provided for under constituting ordinance
Abbotsleigh	15
Anglican Community Services	6 – 11 <i>Note: the Ordinance provides for “up to 3” members to be appointed by the Archbishop and “up to 2” members to be appointed by the Board – if all are appointed then the Policy Guidelines will be met. The membership is currently set at 9.</i>
Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney	7 – 10 <i>Note: the Ordinance provides for “up to 3” members to be appointed by the Archbishop – if all three are appointed then the Policy Guidelines will be met. Currently there are 8 members, but the Archbishop may appoint up to 2 further members at any time.</i>
Arden Anglican School Council	15
Glebe Administration Board	8 – 10 <i>Note: The membership is currently set at 10.</i>
Macarthur Anglican Church School	8 – 10 <i>Note: the Ordinance provides for “up to 2” members to be appointed by the Council – if at least one is appointed then the Policy Guidelines will be met. The membership is currently set at 9.</i>

Organisation	Number of members provided for under constituting ordinance
Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society	Same membership as the Council of Anglican Community Services.
Sydney Anglican (National Redress Scheme) Corporation	3
The Illawarra Grammar School	17
The King's School Council	16 – 18
The Sydney Church of England Grammar School	18
Trinity Grammar School	18

6.2 Subsidisation of public liability insurance

Mrs Sarah Manning asked the following question –

What evidence is there that the ACPT funds spent subsidising public liability insurance over the last 4 years has led to conversions or increase in attendance in our churches?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Unknown.

6.3 Implementation of 16/15 regarding the Doctrine Commission report, “A theology of Christian assembly”

Dr David Oakenfull asked the following question –

What steps have been taken to implement Resolution 16 passed by the 2015 session of Synod requesting the Diocesan Doctrine Commission to revisit its report “A theology of Christian assembly” (4 September 2008), noting that this report makes no reference to prayer or worship?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Among other matters, the Doctrine Commission has been hard at work on reports in relation to –

- The Use and Misuse of Scripture with Regard to Domestic Abuse
- The Purpose and Nature of Episcopal Leadership
- Catholicity and Communion
- The Theology of Gender and Gender Identity.

Each of these have taken priority.

The Commission has prepared a draft addendum to its report on the Theology of Christian Assembly, which takes into account the concerns expressed in Resolution 16 of 2015, and hopes to present the addendum to the Standing Committee before the end of the year.

6.4 Anglicare's Mobile Pantry Program

Mr Matthew Robson asked the following question –

With regard to Anglicare's Mobile Pantry Program –

- (a) In what year was the program established?
- (b) What is required of a parish to take part in the program?
- (c) How many clients does the program engage annually?
- (d) How many mobile pantries are in operation, and how many visits to parishes occur annually?
- (e) Are the vans deployed in disaster relief circumstances?
- (f) What is the current cost of the program per annum?
- (g) Is the program subsidised by any State or Federal funding?
- (h) Does the program receive support from the private sector or other non-profit organisations?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) A pilot for the Mobile Community Pantry program was run throughout 2016. Upon the successful conclusion of this pilot, approval for the program to continue was granted in January 2017.
The program provides groceries or fresh food items at very low cost to people on low or fixed incomes. The Mobile Community Pantries are run in partnership with local churches and visits are made to each location fortnightly. In exchange for a small contribution people can fill a bag with items of their choice from the stock available.
- (b) Anglicare's Parish Partnerships team connect with churches to discuss how they might partner with Anglicare to reach out to their communities. The Mobile Community Pantry is an effective way for churches to do this.
Parishes taking part in the program provide volunteers with a heart to serve their local community who help to staff the van when it is operating at their church. The service is promoted locally by Anglicare and the Church.
- (c) The Mobile Community Pantry currently manages approximately 1,900 shopper visits per month.
- (d) There are currently three Mobile Community Pantry vans on the road operating in partnership with 39 parishes across the diocese. 43 parishes are due to be hosting Mobile Community Pantry visits by December 2018, with another four preparing to start in early 2019.
This year there will be approximately 900 visits to parishes with this number increasing next year as more parishes come on line.
Anglicare is currently raising funds for a fourth and a fifth van with the aim of having the first of these on the road by March 2019.
The aim is to expand the program to 100 parishes by 2023.
- (e) No. While specially trained Anglicare volunteers are involved in Disaster Recovery efforts, the Mobile Community Pantry is not part of this program. The Pantries are designed specifically for assisting parishes to foster enduring connections with their communities and providing opportunities for gospel proclamation.
- (f) The current cost of the program per annum is approximately \$380,000.
- (g) No – All costs associated with running the program are covered by Anglicare's donors from across the Sydney Diocese. This enables Anglicare to shape the program to the specific needs of parish partners.
- (h) Food sold by the Mobile Community Pantries is predominantly purchased at a low cost through Foodbank. The program also receives low cost or donated foodstuffs from suppliers including SPC, St. Dalfour Jams and Coles.

