

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

3rd Session of the 48th Synod

Business Paper: Tuesday 12 October 2010

(Page references are to the Standing Committee's Report - see Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures.)

Members of the Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak

1. Devotions will be led by the Rev Kanishka Raffel

2. Minutes of 11 October 2010

3. Answers to questions

3.1 The Rev Zac Veron to ask –

- (a) Is it true that the Standing Committee's report on Bishopscourt, dated 16 September 2010 was sent to Synod members before the Anglican Church Property Trust completed its report on 24 September 2010?
- (b) Is it also true that this Anglican Church Property Trust's report is critical of the lack of detail provided to substantiate a recommendation to sell Bishopscourt?

3.2 The Rev Dane Courtney to ask –

In relation to any Anglican Schools which are among the approximately 60 diocesan organisations constituted or otherwise regulated by Synod and referred to on page 65 of the Standing Committee Report and Synod Papers –

- (a) In the period since diocesan intervention in the SCEGGS Council in 1974, how many times has the Archbishop, the Standing Committee or the Synod intervened in the governance of any school to a degree greater than merely requesting information or explanation?
- (b) If any such intervention has occurred, and without identifying the schools concerned, in what years did the intervention occur and what, in general terms, was the nature of the issues leading to such intervention?

3.3 The Rev Dane Courtney to ask –

Has the present Archbishop or any of his predecessors as Archbishop requested the removal of the automatic right of the Archbishop of Sydney to chair any meeting of a School or other Council where that right currently exists? Will the Archbishop give the Synod the benefit of his views on this matter?

3.4 The Rev Dane Courtney to ask –

Noting that the Draft Diocesan Corporate Governance Policy will not, as it stands, apply to the Standing Committee –

- (a) How many members of the Standing Committee are elected members and how many are ex-officio members?
- (b) At the commencement of the 49th Synod in 2011, when a new Standing Committee is due to be elected, and assuming no changes in membership prior to that –
 - (i) How many elected members will have completed 12 or more years of continuous service on the Standing Committee?

- (ii) How many ex-officio members will have completed 12 or more years of continuous service on the Standing Committee?

3.5 Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

Further to the interim report of the Archbishop's Strategic Commission on Structure, Funding and Governance –

- (a) What are the most recent valuations and current cash yields of individual assets within the Endowment of the See?
- (b) What are the short and long debt positions of the Endowment of the See?
- (c) With regard to the Greenoaks Unit Development, what were the development costs, any sale proceeds to date, the current cash yield and, as available, estimated sale proceeds for the remaining apartments?
- (d) What strategies are in place to re-let the vacant office space in St Andrew's House, what progress can be reported to date, and what outcome is expected in 2011?

3.6 Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

What is the membership of the Endowment of the See Committee, by number, skill set and tenure?

3.7 Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

Having regard to the Draft Diocesan Corporate Governance Policy, and the clause 6(m) –

How many Diocesan schools are currently chaired by clergy, and of the number how many are a minister of a parochial unit?

3.8 Professor Bernard Stewart to ask –

Reference in a 'Compass' program this time last year to 'non-traditional services' in Sydney Anglican parish churches prompts distinction between (a) services of public worship based on the Book of Common Prayer or an Australian Prayer Book (as provided for under, *inter alia*, the Church Administration Ordinance 1990) and (b) such other services as are lawful (also as provided for under that Ordinance). Accordingly, in respect of the latter, and apart from services reasonably described as non-substantial variations of the above-specified prayer book services (as provided for under the Schedule in the General Synod – Canon Concerning Services 1992 Adopting Ordinance 1998, hereafter referred to as the Services Canon), I ask in respect of publicly-notified activity in parish churches only –

- (a) Is the lawful basis for such services restricted to clause 5(2) of the Services Canon which states (in part) 'A minister of the diocese may on the occasions for which no (prayer book) provision is made use forms of service considered suitable by the minister for those occasions' and if not, what other clauses of which Ordinances apply?
- (b) Would the specified Services Canon clause be operational if such services were not 'on occasions', but occurred as the principal or only form of service, and if so, on what legal basis?
- (c) Is there any specification of the structure, content or minimal requirements for expressions of worship under 5(2) of the Services Canon and/or non-prayer book-based services apart from clauses 5(3) and 5(4) of the Services Canon and if so, under what Ordinance(s)?
- (d) By comparison with provisions made under the 'General Synod – Lay Assistants at Holy Communion Canon 1973 Adopting Ordinance 1973', is there any provision for Diocesan scrutiny or recognition of the qualifications of lay persons taking leadership roles in services provided for under 5(2) of the Services Canon or similar, and if so, what matters are addressed and under which Ordinance?

3.9 Mr Ian Mottram to ask –

To what extent has the motion passed by Synod in 2008 recommending use of Discipleship training courses for all church members in all churches at all levels of maturity been implemented by Sydney Diocese Churches and has this implementation exceeded the 4% shown by a survey by email prior to 2008?

3.10 Mr Brian Flower to ask –

Given the overwhelming support at last year's Synod for the Connect09 stand at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, what cogent reasons were there for the display not being held thus missing the opportunity of contact with approximately 900,000 people who passed through the gate?

