

2017 Ordinary Session of Synod

Daily Papers

11 October 2017

Business Paper

Amendment Sheet

**Standing Committee of the Synod
Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney**

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

1st Session of the 51st Synod Business Paper: Wednesday 11 October 2017

Page references are to the sequential pages in Synod Books 1, 2, 3 and 4.

See Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures. For the purposes of considering a proposed policy of the Synod, the ordinance procedures under Part 5 (from rule 5.5 but excluding rules 5.7(3)(b), 5.9 and 5.10) apply as if the proposed policy were a proposed ordinance.

Wi-Fi access details are available from the SDS staff in the foyer or at the front of the theatre.

1. Bible study is led by the Rev Ed Vaughan.

2. Minutes of 10 October 2017.

3. Answers to questions

3.1 Diocesan land affected by Badgerys Creek Airport

Mr Peter M.G. Young asked the following question –

Is any diocesan land directly affected by any proposed land transport corridor to or from Badgerys Creek Airport?

3.2 Complementarianism and the Domestic Violence Task Force

Mr Tom Mayne asked the following question –

- (a) Why, during the pre-Synod briefing, did Kara Hartley representing the Domestic Violence Task Force, decline to mention ‘female submission’ when asked by Robert Wicks to comment on complementarianism? Is belief in female submission no longer a pre-requisite for dealing with Domestic Violence?
- (b) Is belief in female submission a pre-requisite of the diocese for addressing Domestic Violence as stated in clause (b) of the original Canon Grant motion passed by Synod in 2013?

3.3 Proposed Property Receipts Levy and ministry centres

Mrs Nicky Fortescue asked the following question –

With regard to the Property Receipts Levy, if a church owns a property of some form that could be sold for the purposes of a much-needed building project for a ministry centre (where church gatherings would take place, administration, etc.) would the costs associated with this centre be deductible against the income earned?

3.4 Proposed Property Receipts Levy and maintenance expenses

Mrs Nicky Fortescue asked the following question –

With regard to the Property Receipts Levy –

- (a) In the situation that in any given year expenses for maintenance and repair of a given property exceeds receipts, was it considered that costs of property maintenance and improvement could be carried over to following years as deductible expenses?

- (b) If yes, what was considered and why was it not included in the proposal?
- (c) If no, could this please be considered?

3.5 Proposed Property Receipts Levy and socio-economic diversity

Mrs Nicky Fortescue asked the following question –

With regard to the Property Receipts Levy, what consideration has been given to the socio-economic diversity of parishes?

3.6 Moore Theological College Risk Management Report

The Rev Dr James Collins asked the following question –

The *Moore Theological College Ordinance 2009*, at clause 25.3, reads “The Council is to provide at least once in each year a report, to the Synod together with an income and expenditure account and a balance sheet duly audited and such other information as may be required from time to time by resolution of the Synod. The report is to include a report on high level outcomes as required by the Commonwealth including a report on risk management within the College.”

- (a) Could Synod be given a copy of the Risk Management Report for 2016, noting that Synod has been advised to see the website of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission for the financial report but the risk management report is not provided at that web link?
- (b) Could this report be provided to all Synod members by way of hard copy distribution or by email to all members, during this Synod session?
- (c) If not, why not?

3.7 Report on Episcopal leadership

The Rev Simon Flinders asked the following question –

What progress, if any, has been made by the Diocesan Doctrine Commission in producing the report on the purpose and nature of episcopal leadership requested by the Synod in 2015 (in motion 6/15)? If other matters have necessarily taken precedence, when might the Synod now reasonably expect this report?

3.8 Syrian and Iraqi refugee response

Mr Malcolm Purvis asked the following question –

Regarding the Syrian and Iraqi refugee response mentioned in the presidential address –

- (a) To what services has the funding been allocated, and how much has been allocated to each service?
- (b) What have been the results of the Anglicare Refugee Training Program, specifically:
 - (i) How many people has Anglicare trained?
 - (ii) How many of those have gone on to participate in providing help to refugees?
 - (iii) Of those who have gone on to provide help to refugees, how many were directly linked by Anglicare to parishes?
- (c) In light of the Diocesan vision of seeing Christ honoured as Lord and Saviour in every community, what impact has the project had on the ministry of the parishes in areas where these refugees have settled?

3.9 Anglican residential University Colleges

Mr Mark Boyd asked the following question –

- (a) How are each of the three Anglican residential University Colleges in Sydney, being St Paul’s College at the University of Sydney, New College at the University of NSW and Robert Menzies College at Macquarie University, constituted?

- (b) Does the Synod of the Diocese or the Archbishop elect or appoint any of the members of the Governing Boards of any of these Colleges? If so, how?
- (c) Do any of these three Colleges have membership as of right on the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney? If so, how are they represented?

3.10 Finance Committee

Mr Peter Hanson asked the following question –

- (a) Who were/are the members of the Standing Committee Finance Committee in –
 - (i) 2016?
 - (ii) 2017?
- (b) What is the charter/terms of reference for the Standing Committee Finance Committee?
- (c) When did the Finance Committee meet in –
 - (i) 2016?
 - (ii) 2017?
- (d) What subjects were discussed in each year?
- (e) What were the tangible outcomes from these meetings?

3.11 St James' Hall distribution to Synod

Mr James Balfour asked the following question –

- (a) Why is the distribution of more than \$200,000 made by St James' Hall to Synod funds in 2016 not recorded in the table on page 18 of the financial report, nor in note 2 on page 23?
- (b) Where is this significant receipt recorded in the accounts?

3.12 Proposed Property Receipts Levy and property leasing agreements

Mr Doug MacLennan asked the following question –

- (a) My understanding is that Parishes currently under an Ordinance for the purpose of receiving a share of income with the Diocese from property leasing agreements, will not be affected by the introduction of the 'Proposed Property Receipts Levy' and that such ordinances will remain in force until the expiry date of such ordinances. Is this correct?
- (b) My understanding is that Parishes currently under an Ordinance for the purpose of receiving a share of income with the Diocese from property leasing agreements, will have the option to either –
 - (i) renegotiate a new ordinance at the expiry of their current ordinance or
 - (ii) elect to accept the terms and conditions of the 'Proposed Property Receipts Levy'.