Feedback from parishes involved with the program is extremely positive, with many reporting that people they have connected with in their communities are joining the church and coming to faith.

6.5 Synod Resolution 31/17 – Assistance for authorised employees in parish ministry

Mr Matthew Robson asked the following question –

Noting that the Clergy Assistance Program has been operational for two years and that Synod Resolution 31/17 (f) requested the Standing Committee to “...bring to the next ordinary session of the Synod, a report examining the feasibility of expanding the eligibility criteria of the program...”:

- (a) Has Standing Committee discussed the resolution at any of its meetings?
- (b) What action has Standing Committee taken to examine the feasibility of expanding the program as requested?
- (c) When can the Synod expect to receive the report as requested?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

In November each year the Standing Committee sets priorities for its work for the following year. At this stage the report sought in Synod Resolution 31/17 has not been allocated high priority status. It is anticipated that the report will be progressed in the course of the next year.

6.6 Membership of the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Public Schools (NSW)

Mr Matthew Robson asked the following question –

Noting that the Standing Committee has agreed to apply to “re-join” the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Public Schools (NSW) Inc (ICCOREIS) (4.9, Book 1, p.13) –

- (a) In what year did the Diocese withdraw as a member of ICCOREIS?
- (b) What were the reason/s for withdrawing at the time?
- (c) What are the reason/s for re-joining?
- (d) Have the reasons for withdrawing been addressed?
- (e) Noting that the membership of ICCOREIS includes the Catholic, Uniting, Seventh Day Adventist and Salvation Army Churches, what steps will be taken to ensure that the Diocese will be able to participate without compromising our evangelical doctrine and heritage?
- (f) Will the Diocese incur membership fees in re-joining ICCOREIS?
- (g) If the answer to question (f) is ‘yes’, what is the annual cost of membership?
- (h) If the answer to question (f) is ‘yes’, which organisation will bear the responsibility for payment?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows -

- (a) At the end of 2008.
- (b) The view that ICCOREIS had become only a “friendly, ecumenical discussion group”, and that as there was a small financial cost in being a member it was no longer worth participating.
- (c) The NSW Government has indicated it wishes to deal with peak bodies, rather than individual stakeholders, and attacks by opponents of SRE are increasingly targeting smaller, less-resourced SRE Providers. The view has been formed that the Sydney Diocese, recognised by many as the leader of SRE curriculum development and SRE teacher training, can better protect and advance the place of SRE within the NSW Education system in closer collaboration with other key Christian Providers by re-joining ICCOREIS.
- (d) Yes.

- (e) It is the responsibility of ICCOREIS to advocate for the place of Christian SRE within the NSW Education system. Under that umbrella, each individual provider of SRE is free to deliver its own authorised SRE curriculum by its own accredited teachers. The authorised curriculum of the Sydney Diocese is that produced by Youthworks and our teacher accreditation process is overseen on my behalf by Youthworks.
- (f) Yes.
- (g) The estimated fee is \$9,200.
- (h) For 2018, Synod Fund Contingencies.

