

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

3rd Session of the 47th Synod Business Paper: Monday 17 September 2007

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

1. **The Synod will assemble in the Wesley Theatre, 220 Pitt Street Sydney at 3:15 pm.**
2. **Prayers will be read by the President or a person appointed by him.**
3. **Procedural motion re start time, Presidential Address and Synod Service**

Synod –

- (a) agrees to commence its meeting forthwith in order to deal with items 4 and 6-14 inclusive on this business paper, and
- (b) notes that the Presidential Address will be delivered from 4:00 pm, and at 8:15 pm the Synod Service will begin, and
- (c) suspends any part of the business rules which would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

4. **The President will table a list of the members of the Synod.**
5. **The President will deliver his address.**

To be taken at 4:00 pm – see item 3.

6. **The President will table a document appointing a commissary.**
7. **Elections**

7.1 Under section 12 of the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917, the Synod declares 3 vacancies in the office of member of the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney for Mr Gregory Bridge, Mr Richard Neal and Mr Ian Pike who have each come to the end of their term of office.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

7.2 A list of the uncontested elections will be laid upon the table and the results declared.

(Archbishop Peter Jensen)

7.3 A Clerical Secretary and a Lay Secretary of the Synod will be elected.

(Mr Robert Tong)

7.4 A Chairman of Committees will be elected.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

7.5 A Deputy Chairman or Deputy Chairmen of Committees will be elected.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

7.6 A Committee of Elections and Qualifications will be elected.
(Dr Philip Selden)

7.7 A Committee for the Order of Business will be elected.
(Mr Robert Tong)

7.8 A Minute Reading Committee will be elected.
(Dr Philip Selden)

8. The minute book of the Standing Committee will be tabled.

9. Petitions

10. Notices of questions

11. Procedural motions

11.1 Presentations at the session

Synod agrees to the following –

- (a) a Mission presentation from 7:00 pm on Monday 17 September 2007, and
- (b) a brief presentation from 7:00 pm on Tuesday 18 September 2007 concerning the “Welcome Pack” being developed by Evangelism Ministries on behalf of the Mission Board, and
- (c) a presentation from Anglicare concerning its partnership with parishes from 7:00pm on Wednesday 19 September 2007, and
- (d) the Missionary Hour presentation from 7:00 pm on Monday 24 September 2007, and
- (e) a presentation from 7:00 pm on Tuesday 25 September 2007 concerning Mission funding strategy,

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

(Mr Robert Wicks)

11.2 Special arrangements for the consideration of business

Synod –

- (a) agrees in principle to deal with its business in accordance with the Indicative Timetable for Synod Business, and
- (b) requests that the Committee for the Order of Business bring to the Synod at the beginning of each day any recommendations about amending the Indicative Timetable for Synod Business in light of the progress of business, and
- (c) suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements, or as would prevent the Synod from considering any recommendations from the Committee for the Order of Business.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

11.3 Arrangements for a theological and pastoral debate

Synod agrees to the following –

- (a) after the Presidential Address the President may give notice of a motion concerning a theological and pastoral matter raised in his Address, and
- (b) the mover and seconder of the motion will be persons nominated by the President, and

(c) the motion will be considered from 8:00pm on Monday 24 September 2007, and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

11.4 Arrangements following consideration of the Connect 09 (Funding) Ordinance 2007

Synod agrees that if a motion that the bill for the Connect 09 (Funding) Ordinance 2007 pass as an ordinance of the Synod is carried, the mover may forthwith move the following further motion –

“Synod enthusiastically endorses the campaign of evangelistic contact with all people in the Diocese know as Connect 09 and encourages all parishes, regional councils and diocesan organisations –

- (a) to work in fellowship with the Standing Committee, its Mission Board and Evangelism Ministries to ensure the effective planning and implementation of Connect 09, and
- (b) to consider assisting parishes which are struggling financially to pay the charge for gospel resources under the Connect 09 (Funding) Ordinance 2007.”