Is this correct?

3.13 Standing Committee Ordinance procedures

Professor Bernard Stewart asked the following question –

With respect to the procedure anticipated in the report 'Proposal for a Property Receipts Levy' whereby Synod requests Standing Committee to pass an Ordinance with respect to property income (clause 3e of the report), please advise in respect of the content of relevant Ordinances, and without reference to legal opinion or inference –

- (a) Is this procedure provided for in any Ordinance determining the operation of Standing Committee, and if so what is laid down?
- (b) Irrespective of any information provided under (a), is the procedure applicable to all Ordinances (apart from Canons of the Anglican Church of Australia) which might otherwise be addressed by Synod, and if not, what limitations apply?
- (c) Can all or some of the limitations specified under (b) be suspended by the Standing Committee in respect of any particular Ordinance by passage of a motion to that effect and which Ordinance provides for this?

3.14 \$1 million contribution to Coalition for Marriage

The Rev Greg Burke asked the following question –

Can the President please inform the Synod about the process and rationale behind the decision to contribute \$1 million to the Coalition for Marriage’s Same Sex Marriage advertising campaign?

3.15 Clergy spouses separated due to domestic abuse

Mr Mark Tough asked the following question –

Is financial assistance available from the Diocese to spouses of clergy who have separated from their spouses due to domestic abuse and are struggling to make ends meet as a result?

3.16 Donations to social issues

Ms Joanna Hayes asked the following question –

Should Synod expect Standing Committee to make donations of a similar size to the ‘no’ campaign on other vital social issues such as Domestic Violence, Climate Change, response to Aboriginal Rights, and if not, why not?

3.17 Greenfield levy

Mr Jonathan Miller asked the following question –

Since its adoption by Synod, what is the total amount received and spent, to date, of the ‘Greenfield’ levy?

3.18 SDS staff salaries

Mr Jonathan Miller asked the following question –

Is it possible for the salaries of the SDS staff of all levels, by sufficient grouping/banding to provide meaningful analysis and enabling personal anonymity, be made available?

3.19 Availability of reports to Synod

Mr Allan Piper asked the following question –

On Monday, 39 annual reports were tabled under Item 14.1 of Monday’s Business Paper. Of these, the five Regional Council reports are included in Book 1, and two other reports have been mailed out to Synod members. To my knowledge, the other 32 reports have not been explicitly made available to Synod members.

In the interests of transparency and accountability, is it possible in future years for all annual reports to be made available to Synod members, either by inclusion in one of the Synod books, circulation of web links, or some other electronic means?

4. Questions

5. Procedural motions

5.1 Modified arrangements for considering an alternative to the proposed Property Receipts Levy and its application

Synod agrees to the following modified arrangements for considering the motion at item 8.15 on today’s business paper (the “Levy Motion”) together with the motion at item 8.16 (the “Application Motion”) –

- (a) the mover of the Application Motion will move and speak to the Application Motion,

- (b) the mover and seconder of the Levy Motion will make a combined presentation of up to 15 minutes in relation to the Levy Motion,
- (c) following the combined presentation, there will be a time for questions about the Levy Motion,
- (d) following the time for questions, Mr James Balfour and Bishop Michael Stead will both be given 5 minutes to speak respectively for and against the following alternative motion (the "Alternative Motion") taken to have been moved by Mr Balfour –

"Synod –

- (a) commends the work done by the Large Receipts Policy Review Committee,
- (b) endorses the four theological principles of 'generosity in fellowship', 'equality', 'stewardship' and 'equity with transparency' but believes that the proposal put forward fails to match these principles as closely as possible alternatives, and –
 - (i) believes that the principle of generosity should be applied so as to enable the entire diocese to contribute to the valuable work of funding Synod's vital programmes,
 - (ii) understands that the proposed PRL would result in some 80% of the revenue from the scheme being contributed by just 10% of parishes and believes that this does not deliver equality,
 - (iii) believes that a substantial levy applying purely to property revenue will create perverse incentives for the management of parishes' assets which will result in poor stewardship of resources,
 - (iv) believes that the necessity to create additional definitions of expenses in the chart of accounts so as to calculate net revenue from property income, and particularly the exclusion of the funding of sinking funds from the allowable deductions, is neither equitable nor transparent,
- (c) recognises that a precedent for levying funds for vital programmes has been successfully established by the Church Land Acquisition Levy which is based on Net Operating Receipts,
- (d) notes that a levy of 0.5% of Net Operating Receipts would generate funds of approximately \$500,000, and
- (e) requests Standing Committee to submit an Ordinance to Synod for approval in 2018 either extending the Church Land Acquisition Levy or establishing a new levy based on Net Operating Receipts of all parishes."
- (e) after the speeches of Mr Balfour and Bishop Stead, debate on the Alternative Motion will proceed in the usual way,
- ~~(e)(f)~~ if the Alternative Motion is not carried, following the time for questions consideration of the Levy Motion will continue in the usual way (if the Alternative Motion is carried, it will replace the Levy Motion),
- ~~(d)(g)~~ if the Levy Motion is carried, the seconder of the Application Motion will second and speak to the Application Motion (if the Levy Motion is not carried, the Application Motion will lapse),
- ~~(e)(h)~~ following the seconder's speech, there will be a time for questions about the Application Motion, and
- ~~(f)(i)~~ following the time for questions, consideration of the Application Motion will continue in the usual way,

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

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(Bishop Michael Stead / Mr James Balfour)

5.2 Consideration of motions relating to the consecration of Bishop Andy Lines and the Scottish Episcopal Church

Synod agrees to consider the motions at items 8.21 and 8.22 on today's business paper at 4.30pm on Tuesday 17 October 2017.

