

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

3rd Session of the 45th Synod Business Paper: Saturday 3 November 2001

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

*Items listed with a ** are matters listed on the Business Paper for the first time today.*

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

1. Devotions will be led by Bishop Paul Barnett: see attached

2. Minutes of 2 November 2001

3. Questions

The questions asked on Friday 2 November 2001 are listed below. But it is unlikely that answers can be provided today.

** (1) Mrs Lesley Hicks to ask -

About the forthcoming new Sydney Prayer Book which I understand is going to appear in both printed and electronic form, can we have an indication of when its 5 or 6 year gestation will result in a birth?

** (2) The Rev John Cornish to ask -

Does this Synod or its President, in light of the Presidential Address, have a policy about Ecumenism and if so what is it?

** (3) Mrs Irene Marshall to ask -

Are Bishop Paul Barnett's Synod devotions available to members in written or cassette form? If not would this be a possibility?

** (4) Ms Vanessa Bennett to ask -

Of the 30% female students at Moore College in 2001 and the 34% anticipated in 2002-

(a) How many are Sydney ordination candidates for the diaconate?

(b) How many are accepted as parish sisters (or equivalent)?

(c) How many are spouses of male ordination candidates?

** (5) Ms Naomi Spencer to ask -

What strategies has this Diocese adopted to promote unity in our Anglican communion?

** (6) Ms Elizabeth McCoy to ask -

What were the reasons for the change from the Social Issues Committee to the Social Issues Executive this year?

4. Petitions

5. Procedural motions from members

6. Calling of motions on the business paper

7. Motions

Proposed to be taken at 9:30 am

- (1) **Synod Membership (Election of Parochial Representatives) Amendment Ordinance 2001**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Membership (Election of Parochial Representatives) Amendment Ordinance 2001.

(Page 186) (Mr Andrew Frank/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

- (2) **Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2001: approval in principle**

That the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2001 be approved in principle.

(Page 178) (The Rev Dr Glenn Davies)

From 11:00 am

The Synod has already agreed to devote the late morning session (11:00 am - 12:30 pm) to consideration and discussion about the diocesan mission and goal and strategies related thereto.

To be taken at 1:30 pm

- (3) **Church Discipline Ordinance 1996 Amendment Ordinance 2001: approval in principle**

That the Church Discipline Ordinance 1996 Amendment Ordinance 2001 be approved in principle.

(Page 107) (Mr Garth Blake)

Proposed to be taken after motion 7(3)

- (4) **General Synod - Constitution of A Diocese Alteration Canon 1995 Adopting Ordinance 2001: approval in principle**

That the General Synod - Constitution of A Diocese Alteration Canon 1995 Adopting Ordinance 2001 be approved in principle.

(Page 121) (Mr Robert Tong)

- (5) **Church Administration (Heritage Property) Amendment Ordinance 2001: introduction**

Synod permits the introduction of the Church Administration (Heritage Property) Amendment Ordinance 2001.

(See Supplementary Report) (Mr Mark Payne)

Proposed to be taken at an appropriate time

- (6) **Parish Review (Monitoring Panel) Ordinance 2001: passing as an ordinance**

That the Parish Review (Monitoring Panel) Ordinance 2001 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(The Rev Bruce Southwell/Mr Justice Peter Young)

- (7) **Gilbulla Memorial Conference Centre Sale Ordinance 2001: consideration of the text**

That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the Gilbulla Memorial Conference Centre Sale Ordinance 2001.

(See Supplementary Report) (Mr Rodney Dredge/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

(8) **Gilbulla Memorial Conference Centre**

Seeing that Gilbulla continues to be such a strategic and valuable Diocesan Conference Centre, the Synod directs that the Standing Committee -

- (a) proceed immediately with all necessary improvements to the property as required by the Health Department, and
- (b) proceed during 2002 with the re-development of Gilbulla in such a way as to increase the capacity for guests by at least 50, as recommended by the previous Gilbulla Board, and report progress to the next sitting of Synod, and
- (c) in the light of Standing Committee's premature announcement by letter and through *Southern Cross*, of the impending sale of Gilbulla by the Spring of 2001, and the consequential adverse publicity affecting bookings for 2002, the Standing Committee underwrite the operating costs for 2002.