3.11 The Rev Keith Dalby to ask –

- (a) Does the Archbishop intend to take any action to prevent consecration of the bread and wine by persons other than a priest or presbyter when the service known as the Lord's Supper takes place on Church Trust property in the Diocese in the light of –
- (i) the Appellate Tribunal's Report to the Primate (and reasons therefore) of August 2010 in the matter of A Reference concerning the administration of Holy Communion and the Lord's Supper by persons other than a Priest or Presbyter?
 - (ii) clause 3 of the Jerusalem Declaration dated the Feast of St Peter and St Paul 2008 and Canon 18 of the Ecumenical Council of Nicea of 325 AD? and/or
 - (iii) Motion 28.21 of the Fifteenth General Synod, passed unanimously on the final day of the Synod, 23 September 2010?
- (b) If the answer to any of questions (a)(i), (ii) or (iii) is yes, what action does the Archbishop intend to take and when?
- (c) If the answer to any of questions (a)(i), (ii) or (iii) is no, why does the Archbishop not intend to take any such action?
- (d) Does the Archbishop believe that failure to take any such action is consistent with a commitment to the Jerusalem Declaration and, if so, why?

3.12 Mr Stuart Grigg to ask –

My question relates to the Endowment of the See and St Andrew's House Corporation –

- (a) In an answer to question 1 at the 2009 Synod, we were advised that "over recent years the EOS has achieved a cash income of \$4 million to \$5 million per annum." But that "... the total income in 2008 was only \$2.5 million, and projections for the next few years remain around that level." What was the actual income in 2009 and what now are the projections for the next few years?
- (b) In the "Progress Report on the work of the Archbishop's Strategic Commission" (page 5 of the Supplementary Report at paragraph 8) it states that the EOS cannot expect to receive its usual 50% of the cash flow from St Andrew's House over the next three years. How much had EOS been expecting from that annual cash flow and what impact will that have on the EOS income in 2011 and 2012?
- (c) What does the word "over-distributed" mean in respect of the handling of the cash flow by the St Andrew's House Corporation (also paragraph 8 of the Commission's report)?

3.13 The Rev Michael Robinson to ask –

- (a) Is there a policy to encourage Diocesan organisations and parishes to use consumables such as tea and coffee branded with Fair Trade, Forest alliance or other such organisations, to encourage a fairer return to producers in developing countries?
- (b) If not, has this ever been considered?
- (c) If so, what were the results of such consideration?

3.14 Mr John Paul to ask –

My question relates to the Anglican Church Property Trust's Long Term Pooling Fund –

- (a) How much do parishes have invested in this Fund?
- (b) A circular dated June 2010 regarding these funds stated that the Fund's capital value has declined substantially over 5 years and that the investment returns for the last 5 years have been 0.1% per annum in the light of declining capital value and poor investment returns how has the Fund been able to maintain the level of distributions indicated in the circular?

3.15 Ms Lyn Bannerman to ask –

My question relates to the tabling and reception of accounts and reports of diocesan organisations as occurs at every Synod I note that the paper on Diocesan Corporate Governance at page 64 paragraph 14, in the annual report of the Standing Committee etc states that "Synod is properly regarded as the owner of each diocesan organisation on behalf of the Anglican Community in the Diocese of Sydney". Given this responsibility –

- (a) What arrangements can be made to improve Synod members' access to these reports in a reasonable time frame before, during and after Synod, given the total size of reports tabled in and received by Synod?
- (b) Are all reports and accounts on diocesan organisations formally received by Synod thereby reports on the public record, and therefore available by members of the public?
- (c) If so, what arrangements can be put in place to facilitate public access to reports and accounts formally received by Synod both during and after Synod?
- (d) If any reports and accounts formally received by Synod are not publicly available, is Synod always informed of the confidential nature of such a report, or part of a report, and if not, why not?
- (e) Are any of the reports and accounts of diocesan organisations that will be tabled for Synod's reception at this session, confidential in part or in full?
- (f) Were any of the diocesan reports and accounts received by Synod in 2009 confidential to Synod members only? If so which ones?
- (g) Why are all reports and accounts received by Synod not placed on the Secretariat's website (noting that some are), either directly or with a link to them at another website, and why is there not a password protected area of SDS's website if any reports or accounts are classified as confidential?

3.16 Mr Bruce York to ask –

I refer to the facility that exists whereby Synod members may obtain from the Secretariat, name and address labels for sending out circulars relating to Synod business to either the whole of Synod members or members by Region and have the following questions –

- (a) What are the current charges for the whole of Synod and by Regions for supplying these labels and approval of the circular?

- (b) How are these costs determined and do they represent a fair recovery of costs for the effort involved in the Secretariat providing these labels and reviewing the contents of the proposed circular to ensure it complies with Synod procedures?

3.17 Mr Bruce York to ask –

I refer to the property development known as The Greenoaks Apartments which is perceived by some to have been a poor financial decision.

Could the Synod please be apprised of the initial financial justification of this project compared to the current actuals and expectations with some explanation of the reasons for any variances please?