(Mr Robert Wicks / The Rev Canon Dr Mark Thompson)

5.3 Consideration of motions relating to the same-sex marriage debate

Synod –

- (a) agrees to consider the motions at items 8.26, 8.31 and 8.33 on today's business paper at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17 October 2017, and
- (b) requests the movers and seconders of these motions to consult with one another with a view to a single consolidated motion being moved at this time instead of 3 separate motions.

(Mr Robert Wicks / Mr Doug Marr)

6. The President invites members to give notice of other motions

7. Calling of motions on the business paper

8. Motions

To be taken today from 4.30 pm

8.1 Ministry Standards Ordinance 2017

That the *Ministry Standards Ordinance 2017* pass as an ordinance of the Synod and that the Standing Committee be requested to undertake a review of the operation of the Ordinance prior to the 2018 session of the Synod.

(Pages 359, 521)

(Mr Michael Easton / Mr Garth Blake SC)

8.2 Diocesan Tribunal Ordinance 2017

That the *Diocesan Tribunal Ordinance 2017* pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(Pages 359, 398, 521)

(Mr Michael Easton / Mr Garth Blake SC)

8.3 Professional Standards Transition Ordinance 2017

That the *Professional Standards Transition Ordinance 2017* pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(Pages 359, 414, 521)

(Mr Michael Easton / Mr Garth Blake SC)

8.4 General Synod – Offences Amendment Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017

That the *General Synod – Offences Amendment Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017* pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(Pages 337, 577)

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Bishop Michael Stead)

8.5 Synod and Standing Committee Membership Amendment Ordinance 2017

Synod permits the introduction of the *Synod and Standing Committee Membership Amendment Ordinance 2017*.

(Pages 416, 582, 588)

(Archdeacon Kara Hartley / Dr Laurie Scandrett)

8.6 Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017

Synod permits the introduction of the *Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017*.

(Pages 421, 518)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / The Rev Bruce Stanley)

To be taken today from 7.00 pm

8.7 Gender Identity Initial Principles of Engagement

Synod, noting the Gender Identity Report –

- (a) agrees to approve in principle the Initial Principles of Engagement at 9.1 of the Gender Identity Report as a policy of the Synod, and
- (b) in particular affirms –
 - (i) The promise of the gospel is that all who trust in Christ are assured of everlasting peace and wholeness in the resurrection life of the new creation.
 - (ii) All those who have faith in Christ are loved by God and belong to the body of Christ, including those whose personal trials and afflictions in this life include gender identity issues or gender incongruence.
 - (iii) Those who experience gender identity issues or incongruence deserve our compassion, love, and care.
 - (iv) In the beginning, God made humanity male and female, and, in his creative purposes, biological (bodily) sex determines gender.
 - (v) Human nature was damaged and distorted by the Fall but not destroyed. All people continue to be made in the image of God. The experience of incongruence between objective biological sex and subjective gender identity is one consequence of that damage and distortion but in no way diminishes a person's full humanity.
 - (vi) The human person is a psychosomatic unity, where body and soul come into being at the same time and, in this life and the next, exist together. Embodiment is integral to human identity, and biological sex is a fundamental aspect of embodiment. Preserving the integrity of body and soul, and honouring and protecting the biologically sexed body that God has given are necessary for human flourishing.
 - (vii) The binary distinctions of male and female are to be embraced and upheld in the lives of Christian men and women respectively, and expressed in culturally appropriate ways that conform to Scripture.
 - (viii) We deeply regret that, in the past, some gender non-conforming people have experienced rejection or lack of compassion in our churches and ministries.
 - (ix) Churches, schools, and other Anglican organisations are to be places where all people, including those who experience gender identity issues and incongruence, are welcomed, loved, supported and helped to live in obedience to Christ.

(Pages 210)

(Dr Claire Smith / The Very Rev Kanishka Raffel)

8.8 Anglican agencies which care for people with gender identity issues

Synod commends the Gender Identity Report ('the Report') to all Anglican schools and other agencies in the diocese which are called upon to care for people with gender identity issues and asks the governing boards and councils, and the heads and chief executive officers of such schools and agencies to –

- (a) provide comments and feedback to Standing Committee on the Initial Principles of Engagement approved in principle as a policy of the Synod at its session in 2017 by 30 April 2018, and
- (b) ensure any policies, guidelines and procedures which they draft to address this issue are consistent with those Initial Principles of Engagement 2017, and
- (c) consult with the Archbishop about the final form of such policies, guidelines and procedures before they are published, and
- (d) commit to reviewing such policies, guidelines and procedures in light of any revised form of policy adopted by the Synod following its session in 2017,

and requests that the Standing Committee bring to the Synod session in 2018 a revised form of the Initial Principles of Engagement with a view to the revised form being adopted as a policy of the Synod.

(Pages 210)

(Dr Karin Sowada / Dr David Nockles)

8.9 General Synod – Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017 Assenting Ordinance 2017

Synod permits the introduction of the *General Synod – Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment Ordinance 2017*.

(Pages 334)

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Mr Robert Wicks)

8.10 General Synod – Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry) Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017

Synod permits the introduction of the *General Synod – Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry) Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017*.

(Pages 342, 580)

(Dr Robert Tong AM / Bishop Michael Stead)

8.11 General Synod – Canon Concerning Services Amendment Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017

Synod permits the introduction of the *General Synod – Canon Concerning Services Amendment Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017*.