6.7 Operation of the Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017

The Rev Graeme Marks asked the following question –

- (a) How many Assistant Ministers and Senior Assistant Ministers are currently licensed in the Diocese?
- (b) How many Assistant Ministers and Senior Assistant Ministers have been given notice of termination in accordance with Clause 3 of the Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017?
- (c) How many Assistant Ministers and Senior Assistant Ministers, given such notice, have indicated, either formally or informally, that they believe the termination process was unfair?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Paid Assistant Ministers and Senior Assistant Ministers: 311
- (b) Honorary Assistant Ministers and Senior Assistant Ministers: 28
- (c) The Regional Bishops have been notified of 4 appointments that have ended in accordance with clause 3 since the 2017 Ordinance came into effect.
- (d) The Regional Bishops are aware of 2 Assistant Ministers who have indicated that they believe the termination process was unfair.

6.8 What or Who of Synod

The Rev James Warren asked the following question –

- (a) Is this Synod an “it” or an “us”?
- (b) Should we or it change the “it” in the Synod Prayer to an “us”?

To which the President replied –

The prayer for Synod was written for the 1978 publication An Australian Prayer Book (AAPB), and has been used as a prayer for our own Synod ever since.

Part (a) of the question raises two issues: (1) whether or not a collective noun should be aligned to a singular or plural verb; and (2) whether such pronoun should be expressed in the first or third person.

- (1) Generally speaking, a collective noun is a single entity and so it is grammatically appropriate for the verb to agree with the number of its subject, namely singular. However, where the collective noun is a collection of persons (rather than objects), it is permissible to use the plural form. Given Bishop Robinson’s involvement in the writing of the prayers for AAPB, it is highly unlikely that any solecism would have escaped his attention.
- (2) The second aspect of part (a) relates to the personalisation of the Synod with ‘us’, who are members. While a case may be made for such personal reflection, the prayer is composed for the people of God, as the use of the word ‘us’ in the second line indicates. Hence a second reference to ‘us’, being a reference to the members of the Synod, would be discordant. It is the Synod who makes decisions, even though the Synod may comprise individual members, so there is no reason to believe the use of ‘it’ depersonalises the nature of the Synod.

Part (b) of the question, if implemented, would introduce its own solecism, so the answer is No.

6.9 Consultation with parishes by the Mission Property Committee

The Rev Nigel Webb asked the following question –

What consultation was conducted by the Mission Property Committee (MPC) with existing local Anglican churches that would be affected by future church plants in those parishes prior to the purchase of land by MPC in the following suburbs –

- (a) Oran Park
- (b) Leppington
- (c) Marsden Park
- (d) Stanhope Gardens

To which the President replied –

I will provide one answer addressing both of Mr Webb's questions 9 and 10.

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Each of the sites listed in the question are located in the South Western Growth Corridor that is within the Wollongong Region of the Diocese.

Representatives of the Wollongong Regional Council met with and kept the representatives of the relevant Mission Area informed of the overall Mission strategy for the Region, including ongoing developments and decisions being made in consultation with the Mission Property Committee.

The referenced locations were approved by Standing Committee prior to offers being made to purchase each site. They were also known to, and endorsed by, the Synod.

The process of choosing a suitable church planter to lead the ministry is the responsibility of the Regional Bishop, often in consultation with ENC and others. In several locations the church planter was appointed to an existing parish, with anticipation of the new church becoming a new parish in due course (as has happened at Stanhope Gardens). In other locations the church planter has been appointed to lead a fellowship under ENC with the expectation of moving to independence within a few years (as has happened at Oran Park and is anticipated soon at Leppington).

In the case of the two churches mentioned, Oran Park and Leppington, the Regional Bishop consulted with the Regional Council, ENC, the local mission area leader and with several local parishes prior to the appointment of the church planter. In both locations the church planters continued to talk and pray with local ministers to ensure good fellowship and a shared kingdom vision to reach the new communities.

6.10 Consultation with parishes by Evangelism and New Churches

The Rev Nigel Webb asked the following question –

What consultation was conducted by Evangelism & New Churches (ENC) with existing local Anglican churches that would be affected by future church plants in those parishes prior to those church plants being set up in the following suburbs –

- (a) Oran Park
- (b) Leppington

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

See the answer to the previous question.