3.18 Mr Donald McPhail to ask –

With reference to the proceedings of Synod –

- (a) Does the Diocese intend to publish a 2010 Yearbook recording, in hard copy, the proceedings of the October session of the 2009 Synod?
- (b) Does it intend to publish a 2011 Yearbook recording the proceedings of this session of Synod?
- (c) For how long will the electronic records of the proceedings of Synod remain accessible for archival purposes and historical study?
- (d) Will the Diocese take steps to prevent the rapid changes in information technology from making these electronic records inaccessible?

3.19 Mrs Nola Oddie to ask –

I refer to page 32, paragraph 7.8 of the Standing Committee's report concerning the request from the General Secretary for the diocese to contribute to a "Proposed database of decisions of disciplinary tribunals to enable consistency in recommendations made by tribunals". Standing Committee's report acknowledges the rationale for the database but states that Standing Committee declined to contribute "for a number of reasons, including the difficulty of committing resources ...".

- (a) What is the level of resources needed for our Diocese to contribute information to the database?
- (b) What are the other reasons Standing Committee has for not contributing to such a data base?

3.20 Mrs Nola Oddie to ask –

What steps have been taken during the last 12 months to improve the management and financial training of clergy, particularly those holding positions on boards or councils of Diocesan corporations and organisations? And what courses have been introduced at Moore College for the same purpose?

3.21 The Rev Philip Bradford to ask –

I refer to section 4.1 (page 11) of the Report of the Standing Committee, the last paragraph of that section. It states that any major problems found by the Finance Committee, when reviewing the diocesan accounts of the 40 organisations whose reports are tabled in Synod, will be reported.

- (a) What does the Finance Committee define as a major problem?
- (b) Would significant financial losses experienced by any of these organisations, whether or not the organisation remained solvent, be considered a "major problem"? If not, why not?

- (c) Were there significant losses in 2008 and 2009 made by any of these organisations whose reports were tabled at 2009 Synod, whether or not the organisation remained solvent?
- (d) Are there any significant financial losses, or any other major issues, in the accounts and reports being tabled this year (ie those to be tabled under item 14.1 on today's business paper)?
- (e) Of the two reports at 14.2 that have just been received, what will be the process of advising Synod should there be problems with these?

3.22 The Rev Mark Rundle to ask –

What is the current status of provision for long service leave for clergy who move from parish employment to employment as chaplains licensed by the Diocese?

3.23 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

On page 2 of the Standing Committee's Supplementary Report for this year, under Item 4.13A, it is noted in respect of the Parish Cost Recoveries Fund, that this is "\$1 million in excess of the working capital requirements for that fund", and that the proposal is to transfer this to the Diocesan Endowment in partial repayment of \$1.3 million seed capital provided to the Fund in 2005. Can you please advise how the excess arose, and the details of the seed capital provided in 2005?

3.24 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

Can you please advise how much of the funding for 2010 provided to the Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee was spent, or will be spent, on TAFE ministry?

3.25 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

On page 371 of the Green Book, the accounts of the Glebe Administration Board show as an expense a share of loss from St Andrew's House Corporation of \$4.6 million in 2009 and \$5.7 million in 2008. Can you please advise how these losses arose, and what action is being taken, or being considered, to prevent, as far as possible, future losses from St Andrew's House Corporation?

3.26 The Rev Nigel Fortescue to ask –

With regard to the vacant unimproved property on Menangle Road, Menangle owned by Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV) –

- (a) When was it acquired?
- (b) What is ongoing cost of its retention per annum?
- (c) What is it currently being used for?
- (d) What plans does ARV have for the site?
- (e) If planned when will building commence?
- (f) What conditions, caveats or restrictions are currently in place over the site and if any, when do they expire?

3.27 The Rev Nigel Fortescue to ask –

With regard to the allocation of \$700,000 of Synod funds to Regional Councils at point 4.11 of the Report of Standing Committee –

- (a) Why did Wollongong Regional Council receive \$0?
- (b) On what basis were the amounts allocated?

3.28 Mr Malcolm Purvis to ask –

- (a) How many complaints were made to the Professional Standards Unit in the period covered by their Annual Report?
- (b) How many of these complaints were for alleged incidents occurring in the last 10 years?
- (c) How many times did the Professional Standards Committee meet in the period covered by the Annual Report and how many matters did it consider?
- (d) How many times did the Archbishop meet with victims in the same period?
- (e) How many times has the Anglican Church's National Register been accessed since June 2010?
- (f) Is there a charge to access the National Register?
- (g) Are the financial statements of the PSU reported to the Synod? If not, to whom does the PSU report its accounts?

3.29 Mrs Susan Hooke to ask –

St Andrew's House Ordinance contains the following –

“By virtue of various ordinances of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney and of the Standing Committee thereof, the management and use of the said land is vested in Glebe Administration Board which, by virtue of the Glebe Administration Ordinance 1930 Further Amendment Ordinance 1972, is obliged to exercise and perform all of the powers, authorities, duties and functions conferred or imposed upon it in relation to the said land only to the extent to which the same are authorised by the Standing Committee and subject to the direction of the Standing Committee given from time to time by resolution thereof.”

What directions did Standing Committee give to the Glebe Administration Board in respect of St Andrew's House between 1 January 2005 and 30 September 2010?

3.30 Mrs Susan Hooke to ask –

Between 2003 and 2009 Standing Committee passed ordinances approving the sale of a number of properties belonging to the Endowment of the See including properties at –

Strathfield (2003), Pymble (2004), Keiraville (2006), Bellevue Hill (2008) and North Rocks, Greenacre and Concord West (2009).