(Pages 356, 576)

(Bishop Michael Stead / Dr Robert Tong AM)

To be taken on Monday 16 October 2017 from 4.00 pm

8.12 Licensing of incumbents interim report

Synod, noting the Second Interim Report of the Licensing of Incumbents Review Committee –

- (a) requests the Standing Committee to amend the Ministry Training and Development (“MT&D”) Ordinance Objects to provide an approved accreditation system for clergy Professional Development,
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to amend the *Nomination Ordinance 2006* to include a mechanism requiring any nomination board to determine the MT&D Professional Development Accreditation status for the person being nominated to the Archbishop for appointment as rector of the parish,
- (c) requests Standing Committee to amend the parish Prescribed Financial Statement to include an expense line for Professional Development and to ask the Stipends and Allowances Committee to make a recommendation of an appropriate amount per clergy to be included in annual parish budgets for professional development,
- (d) endorses the concept of Negotiated Relinquishment of Incumbency as a mechanism to assist Rectors who are choosing, or being encouraged to leave a parish, and requests Standing Committee to determine how it is to be implemented and report to Synod in 2018,
- (e) notes the draft Healthy Parish Relationships guidelines, invites members to provide feedback to the Committee and endorses the Committee’s attention to this area,
- (f) requests the Standing Committee to bring a bill to the next Synod that would constitute as misconduct “unreasonable and persistent failure to attend the triennial *Faithfulness in Service* training” and “unreasonable and persistent failure to complete the triennial Safe Ministry training.

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(The Rev Philip Wheeler / The Rev Gavin Poole)

8.13 Pastoral Supervision Working Party and Rector Training Review Group

Synod thanks the Pastoral Supervision Working Party and Rector Training Review Group for their work including in particular their promotion of professional development and reflective practice as imperative for the Diocese.

(The Rev Philip Wheeler / The Rev Gavin Poole)

8.14 Lifelong Ministry Development Guidelines

Synod, noting the report Lifelong Ministry Development guidelines –

- (a) thanks MT&D for their attention to this important area,
- (b) recognises the significance of last year's Synod survey research that –
 - (i) 42% of respondents do not believe that rectors are looked after in a way that gives them the best opportunity to improve and grow over time,
 - (i) 8% of rectors do not believe that they are currently "well suited" to their position,
 - (ii) 30% of rectors report a low level of energy,
 - (iii) 21% of rectors significantly struggle with depression or anxiety,
- (c) encourages our clergy to participate in LMD being operated by MT&D,
- (d) urges parish councillors and lay Synod representatives to support their minister's commitment of time and resources to professional development and reflect this in their parish budget, and
- (e) asks the diocesan members of the Nomination Board, when considering a prospective rector, to discuss with the parish nominators the prospective rector's current engagement with LMD.

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(The Rev Gary O'Brien / The Rev Archie Poulos)

To be taken on Monday 16 October 2017 from 8.00 pm

8.15 Proposal for a Property Receipts Levy

Synod, noting the report "Proposal for a Property Receipts Levy" –

- (a) affirms the principle that the proposed levy should apply only to parish property income,
- (b) agrees that a property levy should be applied against net, rather than gross, property income because of the theological principle of "a sharing out of surplus",
- (c) agrees in principle, that –
 - (i) offertory income (including regular giving, donations, bequests etc) should be used to meet the stipend, allowances and benefits of the minister of the parish and, to the extent possible, other recurrent ministry expenditure of the parish (including maintenance of non-income producing property),
 - (ii) property income should first be used to meet property expenditure, including the maintenance of buildings and adequate provision for future capital expenditure on commercial property before it is used to support recurrent ministry expenditure, and
 - (iii) a proportion of a parish's surplus property income (i.e., non-offertory income) should be shared with the wider Diocese,
- (d) supports in principle a Property Receipts Levy ("PRL") as outlined in the report and attached schedule subject to –
 - (i) a deduction being provided for bank and financial statutory charges, taxes and assessments on finance income, and
 - (ii) the Standing Committee being restricted from increasing any percentage or modifying any monetary thresholds without authorisation from the Synod, and
- (e) requests the Standing Committee to pass an ordinance to implement a PRL with respect to property income from 2018.

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(The Rev Craig Roberts / Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

8.16 Application of funds from the Property Receipts Levy

Synod, noting the report “Application of funds from the proposed Property Receipts Levy” –

- (a) supports the creation of a Parish Property Development Fund (“PPDF”) as outlined in the report at paragraph 21(A), funded by the first \$500,000 of additional proceeds raised by the Property Receipts Levy (“PRL”) each year, and
- (b) supports the creation of an urban development grant administered by the Mission Property Committee as outlined in the report at paragraph 21(B), funded by any additional proceeds raised by a PRL in excess of those required by the PPDF, and
- (c) requests the Standing Committee to pass an ordinance to implement the PPDF and the urban development grant in conjunction with the implementation of the PRL.

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(The Rev Dr Raj Gupta / The Rev Nigel Fortescue)

To be taken on Tuesday 17 October 2017 after the Formal Matters

8.17 Kangaroo Valley: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Kangaroo Valley as a parish with effect from 1 January 2018.

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(The Rev Andrew Paterson / Mr Tony Willis)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

8.18 Retirement of Mr Geoffrey Kyngdon

Synod gives thanks for the ministry and work of Mr Geoffrey Kyngdon over the past 25 years in the Wollongong Region and broader Diocese, including: Member General Synod; Member Provincial Synod; Member Sydney Synod; Member Standing Committee of Sydney Synod; Member and Chairman of Diocesan Mission Property Committee; Diocesan Reader; Assistant to Bishop of Wollongong; Member Wollongong Regional Council; Member Macarthur Anglican School; Member Anglican Schools Corporation; Lay Canon St Michael's Cathedral; Churchwarden Oak Flats; Treasurer Oak Flats; Parish Secretary Oak Flats; Synod Representative Oak Flats.

We give thanks to God for Geoff's passion to share the Scriptures and to defend the truth of the gospel. He has enthusiastically supported the expansion of gospel work through the provision of new ministry opportunities in our schools, through the acquisition of more sites upon which God's people will gather, and through the many important yet unseen administrative tasks within the life of our Diocese. We wish Geoff and Marilyn God's blessing in their retirement and for their continued ministry in Oak Flats.

