



Newcastle Diocesan Synod

11th May 2019

**A meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod will be held on
Saturday 11th May at 10:00am at
the Dr Thomlinson Church of England Middle School, Silverton Lane,
Rothbury NE65 7RJ**

The Synod will begin at 10:00am and is scheduled to conclude by 1:00pm.
Registration and refreshments will be available from 9:30am

President: The Rt Revd Christine Hardman, Bishop of Newcastle
The meeting is chaired by the Chair of the House of Clergy, the Revd Catherine Pickford and
the Chair of the House of Laity Canon Carol Wolstenholme.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening worship

2. Declaration of interests

3. Minutes of previous meeting

- 3.1 Meeting held on 20th October 2018 (Paper DS19 02)
- 3.2 Matters arising

4. Notices

5. Questions

Questions submitted by members in advance of the meeting will be taken here.

6. Presidential Address

The Bishop of Newcastle will give a Presidential Address to the Synod. The theme for the Address will lead into a discussion with the Synod which will be taken at Agenda item 10, immediately following the break.

7. Education

A presentation will be given by the Director of Education, Paul Rickeard. The Director leads the Joint Education Team which serves the two Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle. Following the presentation there will be an opportunity for members to engage with questions about education and the work of the Joint Education Team.

8. Financial Business (Paper numbers DS19 03 and DS19 03A support this item) **Annual Accounts and Financial Statements 2018**

The full financial statements for 2018 were made available electronically under paper reference **DS19 03** at www.newcastle.anglican.org/synod A summary note was included with the Synod circulation under paper reference **DS19 03A**. This item will take the form of a presentation by the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance followed by an opportunity for members to ask questions of clarification arising from the presentation. The item will then be opened for debate.

Following the debate the Chair of the Board of Finance will propose:

'that the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2018 be received.'



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9. Annual Reports 2018 (Paper DS19 04)

A summary of some of the activities completed in 2018 is included in paper DS19 04 and this item will provide the Synod with an opportunity to reflect on these activities before the Chair moves:

'that the Annual Reports for Boards, Committees, Supporting Ministers and Task Groups be received.'

The Synod will break for refreshments

10. Resourcing the Future

The Presidential Address forms the basis of the discussion with the Synod at item 10. This will be a facilitated discussion about the opportunities and challenges for the future.

11. General Synod Items

11.1 Promulgation of Amending Canon No. 38

Amending Canon No. 38 was enacted at the February group of sessions and the Amending Canon should be proclaimed at a meeting of the Diocesan Synod following the enactment. The amending Canon No.38 replaces the former Canon B 43 (relations with other Churches) and Canon B 44 (local ecumenical projects) with a new Canon B 43 to be entitled "Of ecumenical relations."

11.2 General Synod Report

Dr John Appleby (General Synod Member) will update the Synod about the General Synod February 2019 group of sessions.

11.3 The Environment

This item is to introduce a conversation with the Synod about environmental matters in light of the General Synod's debate at the February 2019 group of sessions. Dr Tony Thick (Morpeth Deanery) will make a presentation and in the coming months there will be articles and other communications published about the environment to help to inform a wider debate at the next formal sitting of the Diocesan Synod when it meets on 28th September 2019.

12. Closing Prayer and Dismissal



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Future meetings of the Diocesan Synod in 2019

Monday 22 July (18:00 to 21:00) Consultative Budget Open Synod

Saturday 28 September (10:00 to 13:00) Formal meeting of the Diocesan Synod

Saturday 23 November (10:00 to 13:00) Open Synod Forum

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BY THE BISHOP'S COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE

Ecumenical Observers

By invitation of the President, observers representing the Methodist, Roman Catholic and United Reformed Churches and the Salvation Army can attend the meetings of the Synod. They also have the permission of the Chairman to address the Synod, but they have no right to move any motion or amendment or to vote.

Standing Orders

The current Standing Orders are available to members on request.

In view of the infrequency with which reference is made to Standing Orders, the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee has advised the Chairman of the Synod that it would be appropriate for the proceedings of the Synod to be interrupted and for the Orders to be checked before a ruling is given.

Members' attention is drawn to the fact that the lectern is provided for the benefit of speakers named on the agenda. Members of the Synod who are called to speak during a debate are asked to do so from the microphones in the body of the meeting.

Length of Speeches

The Chair has authority to limit the duration of speeches at their discretion. Following the advice of the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee, the Chair will normally allow an opening speaker 15 minutes and will limit other speeches to 10 minutes.

The time limit for a proposer to respond to a debate is ten minutes. The Standing Committee's advice is that there is no procedural need, nor one of etiquette, to respond to all speakers or points.

Synod Papers

The explanatory papers circulated with Synod agenda are primarily designed to give members the factual background to motions. Argument of the case is the responsibility of the proposer at the meeting itself.

It is the Synod's policy also to offer to members who wish to submit motions and amendments arising from the agenda the facility of circulating explanatory



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papers. In response to a request that this arrangement be clarified, the Standing Committee has determined that:

- (i) It is expected that such papers will also be designed primarily to set out the factual background rather than the argument.
- (ii) It is expected that they will have been prepared by member(s) concerned, rather than be publications prepared by other individuals or organisations.
- (iii) Sets of addressed envelopes can be made available to Synod members who wish to circulate papers which do not fall into either of these categories.

Motions and Amendments

The formal notice which is issued to members (and to Area Deans, Deanery Lay Chairs and Secretaries of Deanery Synods) six weeks before each meeting invites them to submit new business for the agenda. Under Standing Orders (no.26) this should be sent in writing to the Secretary and must reach the Secretary not later than 35 days before the meeting is held. Members may submit motions and amendments arising from the agenda before the meeting and, on important matters of policy, arrangements can be made as outlined above for explanatory papers to be circulated so that members can study them before the debate.

A motion or amendment can only be moved during a meeting without notice if the Chair gives permission and the text must be handed to the Secretary before it is moved. Members who have in mind the possibility of proposing an amendment during the meeting are asked whenever possible to give prior notice to the Chair and to the proposer of the motion concerned.

Questions

Under Standing Orders (no.69) a question may be asked of the Secretary, the Registrar or the Chairman of any body constituted by the Synod on which it is represented. These should be sent to the Diocesan Secretary by 9th May 2019 (e-mail s.waddle@newcastle.anglican.org).