Please identify which of these properties have been sold, the amount each realised and what was done with the proceeds of any sales?

3.31 Mrs Patricia Mayne to ask –

- (a) Why has Youthworks which is responsible for delivering *Safe Ministry – Sexual Abuse* seminars to parishes, elected to exclude any victim impact statements – contemporary or otherwise from its video presentation, similar to those included in the original joint Anglicare/TAMAR video “Behind Closed Doors” which was resoundingly endorsed by the whole Synod in 1998 for use as an educative tool by parishes?
- (b) In regard to the same seminars, why has Youthworks included in its presentation the video, *Annie's Story*, the content of which in relation to sexual abuse is subliminal at best, and which takes up time that might otherwise be devoted specifically to sexual abuse and misconduct issues?
- (c) Given that the Safe Ministry Board Ordinance deals exclusively with sexual abuse issues, why has Youthworks included in its presentation and handouts, material dealing with Occupational Health and Safety and other issues which, together with *Annie's Story*, in a typical 6-hour seminar

(including breaks), leaves less than 30 minutes to address specific sexual abuse and misconduct issues?

- (d) Noting that Melbourne Diocese devotes a whole day to its seminars dealing specifically with sexual abuse and misconduct issues, as did TAMAR and its original seminars, will the Archbishop, given his unquestioned commitment to Safe Ministry and Zero Tolerance, take up the above concerns with Youthworks?

3.32 Mr Alan Baker to ask –

- (a) What proportion of St Andrew's House is leased on a commercial basis?
(b) What proportion of the building is held under the largest commercial lease?
(c) Was it Standing Committee, the board of the GAB, or the board of the EOS or the board of St Andrew's House which made determinations in each year since 2005 as to what amount from the income of SAH would be paid out to the DE and the EOS and what amount would be retained for maintenance and improvements of the building?

3.33 The Rev Raj Gupta to ask –

What is the current projected 2011, compared with the actual for 2010, first year enrolment for –

- (a) Moore College (ordinands and non-ordinands),
(b) Diploma courses at Youthworks College, and
(c) Year 13 at Youthworks College?

3.34 The Rev Greg Burke to ask –

Can the Archbishop advise Synod of the –

- (a) Number of undistributed copies of the booklet titled "The Essential Jesus" as at the date of the Connect09 survey this year (both those stored by parishes and those stored by the diocese and diocesan organisations) – both as an absolute number and a percentage of the total number printed?
(b) Total printing and distribution cost for the booklet?

3.35 Mr John Hibberd to ask –

Could Synod be informed as to at retirement of clergy the number of clergy that take locums and the average term of these locums?

3.36 Mr John Hibberd to ask –

Could the Synod be informed as to the average financial position of clergy at the current retirement under the current position?

3.37 Mr Andrew Cooper to ask –

Noting that paragraphs 21-23 of Standing Committee's report on Bishops court identifies increased cash flow through reinvestment of capital as a factor in favour of the sale of the property, does the structure of the Endowment of the See require that the net proceeds of any sale of Bishops court be reinvested in this manner? Specifically, is it possible, under current legislation, for the proceeds of a sale of Bishops court to be redirected to other purposes, thereby negating the benefit of increased income for the Endowment?

4. Petitions

5. Notices of questions

6. Procedural motions from members

6.1 Property Trust's response to the recommended sale of Bishopscourt

Synod, for the purposes of considering item 9.14 on today's business paper, agrees to the distribution to members of comments from the Property Trust in response to the recommendation of the Archbishop's Strategic Commission to sell Bishopscourt.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

6.2 Arrangements to consider motion on Euthanasia

Synod agrees to the following arrangements for the purposes of considering the motion at item 9.18 on today's business paper concerning euthanasia –

- (a) the motion is to be made an order of the day at 4.30pm on Tuesday 19 October 2010, and
 - (b) the motion is to be taken to be moved and seconded, and
 - (c) instead of speeches by the mover, Dr Megan Best may speak to the motion for up to 15 minutes, and
 - (d) after Dr Best has spoken, members may ask questions about any matter in connection with the motion which may be answered by Dr Best, the mover or the seconder, and
 - (e) after debate on the motion, the mover may exercise a right of reply for up to 5 minutes before the motion is voted on,
- and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Dr Karin Sowada/Dr Stephen Judd)

7. The President will invite members to give notice of other motions

8. Calling of motions on the business paper

9. Motions

To be taken today from 4.30 pm

9.1 Archbishop of Sydney (Election and Retirement) Amendment Ordinance 2010

Synod permits the introduction of the Archbishop of Sydney (Election and Retirement) Amendment Ordinance 2010.

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(Bishop Glenn Davies/Mr Peter Kell)

9.2 Solemn Promises Ordinance 2010

Synod permits the introduction of the Solemn Promises Ordinance 2010.