(Bishop Peter Hayward / The Rev Jodie McNeill)

8.19 Anglican corporate worship

Synod –

- (a) notes that article 6 of the Jerusalem Declaration states –
 - “We rejoice in our Anglican sacramental and liturgical heritage as an expression of the gospel, and we uphold the 1662 Book of Common Prayer as a true and authoritative standard of worship and prayer, to be translated and locally adapted for each culture.”,
- (b) believes that a greater diversity of worship practice in this Diocese – including recovery of more traditional Anglican prayer book forms – would honour God and promote the *Mission 2020* vision for Sydney,

- (c) requests that the Archbishop and Standing Committee convene a Liturgical Commission to investigate how we might reinvigorate our Anglican corporate worship, and
- (d) that this Commission report back to the 2018 session of Synod.

(Dr David Oakenfull / Mr David Warren-Gash)

8.20 Model Parish Trust Ordinance

Synod, as expressing the corporate view of parishes within the Diocese, makes reference to the document titled '[Parish] Trust Ordinance [year]' (hereafter referred to in places as 'the model ordinance') provided as an appendage to the document 'Standing Committee policy on ordinances' from the Manager, Legal Services specifying *inter alia* what 'Standing Committee will now require' of parishes as sent by email to all parishes on 21 December 2012 and matters consequent as they pertain to certain parishes. Noting, in particular, establishment of an 'ACPT – [Parish] Trust' under the model ordinance and the disposition of certain income from that entity to the overall financial benefit of the Diocese through the 'Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney', the parishes of the Diocese through Synod declare –

1. That the said parishes of the Diocese are committed to the financial viability of the Diocese, particularly as such viability directly enables gospel-based ministry.
2. That in determining the level of financial support thus provided, making due reference to specific needs of the Diocese, and notwithstanding the requirement for consequential regulation and administrative formality, parishes approach such support of the Diocese 'not as an extraction but as a willing gift' [2 Cor 9:5]
3. That the procedures adopted by Standing Committee in relation to the model ordinance have deprived the parishes of any initiative in relation to giving as described in (2).
4. That the said model ordinance, and procedural matters related to it, have by-passed any requirement for Synod to deliberate in relation to a matter affecting all parishes and to that extent the state of affairs is less than satisfactory both in the present case and as a precedent.

In view of these declarations, the parishes of the Diocese, through this motion, send greetings in our Lord's name to Standing Committee, and inform Standing Committee that Synod has further resolved –

- ~~5. That the executive authority of Standing Committee, to the extent that it is recognized and operable, should be vested in the Archbishop and none other, and should be seen to be so vested.~~
- ~~6-5. That the model ordinance '[Parish] Trust Ordinance [year]' and any comparable instruments, broadly identifiable as affecting most, if not all parishes or as being effective across the Diocese, should be subject of an enabling Ordinance including the relevant model ordinance as a Schedule which is duly brought before Synod.~~
- ~~7. That until such time as the procedure outlined in (6) is followed in respect of the '[Parish] Trust Ordinance [year]' model ordinance, Standing Committee should immediately, or as soon as is practicable in respect of any particular Parish, suspend consideration of any particular ordinance based on the said '[Parish] Trust Ordinance [year]' model ordinance.~~
- ~~8. That while the suspension specified in (7) is operational, Standing Committee, in consultation with relevant Parishes, should rely on extensions to previously existing ordinances and related precedents, or the adoption of new ordinances in line with previously existing ordinances to meet immediate needs.~~

(Professor Bernard Stewart)

8.21 Consecration of Bishop Andy Lines

Synod gives thanks to God for the leadership of our Archbishop in representing our Diocese and participating in the consecration of Bishop Andy Lines as the Anglican Church in North America ("ACNC") Missionary Bishop to Europe in Chicago on 30 June 2017. The announcement of Bishop Lines' consecration, within hours of the Scottish Episcopal Church announcing its amendment of canon law on marriage in order to allow same sex marriages on 8 June, was a message of hope to Scottish Episcopalians and others who have been left without faithful episcopal oversight for these stranded Christians and we rejoice that three Australian bishops

(Archbishop Davies, Bishop Richard Condie and Bishop Gary Nelson) were among the consecrators. We note with gratitude that the Archbishop took this step with the unanimous support of the Standing Committee. We commit to continuing in prayer for Bishop Lines and all faithful Anglicans who stand for biblical truth and faithful Christian discipleship.

(The Rev Canon Dr Mark Thompson / Canon Phil Colgan)

8.22 Scottish Episcopal Church

Synod –

- (a) notes with regret that the Scottish Episcopal Church has amended their Canon on Marriage to change the definition that marriage is between a man and a woman by adding a new section that allows clergy to solemnise marriage between same-sex couples as well as couples of the opposite sex,
- (b) declares that this step is contrary to the doctrine of Christ and the doctrine of our Church, and therefore inconsistent with the Fundamental Declarations of our Churches,
- (c) notes with sadness that the Scottish Episcopal Church has thereby put itself out of fellowship with the wider Anglican Communion,
- (d) expresses our support for those Anglicans who have left or will need to leave the Scottish Episcopal Church because of its redefinition of marriage, or who struggle to remain in good conscience, and
- (e) prays that the Scottish Episcopal Church will return to the doctrine of Christ in this matter and be restored to communion with faithful Anglicans around the world.

(The Very Rev Kanishka Raffel / Canon Phil Colgan)

8.23 Heads of Anglican Schools as Synod members

Standing Committee is requested to prepare and bring to the next session of Synod in 2018 amendments to the Synod Membership Ordinance by which 3 Heads (who attend Anglican Churches) of Anglican Schools established by ordinance of the Synod, elected by their peers at the Archbishop's annual Ascension Day dinner for school Heads, could be nominated as members of the Synod.

(Dr John Collier / Dr David Nockles)

8.24 Gender representation on Diocesan boards and committees

Synod requests Standing Committee to bring a report to the next Synod which outlines the composition of the various Diocesan boards, committees and councils in so far as they reflect the gender participation of those groups.