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

(Mr Robert Wicks)

11.5 Arrangements for considering the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education

Synod agrees, for the purposes of considering the motion appearing at item 16.4, (the “In Principle Motion”), to the following arrangements –

- (a) the In Principle Motion will be taken to have been moved and seconded, and
- (b) the mover may speak up to 20 minutes about the In Principle Motion, and
- (c) the seconder may speak up to 10 minutes about the In Principle Motion, and
- (d) the procedures for the making of ordinances under Part 5 of the business rules (from and including rule 5.5(2) but excluding rules 5.7(3)(b), 5.9 and 5.10) are to apply as if the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education was an ordinance, and
- (e) if a motion that the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education pass as a policy of the Synod is carried under business rule 5.7(1), the mover of the motion may forthwith move the following –

“Synod –

- (a) requests that a copy of the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education, or the relevant part or parts thereof, be circulated to all parishes and Diocesan organisations, and
- (b) requests that each parish and Diocesan organisation review its own policies where necessary to ensure they are consistent with the Diocesan Policy.”,

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

(Mr Robert Wicks)

11.6 Arrangements for considering the Parish Administration Ordinance

Synod agrees, for the purposes of considering the motion appearing at item 16.15 on today’s business paper about the exposure draft of the Parish Administration Ordinance –

- (a) to a time for questions about the exposure draft taking place immediately after the motion being moved and seconded (the mover and seconder having spoken to the motion), and
- (b) to suspend so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

11.7 Circulation of printed material

Synod authorises the Secretaries to approve the distribution to members of any report from a Diocesan body or organisation and materials concerning World Roman Catholic Youth Day.

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

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

13. Calling of motions on the business paper

14. Tabling and reception of accounts and reports etc

- 14.1 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 –

Diocesan Organisations - Audited Accounts and Annual Reports

- (1) Abbotsleigh, The Council of
- (2) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney
- (3) Anglican Media Council
- (4) Anglican Provident Fund (Sydney), Board of
- (5) Anglican Youth and Education Division
- (6) Arden Anglican School Council
- (7) Barker College, The Council of
- (8) Campbelltown Anglican Schools Council
- (9) Continuing Education for Ministers, Council of
- (10) Department of Evangelism
- (11) Georges River Regional Council
- (12) Glebe Administration Board
- (13) Illawarra Grammar School, Council of The
- (14) Macarthur Anglican Church School Council (The)
- (15) Moore Theological College Council
- (16) Northern Regional Council
- (17) St Andrew's Cathedral Chapter
- (18) St Andrew's Cathedral School Council
- (19) St Andrew's House Corporation
- (20) St Catherine's School Waverley, Council of
- (21) St John's Provisional Cathedral Chapter Parramatta
- (22) St Michael's Provisional Cathedral Chapter Wollongong
- (23) South Sydney Regional Council
- (24) Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society Council
- (25) Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee
- (26) Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation
- (27) Sydney Church of England Finance and Loans Board
- (28) Sydney Church of England Grammar School Council
- (29) Sydney Diocesan Educational and Book Committee
- (30) Sydney Diocesan Secretariat
- (31) Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund Board
- (32) Tara Anglican School for Girls, Council of
- (33) Trinity Grammar School Grammar Council
- (34) William Branwhite Clarke College Council
- (35) Wollongong Regional Council

Standing Committee Reports and Synod Fund Accounts etc

- (36) 2007 Annual Report
- (37) Synod Fund Audited Accounts for 2006
- (38) Amendments to *Faithfulness in Service*
- (39) Christian Ministry in a Changing Climate
- (40) Compensation for Injured Clergy (36/06)
- (41) Diocesan Policy Statement on Education (30/06)
- (42) Doctrine Commission response to Archbishop Rowan Williams' Larkin-Stuart Lecture
- (43) Doctrine Commission response to the Anglican and Roman Catholic International Commission report 'Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ' (23/05)
- (44) Greenoaks Apartments
- (45) Lay and diaconal administration of Holy Communion (26/03)
- (46) Ordinances passed by the Standing Committee
- (47) Parishes (Special Administration) Ordinance 2004
- (48) Parochial Cost Recoveries for 2008
- (49) Pastoral and practical support for clergy (15/05)
- (50) Safe Ministry Board Annual Report
- (51) Stipends, allowances and benefits for 2008
- (52) Synod Appropriations and Allocations in 2008
- (53) Georges River Regional Council – Annual Report for 2006
- (54) Northern Region Regional Council – Annual Report for 2006
- (55) South Sydney Regional Council – Annual Report for 2006
- (56) Coogee, Proposal to reclassify as a parish
- (57) Newtown with Erskineville, Proposal to reclassify as a parish
- (58) Western Sydney Regional Council – Annual Report for 2006
- (59) Cranebrook, Proposal to reclassify as a parish
- (60) Lidcombe, Proposal to reclassify as a parish
- (61) Wollongong Regional Council – Annual Report for 2006
- (62) Menangle, Proposal to reclassify as a parish
- (63) Explanatory Statements and reports on Bills