6.11 The Ministry in Socially Disadvantaged Areas Committee

The Rev Mark Tough asked the following question –

How has the Ministry in Socially Disadvantaged Areas Committee fulfilled its Terms of Reference over the last 3 years? What plans does this Committee have for the future?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Committee was established in June 2016. It has been addressing the terms of reference since that time and has an ongoing commitment to fulfil them.

The Committee has developed a template to understand the ministry needs and complexity of parishes in areas of high social disadvantage. This template is being trialled within four parishes across the Diocese.

The Committee is continuing to engage with Anglicare and Anglican Aid as how to best use their resources to focus efforts to support ministry in areas of social disadvantage.

The Committee is also in discussion about developing better models for funding ministry in these areas.

6.12 Ministry wives who have has to leave their marriages due to domestic abuse

The Rev Mark Tough asked the following question –

What support, both financial and non-financial, could ministry wives who have had to leave their marriages due to domestic abuse expect to receive from the diocese? How would they apply for such support?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

In response to the 2017 Synod resolutions 16/17 and 32/17 relating to the Domestic Abuse Policy and paragraphs 63 and 64 of the Policy, the following arrangements for the support of ministry spouses have been implemented, or proposed:

Firstly in reporting domestic abuse, ministry spouses may use the existing PSU abuse reporting process or contact person. Additionally they may utilise other pathways such as through the PSU Chaplain, the Archdeacon for Women's Ministry, or Anglicare's Family and Domestic Violence Advisor.

Secondly the Episcopal Team, in consultation with the PSU, ACPT and the Diocesan Resources Committee have proposed a model of financial support for spouses.

This financial support includes an initial \$10, 000 made available for 2018 for any incidences of domestic abuse involving a clergy or lay minister's spouse.

Furthermore, in tonight's budget debate it is proposed that a fund be established to provide assistance for the spouse and families of clergy and lay ministers where separation has occurred due to misconduct by the clergy person or lay minister. This fund would provide a one off payment of up to a maximum of \$50,000 to be paid as a pastoral payment.

The PSU Chaplain and the relevant Regional Bishop will be responsible (in consultation with Anglicare Support Services), along with others they deem necessary to include, in determining the amount of the pastoral payment in each case.

Additionally, the Anglicare Family and Domestic Violence Advisor and the Chaplain of the PSU are working on the possibility of a support group for ministry wives who are victims of domestic abuse.

Depending on how and to whom the abuse is disclosed, applications for support will vary from case to case. Generally though the PSU chaplain, and possibly the Anglicare Family and Domestic Violence Advisor will play a key role in helping the victim access the support they need from the Diocese.

To date there have been no applications for financial support in 2018, though other support has been given by the PSU. Upon more than one occasion the Archbishop has approved payments from his discretionary funds for these purposes.

6.13 Increases to parish networks costs

Mr John Russell asked the following question –

Is it true that the increase in the NOR (network cost) for 2019 is 23% and that it will increase over the 3 year budget period by 48% at least?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The acronym “NOR” usually stands for “Net Operating Receipts”. We presume that the questioner intends to refer to “Parochial Network Costs”.

The total amount of the Parochial Network Costs proposed for 2019 in the Bill for the *Parochial Cost Recovery Charges and Church Land Acquisition Levy Ordinance 2018* is 29% higher than the equivalent figure for 2018. The estimate of the same figure for 2021 is 56% higher than the equivalent figure for 2018.