Synod requests the report to include –

- (a) the numbers and percentages of women and men on the Synod Diocesan boards, committees and councils,
- (b) goals or targets that the Diocesan organisation could work towards to ensure greater representation of women, and
- (c) recommendations as to how to improve participation by women.

(Mrs Gillian Davidson / The Rev Dr Andrew Ford)

8.25 Doctrine of perseverance of the saints

Synod agrees that –

- (a) the shared reading of the doctrine of the Articles and the Book of Common Prayer in this diocese is still that no regenerate believer has ever failed to persevere,
- (b) Article XVII precludes a conclusion that some of God's adopted children fail to attain everlasting felicity,

- (c) those in this Diocese who have assented to the doctrine of the Articles and the Book of Common Prayer continue to read scriptural warnings as an effectual means of grace,
- (d) his saints will therefore persevere because of the warnings in scripture not in spite of them, and
- (e) God keeps his promise that He will never fail to preserve his saints.

(Mr Tim Watson)

8.26 Freedom to uphold marriage as a union between one man and one woman

Synod –

- (a) affirms the Bible's teaching that marriage is a life-long union voluntarily entered into between one man and one woman,
- (b) commends the brave women (Cella White, Dr Pansy Lai and Heidi McIvor) who appeared in the first "You can Say No" television advertisement authorised by the Coalition For Marriage, for speaking about some of the consequences for children if same sex marriage is legalised in Australia,
- (c) expresses its sadness at the barrage of abuse, threats and intimidation these women, and others, have been subjected to for exercising their democratic right to speak and voice an opinion,
- (d) requests the Archbishop to write to these three women to encourage them and convey the support and thanks of this Synod, and
- (e) encourages all Australians to consider the implications for children's education and the teaching of gender ideology in Australian schools should same sex marriage become law.

(The Rev Zac Veron / Bishop Michael Stead)

8.27 General Synod – Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017

This Synod, having passed the General Synod – Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017 calls upon the Standing Committee to –

- (a) prioritise the preparation, drafting and other work needed on aspects of Part 2 of the Second Schedule of the Canon, which it considers would make the standards in this Part more suitable and workable within the Diocese of Sydney,
- (b) promptly engage in the consultation process required in order to present proposed changes to the General Synod Standing Committee meeting on the 8 – 9 December 2017,
- (c) take all necessary steps to make preparations within the Diocese for the implementation of this Canon, and
- (d) where possible consider implementing those aspects of the Canon (and its Schedules) that are not subject to the processes in part (a) and (b) of this motion.

(The Rev Dr Andrew Ford / Mr Garth Blake SC)

8.28 150th Anniversary of Scripture Union

Recognising that this year marks the 150th anniversary of Scripture Union internationally, Synod gives thanks to God for the work of Scripture Union in our Diocese, working with the churches to make God's good news known to children, young people and families and encouraging people of all ages to meet God daily through the Bible and prayer.

The Synod recognises that many Synod Anglicans, including many of our leaders, have found opportunities to serve the kingdom and opportunities to grow in leadership in the context of SU's ministries. So we pray that God will continue to bless the work of Scripture Union, especially their missions, camps, and the ISCF and SUPA groups in public schools.

(Mr Andrew McLachlan / The Rev Simon Flinders)

8.29 Apology to people who are LGBTQI

This Synod –

- (a) affirms that all people are made in the image of God regardless of their race, sex, economic background, political affiliation and the temptations they face as human beings who live in a sinful and fallen world,
- (b) offers a heartfelt apology to those who have been hurt by our failure to treat all people as being precious in the sight of God,
- (c) offers, in particular, a heartfelt apology to people who struggle with same sex attraction, gender identity, people who identify as ~~are~~ lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or intersex (LGBTQI) who have been mocked, abused or ~~felt~~ excluded because of our harmful words or behaviour,
- (d) calls for repentance for all such ungodly behaviour,
- (e) while affirming the teaching of Holy Scripture that the appropriate expression of human sexuality is between a man and a woman within the covenant of marriage, pledges to encourage our churches and organisations to treat with compassion those who struggle in the area of their sexual orientation by speaking the truth in love and by demonstrating our repentance through changed attitudes and conduct,
- (f) commits the Diocese to teaching church members to respect differences and to seek ways to understand the struggles that others endure so we might walk together in humble, faithful obedience to the word of God, and
- (g) commits to fostering churches and fellowships where compassion and grace abound and where the love of God is expressed to all people no matter their background or struggles. In particular we desire to be places where LGBTQI people will feel safe.

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Mrs Gillian Davidson)

8.30 Appointment of assistant ministers and stipendiary lay workers

Synod hereby resolves to request Standing Committee to appoint a committee to review and report to the next session of Synod on the appropriate terms and conditions for appointment of assistant ministers and stipendiary lay workers to parishes and other church organisations including, inter alia, the following matters –

- (a) the applicability of a probationary period,
 - (b) circumstances where a fixed term contract may apply,
 - (c) appropriate review mechanisms for performance,
 - (d) appropriate mechanisms for transition from being a Deacon to a Presbyterian in the case of assistant ministers,
 - (e) terms and conditions for the appointment of assistant ministers and stipendiary lay workers,
 - (f) terms and conditions in relation to the termination of assistant ministers and stipendiary lay workers,
 - (g) appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms in the event of a breakdown in relationship between the Senior Minister and the Assistant Minister or the stipendiary lay worker,
 - (h) comparison of these matters with any relevant employment legislation, and
- such other matters as the Committee may consider appropriate for consideration by Synod.