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(Dr Philip Selden/Dean Phillip Jensen)

To be taken today from 7.00 pm

9.3 Work of Archbishop's Strategic Commission on Structure, Funding and Governance

Synod expresses its thanks to the Archbishop for establishing the Archbishop's Strategic Commission on Structure, Funding and Governance (the Commission) and –

- (a) noting the ongoing work of the Commission in bringing recommendations to the Archbishop and the Standing Committee about ensuring the sustainability of the Endowment of the See and changes that need to be made to the operation and inter-dependence of diocesan bodies to ensure that the essential work and services of the Diocese are maintained while living within our means, and
- (b) noting that the Standing Committee has endorsed the general direction proposed by the Commission in an interim report provided to the Archbishop and Standing Committee and requested that the Commission progress its work with relevant diocesan agencies,

requests that the Standing Committee provide a report to the Synod in 2011 about the steps that have or still need to be taken to ensure that diocesan finances are placed on a sustainable footing and the implications such steps will have on the funding of diocesan infrastructure and activities in 2012 and beyond.

(Supplementary Report page 5)

(Mr Peter Kell/Bishop Glenn Davies)

To be taken today from 8.00 pm

9.4 Connect09

Synod, noting the report on the lessons learned from the Connect09 campaign prepared by the Connect09 Management Committee, endorses the recommendations for action in the report arising from the experience of the campaign.

(Supplementary Report page 13) *(The Rev Andrew Nixon/Bishop Peter Hayward)*

9.5 Special Religious Education (SRE)

Synod –

- (a) affirms its long-standing and firm support of free, secular and compulsory public education and regards as a matter of justice that every child in New South Wales should have access to education of an excellent standard,
- (b) in recognition that an understanding of religion, as a significant human activity, should be part of the education of the whole person, gives thanks for the existence of Special Religious Education (SRE) in New South Wales public schools which brings thousands of volunteers into such schools each week in a way that enriches education and represents a key interface between schools and their communities,
- (c) welcomes the recent statements from both the Minister for Education, the Hon Verity Firth, and the Shadow Minister for Education, Mr Adrian Piccoli MP, affirming the fundamental place of SRE in New South Wales public schools and committing the Government and Opposition to the continuation of SRE in the curriculum offering of such schools,
- (d) affirms existing Departmental Policy concerning SRE which –
 - (i) allows parents to exercise the right on behalf of their children to opt-out of SRE,
 - (ii) requires schools to support SRE by ensuring that no formal lessons or scheduled school activities occur during time set aside for SRE to avoid creating conflict of choice for some parents and some students attending SRE, and
 - (iii) requires students who do opt-out of SRE to receive appropriate care and supervision which may involve students in other activities such as homework, reading and private study,
- (e) expresses concern that many schools do not adhere to SRE Departmental Policy and calls on the Minister to ensure that Departmental Policy in this area is adhered to by all schools,

- (f) notes the recently concluded trial of “ethics lessons” comprising 10 half-hour lessons conducted over 10 weeks in 10 Government primary schools to students in grades 5 and 6 by the St James Ethics Centre on behalf of the Federation of Parents and Citizens Association of NSW,
- (g) commends the Minister’s selection of an academic from Adelaide, Dr Sue Knight, to conduct an external evaluation of the quality of learning in ethical decision-making by students who participated in the trial and expresses its gratitude for the opportunity afforded to this Diocese and other SRE providers to make submissions to Dr Knight on the operation of the trial and the evaluation of it,
- (h) reiterates the view expressed in the submission from this Diocese that, for the reasons set out in the submission, the trial cannot provide a sound basis for concluding that –
 - (i) the status quo concerning SRE should be changed, and
 - (ii) the “ethics lessons” as proposed should be made generally available in Government primary schools across the State on an on-going basis, and
- (i) calls on the Minister to decide wisely and justly about whether to extend the teaching of “ethics lessons” in Government primary schools and, if so, how that extension should be implemented.

(Dr Bryan Cowling/The Rev Zac Veron)

To be taken on Wednesday 13 October 2010 from 4.30 pm

9.6 Clergy Retirements Amendment Ordinance 2010

Synod permits the introduction of the Clergy Retirements Amendment Ordinance 2010.

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(Bishop Robert Forsyth/The Rev Robert Cameron)

9.7 Department of Evangelism (New Churches) Reconstitution Ordinance 2010

Synod permits the introduction of the Department of Evangelism (New Churches) Reconstitution Ordinance 2010.

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(Bishop Robert Forsyth/The Rev Archie Poulos)

To be taken on Wednesday 13 October 2010 from 7.00 pm

9.8 Appellate Tribunal opinion on administration of Holy Communion by persons other than a presbyter

That this Synod –

- (a) notes the advisory opinion of the Appellate Tribunal given in relation to questions posed by Dr Muriel Porter and 25 members of the General Synod, and
- (b) affirms resolution 27/08 of this Synod, specifically the two statements, where Synod –
 - (i) affirms again its conviction that lay and diaconal administration of the Lord’s Supper is consistent with the teaching of Scripture, and
 - (ii) affirms that the Lord’s Supper in this diocese may be administered by persons other than presbyters.

(www.anglican.org.au)

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett)

To be taken on Wednesday 13 October 2010 from 8.00 pm

9.9 Grievance Policy and Procedure

That the Grievance Policy and Procedure for dealing with allegations of unacceptable behaviour by clergy and church workers in parishes be approved in principle.

(Page 110)

(Canon Sandy Grant/Mr Clive Ellis)

9.10 Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2010

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2010.