6.14 Calculation of increases to levies and charges to parishes

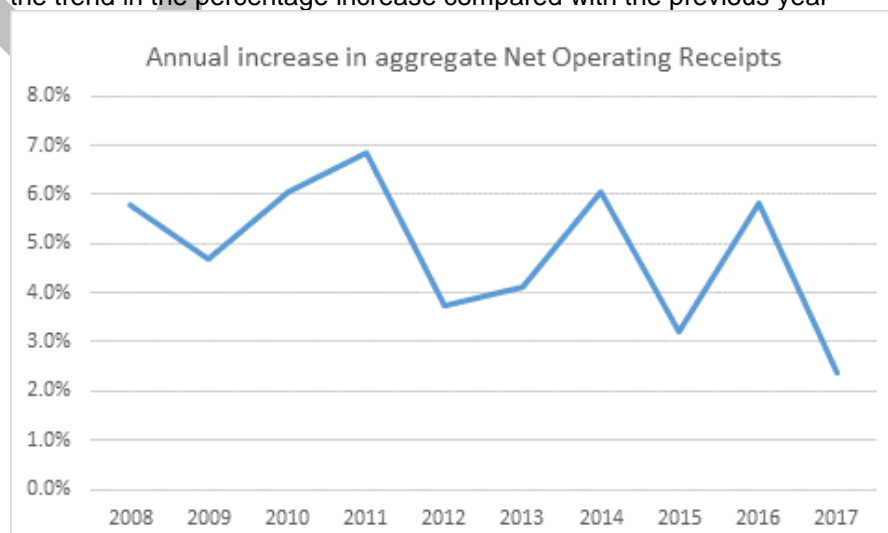
The Rev Brian Tung asked the following question –

- (a) What models or projections to calculate parish income and cash flow over the next triennium were used in working out the increases to levies and charges to parishes by the Diocese?
- (b) If no modelling was done, how was the impact on local ministry determined in calculating these increases?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) There is no information available at a diocesan level on which reliable modelling or projections of parish income and cash flow over the next triennium could be based. However, over the last 10 years the aggregate net operating receipts across the whole Diocese have increased by an average of 4.9% pa. The following graph shows the trend in the percentage increase compared with the previous year –



The parochial network costs incurred centrally on behalf of parishes are recovered through the variable PCR charge, which is set as a percentage of each parish's net operating receipts (proposed to be approximately 6.4% for 2019). The church land acquisitions levy is also based on each parish's net operating receipts (proposed to continue at 2% for 2019).

- (b) It is not possible to determine if there will be any impact on local ministry in 2019 as a result of the proposed increase (from approximately 5.1% to 6.4%) in the variable PCR percentage. Nor is it possible to determine if there will be any impact from the phased introduction of the Property Receipts Levy beginning in 2020.

6.15 Use of Lifelong Ministry Development by diocesan bishops

Mr Daniel Armishaw asked the following question –

In light of Synod's adoption last year of the Lifelong Ministry Development Guidelines (resolution 41/17), how many of our diocesan bishops have signed up to the LMD program as of the 30th September 2018?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The LMD guidelines establish confidentiality for those who enrol. This prevents me from answering the question.

7. Questions

Questions were asked by the following members –

- (1) Dr Karin Sowada
- (2) The Rev Steven Layson
- (3) The Rev Tom Melbourne
- (4) The Rev Tom Melbourne

8. Procedural motions from members

8.1 Arrangements for the consideration of amendments not appearing on the Amendment Sheet

Dr Laurie Scandrett moved –

'Synod agrees to the following arrangements with regard to the moving of amendments to motions, or to the text of Ordinances or Policies in Committee, for the remainder of this Synod –

- (a) the mover of any amendment that does not appear on the day's Amendment Sheet is restricted to a maximum speech length of 1 minute with no extension allowed,
- (b) the mover of any amendment that that does not appear on the day's Amendment Sheet is required to give two written copies to the President, or the Chairman of Committees (as the case may be), in sufficient time for the amendment to appear on the electronic screen before they speak to the amendment,
- (c) if (b) is not complied with then the President, or the Chairman of Committees (as the case may be), is to rule the amendment out of order before the mover commences to speak to the amendment,
- (d) any amendment that is ruled out-of-order under (c) is not to be re-considered, and
- (e) this change in procedure is to commence with immediate effect upon the passing of this motion.'

Seconded

The Rev Dr Raj Gupta moved as an amendment to Dr Scandrett's motion –

'In paragraph (a) omit the matter, "1 minute" and insert, "3 minutes".'