Other reports etc

- (64) Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas and Relief Fund (The) (ORAF)
- (65) Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Ministry Fund (The) (OMF)
- (66) Archbishop of Sydney's Community Care and Development Program (The)

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

- 14.2 Synod notes that the Council of the Kings School has not submitted an annual report and a copy of their audited accounts for the most recently concluded financial year, and requests that the Council lodge those documents as soon as possible.

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

- 14.3 Synod notes that the Anglican Retirement Villages: Diocese of Sydney and Anglicare Diocese of Sydney have a financial year ending 30 June and that they are not due to submit their annual reports and a copy of their audited accounts until 30 September.

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

15. Motions for proposed ordinances referred to the 3rd session of the 47th Synod

There are no motions under this heading.

16. Motions by request of the Standing Committee

16.1 Connect 09 (Funding) Ordinance 2007

Synod permits the introduction of the Connect 09 (Funding) Ordinance 2007.

(Supplementary Report page 6)

(Canon Jim Ramsay)

16.2 Asbestos Inspection (Special Charge) Ordinance 2007

Synod permits the introduction of the Asbestos Inspection (Special Charge) Ordinance 2007.

(Page 177)

(Mr Robert Tong/Bishop Glenn Davies)

16.3 Recognised Churches (Provisional Status) Amendment Ordinance 2007

Synod permits the introduction of the Recognised Churches (Provisional Status) Amendment Ordinance 2007.

(Page 193)

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Robert Wicks)

16.4 Diocesan Policy Statement on Education

That the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education be approved in principle.

(Page 52)

(Dr Bryan Cowling/The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

16.5 Coogee: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Coogee as a parish with effect from 1 January 2008.

(Supplementary Report page 45)

(Archdeacon Deryck Howell/The Rev Craig Segaert)

16.6 Cranebrook: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Cranebrook as a parish with effect from 1 January 2008.

(Supplementary Report page 48)

(The Rev Richard Goscombe/Archdeacon Ken Allen)

16.7 Lidcombe: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Lidcombe as a parish with effect from 1 January 2008.

(Page 167)

(The Rev Joseph Thiem/Mrs Rigan Wong)

16.8 Menangle: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Menangle as a parish with effect from 1 January 2008.

(Page 173)

(The Rev Craig Fulton/Miss Michele Willsmore)

16.9 Newtown with Erskineville: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Newtown with Erskineville as a parish with effect from 1 January 2008.

(Page 160)

(Archdeacon Deryck Howell/The Rev Peter Rodgers)

16.10 Climate change

Synod accepts the emerging scientific consensus that climate change is occurring and supports the need for Christian responses to the potential problems and opportunities that arise from climate change including –

- (a) praying for our world and using every opportunity to speak of the Lordship of Jesus Christ;
- (b) Christian ministry to those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change such as farmers, rural communities, the homeless and refugees;
- (c) the setting of a godly example of good stewardship in our personal and communal lives;
- (d) education of our children about a biblical understanding of creation and our role as its stewards and carers;
- (e) the development and implementation of an environmental policy within each Parish and Diocesan organisation which expresses principles of good environmental stewardship and care; and
- (f) encouraging governments at all levels to take climate change seriously and to make wise policy decisions to deal with its effects.