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(Canon Sandy Grant/Mr Clive Ellis)

To be taken on Monday 18 October 2010 from 4.30 pm

9.11 General Synod – Long Service Leave Canon 2010 Assenting Ordinance 2010

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Long Service Leave Canon 2010 Assenting Ordinance 2010.

(Page 249 and Additional materials page 7)

(Mr Doug Marr/Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

9.12 Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid

Synod, noting the launch of the Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid –

1. Gives thanks for the work of the Archbishop of Sydney's Appeals Unit and the generosity of God's people over many years.
2. Commends the ministry of the Anglican Aid and its funds, the Archbishop's Overseas Relief and Aid Fund (ORAF), the Archbishop's Overseas Ministry Fund (OMF) and the Archbishop's Community Care Fund (CCF) to the people and parishes of the Diocese of Sydney and beyond.
3. Encourages the parishes and people of the Diocese to consider the strategic importance of the ministry of Anglican Aid and to pray for and give generously to our Christian partners through Anglican Aid.
4. Extends to the Archbishop, the Board and the staff of Anglican Aid an assurance of its prayerful support for an ever expanding ministry that brings glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and the blessing of the Gospel to many people throughout the world and in our own back yard.

(The Rev Peter Rodgers/Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett)

9.13 Amendments to the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917

Synod, noting the explanatory report about the proposed amendments to the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917 –

- (a) endorses the promotion to the New South Wales Parliament of the amendments proposed to be made by the insertion into the Act of new sections 6AA, 10A and 11A, and
- (b) requests that any proposal to seek further amendments to the Act to address the concerns which prompted the drafting of the new section 48 of the Act be brought to the Synod for approval before being promoted to the New South Wales Parliament.

(Additional materials page 1)

(Mr Robert Tong/The Rev Craig Roberts)

To be taken on Monday 18 October 2010 from 8.00 pm

9.14 Bishops court

Synod, noting the report from the Standing Committee about Bishops court –

- (a) supports the sale of Bishops court and requests the Standing Committee to pass a suitable ordinance and take such further action as is necessary to facilitate the sale, and
- (b) requests the Endowment of the See Committee to make arrangements to provide suitable alternative accommodation for the Archbishop in consultation with the Archbishop and Mrs Jensen, having regard to the matters raised in the report.

(Supplementary Report page 7)

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Peter Kell)

To be taken on Tuesday 19 October 2010 from 7.00 pm

9.15 Diocesan Corporate Governance

Synod receives the report on Diocesan Corporate Governance and, noting the draft Diocesan Corporate Governance Policy attached to the report –

- (a) requests that Synod members provide comments on the draft Diocesan Corporate Governance Policy to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 March 2011, and
- (b) requests that a copy of the report and draft policy be sent to the board of each diocesan organisation for comments back to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 March 2011, and
- (c) requests that a revised form of the Diocesan Corporate Governance Policy be brought to the Synod in 2011 incorporating, as appropriate, comments made by Synod members and the boards of diocesan organisations, and
- (d) requests that draft guidelines on the role and functioning of boards of diocesan organisations also be brought to the Synod in 2011.

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(Dr Laurie Scandrett/Mr Peter Kell)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

9.16 Equal representation of women

That this Synod in responding to Anglican Consultative Council Resolution 13.31 requesting member churches to work towards the goal of equal representation of women in decision making at all levels –

- (a) recognises and celebrates the multitude of ministries in which women, as well as men, participate, and the gifts they bring to these ministries,
- (b) requests Standing Committee, Regional Councils, and other diocesan organisations to apply the principle of equal representation of women when making appointments or nominating candidates for election, wherever legislatively and practically possible and report progress to the Synod in 2012, and
- (c) encourages each parish to adopt this principle in elections and appointments to Parish Councils and other parochial committees.

(The Rev Philip Bradford/Ms Lyn Bannerman)

9.17 Resignation of Mr Steve McKerihan

Synod notes with great sadness and regret the resignation of Mr Steve McKerihan as the Chief Executive Officer of the Glebe Administration Board and the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat and gives thanks to God for his overtly Christian leadership of

those organisations from 2007 to 2010. It is appreciated that Steve led these organisations during a time of extreme difficulty arising out of the Global Financial Crisis and through all this he sought to honour God and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in all he did. His humble determination and strength of character will be greatly missed.

Synod thanks God for Steve's fellowship in the Gospel and prays for a complete recovery for him from his illness. We particularly wish him and his wife Margaret God's richest blessings.

(Dr Laurie Scandrett/The Rev Rick Lewers)

9.18 Euthanasia

This Synod, in response to the Greens' notice of motion to introduce into the NSW Parliament a Bill to legalise voluntary euthanasia and the Greens' Bill in Federal Parliament to overturn Commonwealth prohibitions against euthanasia legislation in the Territories –

1. notes that when adequate palliative care, symptom control and psychosocial support is available and accessible, only a tiny minority of those accessing such support express a preference for euthanasia,
2. observes that the outcome of legalised voluntary euthanasia will include the insertion of mistrust into patient-carer and patient-relative relationships, a creeping expansion of candidates for euthanasia, and reduced funding for terminal care;
3. notes that recent reports of community support for euthanasia fail adequately to distinguish the deliberate killing of people from the morally acceptable practice of not prolonging life with burdensome treatment, and
4. notes that most supporters for euthanasia are young and healthy, but that euthanasia legislation is not well supported among people with disability and by people who are old, infirm or vulnerable.