Seconded

Mr Andrew McLachlan moved as an amendment to Dr Scandrett's motion –

'In paragraph (a) omit the matter, "with no extension".'

Seconded

The Rev Canon Sandy Grant moved as an amendment to Dr Scandrett's motion –

'Omit all of paragraph (a) with subsequent re-lettering.'

Seconded

Mr Daniel Glynn moved as an amendment to Dr Scandrett's motion –

'In paragraph (b), omit the matter "two written copies to the President, or the Chairman of Committees (as the case may be), in sufficient time for the amendment to appear on the electronic screen" and insert instead –

"a legible notice of amendment to Synod Staff (including the mover's full name) in sufficient time to allow copying and distribution to Synod officials, and transcribing to a Powerpoint slide,"

Seconded

The Rev Anthony Douglas moved as a procedural motion –

'That the motion not be voted on.'

Seconded

The President asked –

"Does the Synod wish the debate on the principal motion to continue before the procedural motion is put to the Synod?"

The President's question was put and the Synod answered in the negative.

Mr Douglas' procedural motion was put and was carried.

Dr Scandrett's motion lapsed.

8.2 **Arrangements for a speech supporting Synod's resolution regarding the Archbishop of Sydney's Bishop for International Relations**

Mr Clive Ellis moved –

'Synod, noting its resolution passed on the callover on Monday 15 October concerning Bishop Peter Tasker's role as the Archbishop of Sydney's Bishop for International Relations, agrees to Dr Robert Tong speaking for up to 3 minutes on the substance of the motion prior to the dinner break on Monday 22 October while Bishop Tasker is present in the Synod.'

Seconded and carried

8.3 **Arrangements for considering the proposed Policy on Voluntary Relinquishment of Incumbency**

Dr Robert Tong moved –

'Synod agrees, for the purposes of considering the text of the proposed policy at B7, to substitute the form of policy attached to today's business paper incorporating amendments

accepted by the mover (shown in marked form), for the form of the policy shown at page 347 of Book 3, 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) Mr Doug Marr
- (2) Mr Robert Gifford
- (3) Bishop Chris Edwards
- (4) Dr Robert Tong AM
- (5) The Rev Timothy St Quintin
- (6) Mrs Nerida Ewings
- (7) Dr Karin Sowada
- (8) Mrs Lynette Ferguson

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 or those motions to be considered at a time fixed by the Synod.

10.1 The nature of marriage

Mrs Susan Hooke moved –

'Synod, noting that it has been sadly aware for some years of the misuse by some husbands of the biblical teaching on marriage to justify abuse of their wives, requests the Diocesan Doctrine Commission –

- (a) to acknowledge the extreme urgency of addressing prevention of domestic abuse of women within our Diocesan churches; and therefore
- (b) to bring to Synod in 2019, and no later, its conclusions on the referral to it, by Standing Committee, concerning how "the Biblical material on..... the nature of marriage, including the relevance of submission and headship, intersects with domestic abuse, its prevention, and the care of victims in our minds".'

Seconded and carried

10.2 Resignation of Mr Tony Willis as Anglican Schools Corporation Chairman

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod gives thanks to God for the committed and faithful service of Mr Tony Willis as the Corporation Chairman of Anglican Schools Corporation from 2008 until June 2018. Prior to his election as Corporation Chairman, Mr Willis served as a director of the Board of the Corporation, as well as serving on several of the Board's committees.

Synod acknowledges the continuing growth in the number of students enrolled in the Corporation's schools and directly exposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ – currently with more than 14,000 students across 17 schools with 19 campuses.

Synod prays that God's continued blessings might rest on Tony, and his wife, Judy, as they continue to serve the Lord through Tony's support of the Bishop of Wollongong, as well as through involvement in their local parish.'

Seconded and carried

Bishop Edwards led the Synod in prayer for Mr Tony Willis and his wife Judy.