(Supplementary Report page 25)

(Mr Darren Mitchell/Dr Karin Sowada)

16.11 Government intervention on child abuse

Synod welcomes recent moves by the Federal Government to address problems of child abuse, violence and substance abuse in Indigenous Communities in the Northern Territory. Synod wishes to express the following –

- (a) remorse that there has been inaction about these matters for so long and inadequate support for our Christian brothers and sisters in the affected areas;
- (b) concern at the lack of consultation with Aboriginal communities over the Federal Government's legislative package, when so many instances of lack of consultation in the past have led to good intentions being ineffective and damaging, when it is clear that many communities are in fact not dysfunctional;
- (c) commendation of the Bishop of the Northern Territory for his initiative in calling a conference of indigenous Christian leadership on the matter of the intervention;
- (d) support for the stance taken by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian Alliance, of which our own Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee is a member, as outlined in NATSICA's policy statement released following a national conference held in Alice Springs in July;
- (e) acknowledgment that child abuse is happening in all communities across Australia and should be addressed as a matter of high priority by the Federal Government and State Governments;
- (f) calls upon the New South Wales Government to give a high priority to addressing the problem of child abuse in this State, and in particular urges the Government to address the issues raised by the report into child abuse in NSW Aboriginal communities entitled *Breaking the Silence* as a matter of urgency;
- (g) commendation of this whole matter to the prayers of all members of the Diocese.

(Archdeacon Deryck Howell/Dr Karin Sowada)

16.12 Faithfulness in Service

Synod adopts the amendments to the code for personal behaviour and the practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and church workers *Faithfulness in Service* as set out in the report entitled 'Amendments to *Faithfulness in Service*' received by the Synod at this session noting that the Standing Committee of the General Synod has approved these amendments and recommended that these amendments be adopted by all dioceses.

(Supplementary Report page 15)

(Mr Philip Gerber)

16.13 Lay and diaconal administration of Holy Communion

Synod –

- (a) receives the report concerning lay and diaconal administration of Holy Communion, and
- (b) agrees to consider this report and its recommendations as a matter of priority at the 2008 session of Synod.

(Page 91)

(TBA)

16.14 National Register Canon

Synod endorses the concept of a national professional standards register of clergy and lay persons including information about child abuse and sexual abuse of an adult but considers that any canon to establish such a register must embody the following –

- (a) if the information included on the register about child abuse and sexual abuse of an adult is not limited to persons who have admitted to or have been found to have committed such abuse, access to the register within a diocese must be limited to –
 - (i) the diocesan bishop (or delegate) and the Director of Professional Standards of the diocese in circumstances where the diocesan bishop proposes ordaining or issuing a licence to a member of clergy or a lay person, and
 - (ii) to the Director of Professional Standards of the diocese for the purposes of electing a bishop of a diocese provided that before any information on the register about a candidate in the election is disclosed by the Director of Professional Standards to the electing synod, nomination committee or Board of Electors, the candidate is given an opportunity to consider whether he wishes to proceed with or withdraw his candidacy,

or, for the purposes of access within this Diocese, must be capable of being limited in this way by ordinance of the Synod or the Standing Committee, and

- (b) the definition of 'abuse' under the canon should be extended to include behaviour which is not 'chaste' within the meaning of *Faithfulness in Service*,

and directs that any canon which does not include the foregoing must not be implemented in any way unless and until the canon is approved by this Synod.

(Mr Neil Cameron)

16.15 Parish Administration Ordinance

Synod, noting the report from the Ordinance Reform Group about the exposure draft for the Parish Administration Ordinance –

- (a) supports in principle the approach taken in preparing the exposure draft, and

- (b) requests that members provide comments in respect of the exposure draft to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 December 2007, and
- (c) requests that a bill for the Parish Administration Ordinance 2008 be brought to the Synod in 2008 incorporating, as appropriate, comments made by members about the exposure draft.

(Additional Materials)

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Robert Wicks)

17. Motions by request of a regional council

There are no motions under this heading.

18. Motions received by the Standing Committee

18.1 Use of raffles or other games of chance

Synod considers that parishes and diocesan organisations should not use raffles or other games of chance as methods of raising funds.

(Mr Richard Lambert)

18.2 Ministry of women

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for the gifted and diverse ministry of women in the Diocese of Sydney, including women currently licensed to preach in the Diocese, and
- (b) notes that congregations under the leadership of their rectors and parish councils are free to determine the make-up of their ministry team within the framework of our diocesan ordinances, and
- (c) calls for parishes and parish members who differ on aspects of the exercise of ministry by women to continue to show generosity to one another.