Accordingly, this Synod –

- (a) reaffirms that all human life is precious in God's sight, and that the Bible's clear prohibition of killing innocent humans has the positive effect of creating communities that love and care for others at their weakest and move vulnerable;
- (b) reiterates its opposition to voluntary euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide;
- (c) calls upon the Premier and the Prime Minister to oppose these initiatives;
- (d) calls on the NSW State and Federal parliamentarians to request referral of these bills to parliamentary committees, and to inform themselves of the alternatives to euthanasia and of its negative consequences in jurisdictions that have adopted it; and
- (e) calls on these governments to increase funding to pain management and palliative care services.

(Dr Karin Sowada/Dr Stephen Judd)

9.19 Conferral of Lambeth Doctorate on the Rev Dr John Harris

Synod, noting that the Archbishop of Canterbury, by the powers invested in him by the Reformation Parliament's 1533 Ecclesiastical Licences Act, has conferred on the Rev Dr John Harris, the Lambeth degree of Doctor of Divinity, in recognition of his 'outstanding contribution as a Bible scholar and translator', his 'advocacy on behalf of Aboriginal Australians,' and his 'unstinting endeavours to raise awareness of indigenous issues within the church and the wider Australian community',

- (a) congratulates Dr Harris on this exceptional honour conferred on him, and only four others who have worked in the Australian Church;

- (b) gives thanks for the labours and devotion which justify this honour, especially his monumental histories of the encounter between the Christian faith and Aboriginal people and his participation in the translation of the Scriptures into Aboriginal languages;
- (c) acknowledges the faithful ministry which he and his wife, Judy, and his parents Len and Margarita Harris, have made through many decades to our Indigenous people through CMS, Zadok, the Bible Society and other organisations, and
- (d) joins its prayers with his for the temporal and eternal wellbeing and happiness of our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.

(Dr Stuart Piggin)

9.20 **Affirming Biblical marriage**

Synod welcomes and endorses the affirmation of the recent General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia that marriage is the life long union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, as taught by God in Scripture, and calls on all levels of government to maintain and protect this definition of marriage for the good of society.

(Dr Claire Smith/The Rev Nigel Fortescue)

9.21 **Global vision in education**

That in the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education another dot point be added under “A Christian approach to education....education that is fully Christian will promote teaching and learning that” –

- “• promotes a global vision that spans curriculum subjects and moves from classroom instruction to practical action.”

(Mr Alan Watson)

9.22 **Transformation of culture**

That in the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education another dot point be added under “A Christian approach to education....education that is fully Christian will promote teaching and learning that” –

- “• seeks the transformation of culture in the visual and performing arts, in music, and in the media.”

(Mr Alan Watson)

9.23 **General Synod Financial Statements**

Synod notes that the annual financial statements of the General Synod and its related bodies are not usually provided to each Australian diocese.

Synod asks the Diocesan Secretary to write to the General Synod Standing Committee to request that copies of the audited financial statements of the following bodies be sent to each Australian diocese each year, or alternatively made available on the General Synod web site, within 28 days of the signing of the audit report –

- (a) General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia (incorporating the Trust Fund, the Statutory Fund, the Special Fund, the Indigenous Endowment Fund, the Reserve Fund and any other fund established by the General Synod Standing Committee);
- (b) The Anglican Church of Australia Long Service Leave Fund;
- (c) Anglican Long Service Leave Fund Limited;

- (d) Broughton Publishing Pty Limited;
- (e) The Broughton Publishing Trust;
- (f) Defence Force Board of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia;
- (g) any other body under the ultimate control of the General Synod where the General Synod Standing Committee considers it appropriate to make the financial statements available.

(Mr Doug Marr/Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

9.24 **General Synod Assessments**

Synod notes with concern the following financial decisions of the recent General Synod and the General Synod Standing Committee –

- (a) the 23% increase in the rate of Statutory Fund assessment between the 2010 and 2011 financial years;
- (b) the allocation of substantial funds in 2011, with expected similar allocations in future years, to cover the costs of the Episcopal Standards Commission investigations concerning the Bishop of Ballarat and the Bishop of The Murray without any requirement that the dioceses concerned pay any of the costs involved except as part of the normal General Synod assessment process;
- (c) implementation of changes in policy on the use of General Synod reserves without the issues being discussed by the General Synod;
- (d) the transfer of all royalties and profits from sales of liturgical texts to a separate company (Broughton Publishing Pty Limited) even though the costs associated with producing these texts are fully funded from the Statutory Fund;
- (e) the use of surpluses generated by the administration of the Long Service Leave Fund and surpluses from Telstra commissions to pay for the Primate's Assistant and to offset payments from the Special Fund rather than use these surpluses to reduce Statutory Fund assessments;
- (f) the changed arrangement whereby grants to various Australian and international bodies from the Special Fund are no longer fully covered by Special Fund assessments but instead other financial resources of the General Synod are used for these purposes.