10.3 Missional support for the Diocese of Bathurst

The Rev David Morgan moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Bathurst, who are committed to proclaiming the crucified and risen Lord Jesus to the people of Central and Western NSW,
- (b) commits to pray, and calls on the parishes of the Sydney Diocese to join Synod in praying for the salvation of many souls in Central and Western NSW through this gospel proclamation,
- (c) requests Moore Theological College to offer one mission team annually, over the next 6 years, to serve with the Diocese of Bathurst during Moore College Mission week, in order to learn alongside and assist that diocese in this proclamation of the crucified and risen Lord Jesus.’

Seconded and carried

Mr Morgan led the Synod in prayer for the Bathurst Diocese.

11. Motions

11.1 Residence and ministry space for the next Archbishop of Sydney

The Rev Dr Antony Barraclough moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) thanks the Endowment of the See (EOS) committee for its work in progressing the development of a new residence and ministry space for the Archbishop of Sydney,
- (b) thanks Allen Jack + Cottier for their work and presentation today,
- (c) notes that the proposed plan is broadly to do the preliminary work in 2018 (Design, DA’s etc...), construction in 2019 and, depending on the time involved in obtaining the necessary approvals, open the building in time for it to become the residence for the next Archbishop of Sydney,
- (d) asks the Standing Committee to provide all possible support to the EOS Committee to ensure the residence as built provides the best possible facilities for the long term purposes of the Archbishop and the Diocese as a whole, and
- (e) asks the EOS Committee to provide an update to Synod in 2019.’

Seconded and carried

11.2 Policy on Voluntary Relinquishment of Incumbency

Dr Tong moved –

“That Synod resolve itself into the Synod in Committee to consider further the text of the Policy on Voluntary Relinquishment of Incumbency.”

Seconded and carried

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

Dr Tong moved –

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

Seconded and carried

Dr Tong moved –

“That Synod agree to consider on another day of sitting a motion that the Policy on Voluntary Relinquishment of Incumbency pass as a policy of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

11.3 Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese

Mr Tony Willis moved –

‘Synod commends to the prayers and interest of Synod members the parishes, Diocesan schools, organisations, committees and individuals involved in ministry with Indigenous people, and in particular the prioritisation to raise up the next generations of Indigenous Christian leadership.

Synod –

- (a) requests the Diocesan Doctrine Commission, in consultation with Indigenous Christian leaders nominated by the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples’ Ministry Committee (SAIPMC), to bring a report to the next session of Synod on a theological framework for reconciliation, with special reference to the Indigenous peoples of Australia (providing progress reports to the task force established by the Synod in paragraph (b)),
- (b) hereby establishes a task force consisting of three Indigenous Christians appointed by the SAIPMC, and Dean Kanishka Raffel, the Rev Stuart Crawshaw and the mover (Mr Tony Willis), with power to co-opt, and
- (c) requests the task force to work with the Social Issues Committee to report to the 1st ordinary session of the 52nd Synod detailing an appropriate out-working of the Bible’s teaching on reconciliation, and providing recommendations as to how the Diocese as a whole, including organisations, parishes and individuals, might –
 - (i) acknowledge past failures in relationships with this nation’s First Peoples, and
 - (ii) find ways to become more intentionally involved with the ministry of the gospel to and with Indigenous peoples.’

Seconded and carried

Archdeacon Deryck Howell led the Synod in prayer for Indigenous Australians.

Adjournment

At 6.05 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.10 pm tonight.”

Seconded and carried

Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.10 pm.

Prior to consideration of items of business, Mr Stephen Kinsella led the Synod in prayer for the family, friends and staff of the King’s School, following the death of a Year 12 student.

12. Motions

12.1 Sydney Anglican Policy on Responding to Domestic Abuse

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

“That the Sydney Anglican Policy on Responding to Domestic Abuse be approved in principle.”

Seconded

The President asked –

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

There was a time for questions.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak for, or 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 policy 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 policy?”

There was no member who wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed policy.