(Mr Bill Nicholson)

18.3 Bishop Martyn Minns

The Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney congratulates Bishop Martyn Minns on his installation as presiding bishop in the Convocation of Anglicans in North America on 5 May 2007 and assures him of our prayers as he, along with many other faithful men and women, seeks to encourage faithfulness to God and his word amongst American Anglicans.

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

18.4 Biblical teaching on Jesus Christ

Synod affirms the biblical teaching that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son truly incarnate as a human being, died in our place, bearing the curse of the Law and paying the penalty for our sin, and by so doing he reconciled us to God, expressed God's determined love for us and accomplished a complete victory over the principalities and powers.

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

18.5 Biblical pattern of marriage

Synod –

- (a) affirms that the relationship of loving, sacrificial leadership of a husband and the intelligent, voluntary submission of a wife is the Biblical pattern of marriage, and
- (b) totally rejects the use of this Biblical pattern to justify any form of domestic abuse, and

- (c) totally rejects all forms of domestic abuse, and
- (d) expresses its concern for those women, and men, who are victims of domestic abuse, and
- (e) calls on Christian husbands to use their God-given responsibilities for the good of their families, and
- (f) calls on ministers to teach congregations the Biblical model for marriage and also to teach against domestic abuse.

(Mrs Lesley Ramsay)

18.6 Moore Theological College

Synod –

- (a) notes the involvement of Moore Theological College in Christian ministry outside of the Diocese, including the running of missions in other dioceses in Australia, the links established with evangelical work in other countries such as Chile, its recent association with the newly established Alexandria Theological School in Egypt and its ever expanding correspondence course provisions in countries such as India, and
- (b) encourages the College to continue to explore ways and means by which it can assist in Christian ministry around the world, particularly with regard to theological education, and
- (c) recognises the need for Christian people of the Sydney Diocese to continue to support the students, staff and faculty of the College in prayer and to provide financial assistance for the work of the College in the years ahead.

(Dr Barry Newman)

18.7 Fellowship meal for the proclamation of the Lord’s death

Synod requests the Diocesan Doctrine Commission to consider the appropriateness, with respect to the teaching of Scripture and the Anglican formularies, of Anglican churches having a fellowship meal for the proclamation of the Lord’s death, and to bring a report to Synod at a convenient time.

(Dr Barry Newman)

18.8 Ordination of women

Synod notes that –

- (a) within both the Anglican Church of Australia and the wider Anglican Communion there is a diversity of practice in regard to the ordination of women, and
- (b) Synods of this Diocese have consistently voted not to permit the ordination of women as priests, based on the understanding that whilst scripture encourages the ministry of women, it denies the eldership of women in the congregation.

However, Synod also notes that there is another understanding of scripture held by a small but significant minority within the diocese. This understanding holds that scripture supports and endorses women being involved in all aspects of the life and ministry of God’s people including eldership of the congregation and so in Anglican Polity being ordained as priests and Bishops. Synod therefore asks the Archbishop to explore ways in which these different views can be creatively lived out in the life and practice of the diocese.

(The Rev Chris Albany/Miss Betty Allan)

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Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Monday 17 September 2007.

Monday 17 September 2007	
3:15 – 4:00 pm	Formal matters (items 1-14)
4:00 – 5:30 pm	Presidential Address
7:00 – 8.15 pm	Mission Presentation
8.15 – 9.15 pm	Synod Service

Tuesday 18 September 2007	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 16.5 Coogee: Reclassification as a Parish 16.6 Cranebrook: Reclassification as a Parish 16.7 Lidcombe: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.1 Connect 09 (Funding) Ordinance 2007 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Presentation on Evangelism Ministries “Welcome Pack” 16.4 Diocesan Policy Statement on Education Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Wednesday 19 September 2007	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 16.8 Menangle: Reclassification as a Parish 16.9 Newtown with Erskineville: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.2 Asbestos Inspection (Special Charge) Ordinance 2007 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Anglicare presentation on parish partnerships 16.10 Climate change 16.11 Government intervention on child abuse Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Monday 24 September 2007	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.3 Recognised Churches (Provisional Status) Amendment Ordinance 2007
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	Reserved for theological and pastoral debate Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Tuesday 25 September 2007	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.14 National Register Canon Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Presentation on Mission funding strategy 16.15 Parish Administration Ordinance Thereafter, other business as per the business paper