Synod asks the Sydney Standing Committee to enter into urgent consultation with the General Synod Standing Committee to negotiate a more equitable financial outcome for the dioceses of the Australian Church.

Synod further asks the Sydney Standing Committee to consider whether it should report on these matters to the 2011 session of Synod before arranging for payments to the General Synod in 2011.

(Mr Doug Marr/Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

9.25 **Mental health**

Synod, mindful that we are rooted and established in the love of Christ (Eph 3.17) carrying each other's burdens (Gal 6:2) and doing good to all people (Gal 6:10) expresses concern for the plight of those who experience mental illness, which affects 1 in 5 Australians. Therefore Synod –

- (a) recognises that mental health illness adversely impacts family and relationships and makes people vulnerable and socially excluded,
- (b) notes that, both within our churches and the wider community, the issues which accompany mental illness can present significant barriers to hearing the gospel and enjoying Christian fellowship,

- (c) encourages our churches to provide outreach with loving care and support to people experiencing mental illness,
- (d) urges our churches to further develop partnerships and links with Anglicare to provide support to people with complex mental health issues with services such as –
 - mental health chaplaincy training and clinical pastoral care training,
 - relationship and individual counselling programs
 - intensive case management services such as the PHAMS program
 - respite services such as the Haven Project
 - youth outreach,
- (e) requests that the diocesan leadership and relevant Anglican organisations more broadly develop and advocacy campaign for government and the wider community to break down the barriers to inclusion for people experiencing mental health issues.

(Mr Peter Kell/The Rev Graham McKay)

9.26 **Scepticism with respect to the gospel**

That this Synod –

1. recognises –
 - (a) that in our society a profound scepticism exists with respect to the gospel and the fundamentals upon which it rests, and
 - (b) that this scepticism entails, among other things, matters of an historical, scientific, philosophical and moral nature and commitment to other beliefs, and
2. requests Standing Committee –
 - (a) to appoint a committee to consider theological perspectives on the issue and to investigate resources and consider strategies likely to assist parishes, Anglican organisations and individuals in the Diocese in the proclamation of the gospel in this atmosphere of scepticism and
 - (b) to bring a report on the findings and reflections of this committee to the next session of Synod.

(Dr Barry Newman)

9.27 **Regulation of Holy Matrimony**

This Synod requests the Standing Committee to bring to the first session of the next Synod either –

- (a) an ordinance which would repeal the Holy Matrimony Canon 1981 and an ordinance or regulations that would then govern the solemnization of holy matrimony in the Diocese of Sydney, or
- (b) any viable alternative to produce the same result.

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Mr Justice Peter Young)

9.28 **Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee**

Synod –

- (a) notes the report of the Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee (TEMOC) (at pages 184 to 191 of the Standing Committee report to Synod) and thanks the committee for its initial work,
- (b) endorses the vision to grow Bible-based ministries on each University and VET (Vocational Education and Training) campus in the diocese that are –
 - (i) evangelistic
 - (ii) preparing students for a lifetime of Christian service, and

- (iii) particularly concerned to raise up future generations of vocational Christian ministers,
- (c) commits to ongoing financial support of TEMOC within the constraints of the Diocesan budget,
- (d) notes the financial challenges in establishing and supporting such ministries and that the initial policy of the committee to focus on growing new ministries is likely to have a negative financial import on established University chaplaincies,
- (e) urges parishes and individuals to generously support Tertiary ministries, and
- (f) encourages parishes and Mission Area Teams to initiate and support such ministries on local VET campuses in consultation with TEMOC.

(The Rev Richard Blight)

9.29 **Parish levy towards the operating costs of the Endowment of the See**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee –

- (a) pass an ordinance to levy parishes to contribute \$900,000 per annum towards the operating costs of the Endowment of the See (EOS) (1.14% of 2009 Estimated Total Net Operating Receipts as detailed on page 151 of the 2010 Synod book), and
- (b) report to the Synod in 2011 about whether this levy should be abolished for future years and what financially viable steps can be taken to ensure the EOS is placed on a sustainable footing.

(The Rev Craig Roberts)



Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 12 October 2010.

Tuesday 12 October 2010	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.1 Archbishop of Sydney (Election and Retirement) Amendment Ordinance 2010 9.2 Solemn Promises Ordinance 2010 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 – 8.00 pm	9.3 Work of Archbishop's Strategic Commission on Structure, Funding and Governance Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
8.00 pm +	9.4 Connect09 9.5 Special Religious Education (SRE) Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Wednesday 13 October 2010	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.6 Clergy Retirements Amendment Ordinance 2010 9.7 Department of Evangelism (New Churches) Reconstitution Ordinance 2010 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 – 8.00 pm	9.8 Appellate Tribunal opinion on administration of Holy Communion by persons other than a presbyter Thereafter, other business as per business paper
8.00 pm +	9.9 Grievance Policy and Procedure 9.10 Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2010 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Monday 18 October 2010

3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.11 General Synod – Long Service Leave Canon 2010 Assenting Ordinance 2010 9.12 Archbishop of Sydney’s Anglican Aid 9.13 Amendments to the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917 Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Missionary Hour
8.00 pm +	9.14 Bishopscourt Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Tuesday 19 October 2010

3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	Business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	9.15 Diocesan Corporate Governance Policy Thereafter, other business as per the business paper