(The Rev Dr David A Höhne / The Rev Dr Andrew Ford)

8.31 Strategy of Coalition for Marriage

That Synod instruct the Diocese, as a member of the Coalition for Marriage Limited, to urge this coalition to reshape the “No” strategy as follows –

- (a) continue to emphasise that biblically ordained heterosexual unions are the best relationship for human intimacy, the nurture of children, and society,
- (b) argue for the Marriage Act to remain intact to administer and legalise heterosexual unions,
- (c) promote and encourage the Government to create a new Act to administer and legalise same-sex unions,

- (d) promote and encourage the Government to introduce a new definition(s) for same-sex unions,
- (e) suggest that the Government consider the need for new definitions for other same-sex family entities to ensure social, administrative, and legal clarity, and
- (f) urge the Government to strive to have the current Private Members Bill on Same-Sex Marriage withdrawn.

(Mr Jim Campbell / The Rev Terry Bowers)

8.32 Luther and other Reformers

This Synod, noting that the end of this month marks 500 years since Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, thus beginning the European Reformation, gives thanks to God for his mercy in bringing Luther to a life of repentance and faith, his wisdom in bringing Luther and other Reformers to a firm understanding of the great truths of the Scriptures and his providence in ordering the circumstances of history in order that the ideas of the Reformers could take root and spread. In particular, Synod praises God for –

- (a) the recovery of the doctrine that we are justified by faith alone,
- (b) the reminder that we are saved by the free gift of God's grace alone,
- (c) the great news that Christ alone has done all that needs to be done for our salvation,
- (d) the Reformation principle that the Scripture should be accessible to all, and that no Christian's conscience should be bound other than by Holy scripture, and
- (e) the fact all this is for the glory of God alone.

Synod calls on all churches to hold out this great news to a world which does not know Christ and asks churches in our Diocese to promote knowledge of the Reformation as a key part of our heritage. Synod further calls on all parishes to emulate our Reformation forebears by regularly and prayerfully reviewing its ministries, conduct of services, and strategic-planning practices, to ensure that these Reformation principles are magnified rather than diluted in our churches.

(The Rev Jason Ramsay / The Rev Scott Newling)

8.33 Concern over adverse consequences to proposed marriage redefinition

Regardless of the outcome of the postal survey concerning same sex marriage, and the potential adverse consequences either way, Synod requests Standing Committee to consider –

- (a) the effect of changes to civic freedoms on the Diocese and its mission, churches, diocesan organisations, schools, clergy, lay and the general community,
- (b) how the Diocese might best see freedoms of belief, conscience, speech and association protected and promoted,
- (c) how changes to the Commonwealth law on marriage might interplay with NSW state anti-discrimination laws.

Synod commends the work already done by *Freedom for Faith* to highlight the consequences for civic freedoms should same sex marriage be introduced.

(The Rev James Warren / Bishop Michael Stead)



Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Wednesday 11 October 2017.

Wednesday 11 October 2017	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.35 pm	8.1 Ministry Standards Ordinance 2017 8.2 Diocesan Tribunal Ordinance 2017 8.3 Professional Standards Transition Ordinance 2017 8.4 General Synod – Offences Amendment Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017 8.5 Synod and Standing Committee Membership Amendment Ordinance 2017 8.6 Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017
5.35 – 5.45 pm	Archbishop's Taskforce for Resisting Pornography presentation
7.00 pm +	8.7 Gender Identity Initial Principles of Engagement 8.8 Anglican agencies which care for people with gender identity issues 8.9 General Synod – Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017 Assenting Ordinance 2017 8.10 General Synod – Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry) Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017 8.11 General Synod – Canon Concerning Services Amendment Canon 2017 Adopting Ordinance 2017 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
Monday 16 October 2017	
3.15 – 4.00 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal matters Anglicare presentation on parish partnerships Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.00-5.35 pm	8.12 Licensing of incumbents 8.13 Pastoral Supervision Working Party and Rector Training Review Group 8.14 Lifelong Ministry Development Guidelines Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
5.35 – 5.45 pm	Mission Property Committee and New Churches for New Communities presentation
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Missionary Hour
8.00 pm +	8.15 Proposal for a Property Receipts Levy 8.16 Application of funds from the Property Receipts Levy Business as per business paper

Tuesday 17 October 2017

3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal matters 8.17 Kangaroo Valley: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.25 pm	Business as per the business paper
5.25 – 5.45 pm	Youthworks presentation
7.00 pm +	Business as per the business paper

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Proposed Amendments: Wednesday 11 October 2017

(Listed in the order of the business paper for 11 October 2017. Page references are to the sequential pages in Synod Books 1, 2, 3 and 4.)

8.5 Synod and Standing Committee Membership Amendment Ordinance 2017: Committee stage		
1.	Book 3 Page 419 Line 14	Omit clause 2(e) (with consequential editorial amendments to subclause 25(1) of the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995). (The Rev Phillip Colgan)
2.	Book 3 Page 419 Line 16	Omit the matter “7” and insert instead the matter “9”. [Accepted by the mover] (The Rev David Mansfield)
3.	Book 3 Page 419 After line 17	Insert a new subclause (f) as follows “(f) insert a new clause 53A as follows – “ 53A. Three Heads of Anglican Schools Three Heads of Anglican Schools established by an Ordinance of the Synod, who attend Anglican Churches and who are elected by their peers at the Archbishop’s annual Ascension Day Meeting for Heads of Anglican Schools.” (Dr John Collier)
4.	Book 3 Page 419 Line 18	Omit clause 3 (with consequential amendments to the Long Title and clause 1). (Bishop Michael Stead)

8.6 Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017: Committee stage		
1.	Book 3 Page 424 Line 30	In clause 3(1)(b) omit the matter “given by the rector with the concurrence of the wardens of the principal or only church” and insert instead the following – “given by the wardens of the principal or only church with the concurrence of the rector” (Professor Christopher Bellenger)
2.	Book 3 Page 425 After line 22	Insert a new paragraph 3(3)(g) as follows (with consequential re-lettering) – ‘(g) the written statement specified in clause 3(3)(c), any response given under clause 3(3)(d) and a record of the consideration specified in clause 3(3)(e), has been lodged with the Registrar of the Diocese.’ [Accepted by the mover] (The Rev Dr David Höhne)