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

“That the Sydney Anglican Policy on Responding to Domestic Abuse pass as a policy of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

12.2 Responding to Domestic Abuse: Policy and Good Practice Guidelines

Canon Sandy Grant moved –

‘Synod, having passed the Sydney Anglican Policy on Responding to Domestic Abuse as a policy of the Synod –

- (a) requests Standing Committee to ensure that the “Responding to Domestic Abuse: Policy and Good Practice Guidelines” be professionally laid out and prepared for publication and distribution to all ministers and parish councils for their attention, along with assistant ministers and lay ministers, with a request that parishioners be made aware of the policy,
- (b) requests that all parishes be encouraged to consider adopting the suggested parish policy statement (from the Resource section) as their own parish policy on domestic abuse, or to revise their existing policy in light of revisions to the Synod’s “Responding to Domestic Abuse: Policy and Good Practice Guidelines”,
- (c) authorises the Standing Committee to amend the Domestic Abuse Guidelines and Resources (but not the Policy), as adopted at Synod in 2018, following consultation with the Professional Standards Unit and the Anglicare Domestic Violence Adviser, and to report such amendments to the next ordinary session of the Synod, and
- (d) requests the Standing Committee to review the “Responding to Domestic Abuse: Policy and Good Practice Guidelines”, as adopted at Synod in 2018, after two years’ further operation, and provide a report with recommendations to the 2nd ordinary session of the 52nd Synod.’

Seconded and carried

12.3 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2018

Bishop Peter Hayward moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2018.”

Seconded and carried

Bishop Hayward moved –

“That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2018 be approved in principle.”

Seconded

The President asked –

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

There was a time for questions.

The President asked –

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

A member wished to speak against the motion.

There was debate on the motion.

After a time for debate the President asked –

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

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

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?”

There was no member who wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance.

Bishop Peter Hayward moved –

“That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2018 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

12.4 Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisition Levy Ordinance 2018

Bishop Peter Hayward moved –

“That Synod permit the introduction of the Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisition Levy Ordinance 2018.”

Seconded and carried

Bishop Hayward moved –

“That the Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisition Levy Ordinance 2018 be approved in principle.”

Seconded

The President asked –

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

There was a time for questions.

The President asked –

“Does any member wish to speak for, or 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?”

There was no member who wished to move an amendment to the text of the proposed ordinance.

Bishop Peter Hayward moved –

“That the Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisition Levy Ordinance 2018 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.”

Seconded and carried

12.5 Recruitment of Christians as teachers

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) endorses the recruitment of Christians as teachers as an essential priority of the Anglican Education Commission (Anglican EdComm),
- (b) requests Anglican schools to partner with Anglican EdComm and support their work in recruiting Christians as teachers,
- (c) encourages the continuing dialogue between Anglican EdComm, Moore Theological College, Youthworks College and other educational providers with a view to developing programs and qualifications that prepare pre-service or trained teachers for work in both public and independent schools,
- (d) draws the attention of the Archbishop and the Principal of Moore Theological College to the need to provide a stream of chaplains who have been trained and equipped to function effectively in a school context, and
- (e) notes the urgency of the need to resolve any ambiguity surrounding the interpretation of Section 83C of the NSW Education Act with respect to Anglican schools financial association with Anglican EdComm.’

Seconded and carried

Bishop Edwards led the Synod in prayer regarding a Bill expected to come before the Senate.

13. Procedural motion

13.1 **Notice of motion to recommit the motion concerning the Implementation of Property Receipts Levy**

Having been granted leave, Bishop Chris Edwards gave notice of the following motion –

‘That the Synod agree to recommit consideration of the motion concerning the Implementation of Property Receipts Levy, and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent this.’

Seconded and carried

14. Motions

14.1 **Administration of the Anglican National Super Fund**

Mr James Flavin moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) thanks AMP for its service in supporting the Anglican National Super Fund from 2004 to 2018, and
- (b) notes the unanimous decision by the Board of Anglican National Super to move the administration of the Fund to Mercer.’

Seconded and carried

Adjournment

At 9.30 pm, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3.15 pm on Monday 22 October 2018.”

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)
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Signed by the President

22 October 2018