

50th Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

Special Session

Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Wednesday 27 April 2016

1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Wesley Theatre at 6.00 pm.

2. Bible Reading

Mrs Amanda Garlato read from 1 Peter 1:1-9.

3. Prayers

Prayers were read by the Registrar, Mr Doug Marr.

4. Procedural motions

4.1 Closure to the public of special session

Mr Doug Marr moved –

“Synod, noting the commercially sensitive nature of certain aspects of the merger proposal being considered at this session –

- (a) orders that its proceedings during the special session be closed to the public (other than members of the Anglicare Council, members of the Anglican Retirement Villages board, and proposed board members of the merged organisation, who are not members of the Synod) and to members of the media, other than Anglican Media staff, and
- (b) requests that Synod members exercise general discretion in what they convey or discuss about the proceedings of the Synod during or subsequent to the session.”

Seconded and carried

4.2 Commencement of business and Presidential Address

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod –

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

Seconded and carried

5. List of members of the Synod

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

6. Document appointing a Commissary

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

7. Tabling of the minute book of the Standing Committee

The minute book of the Standing Committee was tabled.

8. Petitions

There were no petitions.

9. Special arrangements for considering business

9.1 **Arrangements for considering the proposed merger of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages**

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod agrees to the following arrangements for the purposes of considering the motion at item 16.1 on this business paper –

- (a) the mover and seconder of the motion may make a combined presentation to Synod concerning the motion of up to 20 minutes instead of separate speeches of up to 10 and 5 minutes respectively,
- (b) following any presentation or speeches by the mover and the seconder, members are to be given an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed merger through the President,
- (c) following the time for questions, general debate on the motion is to commence,
- (d) 8 members of the Synod shall be taken to have requested that the vote on the final form of the motion be conducted by ballot and taken by Houses for the purposes of business rule 4.12, and
- (e) in view of the time for questions about the merger proposal under paragraph (a) above, no further questions are to be asked by members under item 11 of this business paper,

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

Seconded and carried

9.2 **Arrangements concerning other motions**

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

“Synod agrees –

- (a) if the motion at item 17.1 on this business paper is not passed formally on the calling of motions, to refer the motion to the 3rd ordinary session of the 50th Synod and to treat the motion as the first motion received by Standing Committee from a member of that session, and
- (b) not to receive notice of or consider any other motion which is unrelated to the motion at item 16.1 of this business paper or the conduct of the session,

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

Seconded and carried

10. Notices of Procedural and Other Motions

No notices of motions were received.

11. Calling of motions on the business paper

The President called the motions in order in which they appeared on the business paper.

11.1 Tabling reports etc

Mr Robert Wicks moved –

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

Merger Considerations: *Better Together*: Joint report from the CEOs of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages

Board selection and CEO recruitment: Report from the Archbishop and Mr Greg Hammond

Proposed merger of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages: Report from the Standing Committee (including draft ordinances)”

Seconded and carried

11.2 Salvation in the name of Jesus Christ

Mr Paul Johnson moved –

“That this Synod, noting with gratitude to God the great blessing of salvation in the name of Jesus Christ and

- that there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved;
- that the gospel is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes; and
- that God calls all people to repent and believe,

acknowledges that it is our responsibility to give all people the opportunity to hear the call of God,

and calls on all Anglican organisations, schools and churches to ensure the home page of their website has a link to a simple presentation of the Gospel.”

Seconded and carried

12. Presidential Address

The President delivered his address to the Synod.

13. Motions

13.1 Approval of the merger of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod, noting the report of the Standing Committee in relation to the proposed merger of Anglican Retirement Villages Diocese of Sydney ("ARV") and Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society ("Anglicare") together with accompanying draft ordinances and other documents in relation to the proposed merger received at this session, approves in principle the merger of these two organisations on the basis that –

- (a) the indemnity provided by ARV to Anglicare ensures that the position of survivors of child abuse is, as far as can be achieved in practice, at least the same as if Anglicare had continued to operate in its own right,
- (b) the merged organisation will actively aim to continue to deliver services provided by Anglicare and ARV to socially disadvantaged people at an enhanced level,
- (c) the merged organisation will actively aim to continue the work undertaken by Anglicare with Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders at an enhanced level, and
- (d) consideration is given to extending the objects of the merged organisation to include the education of persons in necessitous circumstances,

and requests the Standing Committee to pass such ordinances and take such other action it considers necessary or desirable to give effect to the merger on this basis."

Seconded

Mr David Minty moved the following amendment to Bishop Edwards' motion –

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

- "(a) the indemnity provided by ARV to Anglicare is intended to ensure that survivors of child abuse have an equivalent level of recourse as if Anglicare had continued to operate in its own right,"

Seconded

Archdeacon Deryck Howell moved the following initial amendment to Bishop Edwards' motion –

'In paragraph (c) omit the words "Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders" and insert instead "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples".'