3.	Book 3 Page 425 After line 22	<p>Insert a new subclause 3(4) as follows –</p> <p>‘(3) After a written statement has been given under clause 3(3)(c):</p> <p>(a) the rector may not apply to the Archbishop for a licence for a new assistant minister or senior assistant minister in the parish until:</p> <p>(i) the all of the requirements of clause 3(3) have been complied with in relation to the proposed termination, or</p> <p>(ii) the rector and wardens have determined not to proceed with the termination and have provided written confirmation of this decision to the assistant minister or senior assistant minister who was the subject of the written statement; and</p> <p>(b) in the case of a written statement issued on the basis of sub-paragraph 3(3)(b)(ii): the rector may not apply to the Archbishop for a licence for a new assistant minister or senior assistant minister in the parish until after the next annual budget has been approved by the Parish Council.’</p> <p>[Accepted by the mover] (The Rev Dr David Höhne)</p>
4.	Book 3 Page 425 Line 23	<p>Omit clause 4 (with subsequent re-numbering of existing clauses).</p> <p>[Accepted by the mover] (Bishop Chris Edwards)</p>
5.	Book 3 Page 425 Line 33	<p>Omit clause 6 and replace with the following –</p> <p>‘6. Vacancy in office of rector and appointment of new rector</p> <p>Subject to clause 3, the term of office of an assistant minister or a senior assistant minister does not cease by reason of a vacancy occurring in the office of rector of the parish or upon a new rector being appointed to the parish and, in accepting an appointment to the parish, the new rector is taken to have:</p> <p>(a) adopted any obligation on the part of a former rector of the parish expressed in the assistant minister’s or senior assistant minister’s licence as if the new rector was named in the licence as the person subject to that obligation; and</p> <p>(b) adopted any agreement in relation to the office of the assistant minister or senior assistant minister made between the former rector and the assistant minister or senior assistant minister with the approval of:</p> <p>(i) the Archbishop; and</p> <p>(ii) the parish council.’.</p> <p>[Accepted by the mover] (Mr Robert Wicks)</p>

8.7 Gender Identity Initial Principles of Engagement

1.	Business Paper	<p>After the matter “Synod, noting the Gender Identity Report” insert the following matter –</p> <p>“and without declaring its mind as to whether or not attempts to alleviate gender dysphoria by gender transitioning should be regarded as sin”</p> <p>(The Rev Andrew Katay)</p>
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8.12 Licensing of incumbents interim report

1.	Business Paper	<p>In paragraph (a), omit the matter “provide an approved accreditation system for clergy Professional Development,” and insert instead –</p> <p>“promote the continued professional development of clergy,”.</p> <p>(The Rev Dominic Steele)</p>
2.	Business Paper	<p>Omit the matter in paragraph (b) and insert instead the following –</p> <p>“(b) requests MT&D to develop and distribute a resource to assist nominators who are involved in interviewing prospective rectors, that includes recommendations to discuss the prospective rector’s involvement in professional development,”</p> <p>(The Rev Craig Schafer)</p>

8.14 Lifelong Ministry Development Guidelines

1.	Business Paper	<p>Omit the matter in paragraph (e) and insert instead the following –</p> <p>“(e) asks the diocesan members of the Nomination Board, when considering a prospective rector, to discuss with the parish nominators the prospective rector’s involvement in professional development,”</p> <p>(The Rev Craig Schafer)</p>
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8.15 Proposal for a Property Receipts levy

1.	Business Paper	<p>In paragraph (c)(ii), insert the word “all” before the word “buildings”.</p> <p>(Mr Peter M G Young)</p>
2.	Business Paper	<p>Insert the following matter as a new subparagraph (d)(ii) (with consequential re-lettering) –</p> <p>‘, with provision for sinking funds for all buildings both in respect of this levy as well as the net operating receipts for calculating Parish Costs Recoveries and Greenfields Land levies on parishes,’.</p> <p>(Mr Peter M G Young)</p>

8.25 Doctrine of perseverance of the saints

1.	Business Paper	<p>Omit paragraphs (a)-(e) and insert instead –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">“(a) the teaching of Article XVII concerning predestination and election is the doctrine of our Church,(b) the godly consideration of these doctrines ‘is full of sweet, pleasant, and unspeakable comfort to godly persons’,(c) it is expected of all clergy licensed in the Diocese to teach these doctrines, and(d) ministers should thereby assure the penitent and warn the proud, knowing that not all who call Jesus ‘Lord’ will enter the kingdom of God, but only those who live by faith in the promises of God, thereby proving their election such that ‘at length, and by God’s mercy, they attain to everlasting life’.” <p style="text-align: right;">(Bishop Chris Edwards)</p>
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8.26 Freedom to uphold marriage as a union between one man and one woman

1.	Business Paper	<p>Insert a new paragraph (f) as follows –</p> <p>“(f) encourages all churches to urge their members to speak to friends and neighbours about the impact on future generations of children should the “yes” campaign succeed.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(The Rev Dr Raj Gupta)</p>
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8.31 Strategy of Coalition for Marriage

1.	Business Paper	<p>Omit the motion and replace with the following –</p> <p>“8.31 Equality for LGBTI Couples</p> <p>Synod –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) affirms that LGBTI couples should have the same legal rights as heterosexual couples,(b) supports the goal of Federal Government’s comprehensive Same Sex Relationships reforms in 2008 to remove every piece of legal discrimination against gay men, lesbians and same sex couples on the statute books,(c) affirms that it is neither necessary nor appropriate for the definition of marriage to be changed to provide legal equality to LGBTI couples, and(d) in light of the fact that the systems for recognition and registration of de-facto relationships are not uniform across Australia, urges the Federal Government and State Governments to work together to create a nationally consistent Register of Civil Unions that will provide same-sex and other de-facto unions a full legal equivalence to marriage. <p style="text-align: right;">(Bishop Michael Stead)</p>
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