Seconded

Archdeacon Howell moved the following further amendment to Bishop Edwards' motion –

'In paragraph (c) after the matter "level," insert the following –

- "including building on the relationship already developed between Anglicare and the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee,"

Seconded

The Rev Gavin Poole moved the following amendment to Bishop Edwards' motion –

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

- "(d) the merged organisation will actively aim to continue to alleviate necessitous circumstances through the provision of education at an enhanced level,"

Seconded

The Rev Jodie McNeill moved the following amendment to Bishop Edwards' motion –

'Insert a new paragraph (e) as follows –

“(e) the trading name and branding of the merged organisation be approved by Standing Committee in order to subsequently provide the basis for a new master brand for the Diocese,”

Seconded

The Rev Jodie McNeill moved as an amendment to his amendment –

‘Insert the following after “the Diocese” in the new paragraph (e) –

“, and that the merged organisation supply newly rebranded signage, stationery, uniforms, website design, and other promotional collateral to the Diocesan ministries determined by Standing Committee”

Seconded

The Rev John Reid moved the following amendment to Bishop Edwards’ motion –

‘Insert a new paragraph (e) as follows –

“(e) the legal name of the merged organisation is ‘Anglican Community Services’,”

Seconded

Dr Stephen Judd moved the following amendment to Bishop Edwards’ motion –

‘Insert a new paragraph (e) as follows –

“(e) consideration is given to making provision in both the Anglicare and ARV constituting ordinances for a gift fund for both entities,”

Seconded

Mrs Pamela Shaw moved the following amendment to Bishop Edwards’ motion (with consequential re-lettering of existing paragraphs) –

‘Insert a new paragraph (d) as follows –

“(d) the merged organisation will continue to provide voluntary members of the Diocese with preparation and training to serve in disaster recovery events,”

Seconded

Mr Michael Meek SC moved as a procedural motion –

‘That the question of diocesan branding as set out in the amendments moved by the Rev Jodie McNeill be deferred to be dealt with at the next session of Synod.’

Seconded

Mr Meek’s procedural motion was not carried.

Dr Karin Sowada moved the following amendment to Mr Reid’s amendment –

‘Replace the word “Anglican” with “Anglicare”.’

Seconded

Mr James Flavin moved the following amendment to Mr Minty's amendment –

'Insert the words "at least" following the words "child abuse have".'

Seconded

Mr Flavin's amendment to Mr Minty's amendment was put and was carried with 238 votes for and 237 votes against the amendment.

Mr Minty's amendment, as amended, was carried.

Archdeacon Howell's initial amendment was carried.

Archdeacon Howell's further amendment was not carried.

Mr Poole's amendment were carried.

The amendments of Mr McNeill and the amendment of Mrs Shaw were not carried.

Dr Sowada's amendment to Mr Reid's amendment was not carried.

Mr Reid's amendment was carried without amendment.

Dr Judd's amendment was carried.

Mr Meek moved as a procedural motion –

'Synod suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent the recommittal of the resolution at item 9.1 on the business paper "Arrangements for considering the proposed merger of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages".'

Mr Meek's procedural motion was carried.

Mr Meek moved as a further procedural motion –

'Synod recommits the resolution at item 9.1 "Arrangements for considering the proposed merger of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages", with the exception of paragraph (d).'

Mr Meek's further procedural motion was carried.

Bishop Edwards' motion, as amended, was put and carried with unanimous consent in the following form –

'Synod, noting the report of the Standing Committee in relation to the proposed merger of Anglican Retirement Villages Diocese of Sydney ("ARV") and Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society ("Anglicare") together with accompanying draft ordinances and other documents in relation to the proposed merger received at this session, approves in principle the merger of these two organisations on the basis that –

- (a) the indemnity provided by ARV to Anglicare is intended to ensure that survivors of child abuse have at least an equivalent level of recourse as if Anglicare had continued to operate in its own right,
- (b) the merged organisation will actively aim to continue to deliver services provided by Anglicare and ARV to socially disadvantaged people at an enhanced level,
- (c) the merged organisation will actively aim to continue the work undertaken by Anglicare with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples at an enhanced level,
- (d) the merged organisation will actively aim to continue to alleviate necessitous circumstances through the provision of education at an enhanced level,
- (e) the legal name of the merged organisation is "Anglican Community Services",

- (f) consideration is given to making provision in both the Anglicare and ARV constituting ordinances for a gift fund for both entities,
- and requests the Standing Committee to pass such ordinances and take such other action it considers necessary or desirable to give effect to the merger on this basis.’

14. Closure

14.1 Officers of the Synod

Having been granted leave, Bishop Michael Stead moved –

“Synod records its appreciation of –

- (a) the President for his chairmanship, and
- (b) the members who helped before and during the session by giving advice and serving on committees, and
- (c) the CEOs of Anglicare and Anglican Retirement Villages for working with the Standing Committee in preparing the merger proposal for the Synod, and
- (d) the services given by the Secretary, the staff of SDS, the Archbishop’s Office and Anglican Media and all those who have helped with the arrangements for this sitting.”

Seconded and carried by acclamation

14.2 Minutes of 27 April 2016

Having been granted leave, Mr Doug Marr moved –

“Synod authorises the President to sign the minutes of 27 April 2016 upon the production to the Standing Committee of the certificate of any 2 members of the Minute Reading Committee.”

Seconded and carried

14.3 Benediction

The President gave the Benediction.

14.4 Adjournment

Mrs Catherine Rich moved –

“Synod adjourns without appointing another day of meeting.”

Seconded and carried

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

Two Members of the)
Minute Reading Committee)

Signed by the President

2 May 2016