(Canon David Mulready)

(9) **Open meetings of the Standing Committee**

The motion is an amended form of the motion printed on the business paper for Friday 2 November. It incorporates amendments accepted by the mover. Bold italics indicate additions. Overstrike indicates deletions.

~~In keeping with contemporary understanding of openness,~~ Synod requests that the Standing Committee -

- (a) ~~Open~~ its meetings to members of the Synod as observers subject to the Standing Committee's right in the case of a matter which is commercially or personally sensitive or otherwise affects the interests of the Diocese to restrict access while that matter is dealt with; ~~and~~ ***The right of the Standing Committee in this clause may be exercised at any time in the meeting by any member of the Standing Committee who wishes to participate in a debate and indicates that the contribution to be made contains material which is commercially or personally sensitive or otherwise affects the interests of the Diocese.***
- (b) ~~m~~**M**akes its agenda and supporting papers for its meetings available to members of the Synod upon request, except -
 - (i) in relation to any matter which the Diocesan Secretary, ***the Archbishop or 5 members of the Standing Committee*** considers is likely to be regarded by the Standing Committee as being commercially or personally sensitive or as otherwise affecting the interests of the Diocese,
 - (ii) ***any material communicated to the Standing Committee which contains the request that it not be made available to persons other than Standing Committee members.***

(Ms Kath White)

(10) **Support for churches and parishes without a minister**

Synod respectfully requests that the Archbishop set up a committee to review the effectiveness of the Diocese in supporting parishes and churches during times when they are without a minister taking into account the following principles -

- (a) The committee should review, amongst other things, the experiences of churches and ministers who have recently been involved in this process.
- (b) Matters to be investigated should include
 - The opportunity for parishes and churches to consider options for new directions for ministry, growth and change.
 - The timing of presentation board process, especially when long service leave is taken after a minister finishes.
 - The accuracy of advice from Diocesan Presentation board members to parish nominators.
 - The accuracy of advice from parishes to prospective ministers.
 - Tenure of other parish staff and the effect this can have in the parish.

- The availability and level of episcopal support for churches without a minister.
 - Processes to deal with and resolve problems in churches and parishes.
 - The availability and level of parish administration support.
- (c) The committee should comprise both laity and clergy but exclude those that are (or have been recently) diocesan presentation board representatives.
- (d) The committee should provide a report to the next session of the Synod outlining the problems and making recommendations as to any changes that would improve our processes and support our church people at a time when they may most need it.

(Mr Ross Mitchell)

(11) Anglican sports ministries

Synod -

- (a) notes the final Report of the Archbishop's Olympic Games Taskforce, and
- (b) wishes to continue after its "sunset" end at 30 June 2001 its specialised Ministry-through-Sport of pastoral care and evangelism, and
- (c) approves funding for this purpose of \$60,000 in 2002, and
- (d) notes the intention to apply for appropriate funding in the next 3 year Synod budget, and
- (e) approves the name-change of such ministry to Anglican Sports Ministries.

(The Rev Rod Harding/Archdeacon Di Nicolios)

(12) Funding for indigenous peoples' ministries

Synod -

- (a) commends the launch of an appeal by the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee to raise funds for establishing and maintaining Indigenous ministries in the diocese by directly approaching parishes for a voluntary contribution of 1% of their annual incomes for this purpose, and
- (b) recommends to the Standing Committee that 5% of income from all sales of the Property Trust be added to the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Trust Fund for Indigenous ministry within the Diocese.

(Mr Tom Mayne/The Rev John McIntyre)

(13) Assistance to other dioceses

Considering the difficult and even parlous states of some of the dioceses of the Anglican Church of Australia and especially in the Province of New South Wales, Synod agrees to set up a Commission under the leadership of the Archbishop which would report to the Diocesan Executive Board to investigate ways by which this Diocese can bring help to another Diocese that may request it. Such help could include the possibility of sending clergy and other pastoral workers along with pastoral "tools" to that Diocese for the specific furtherance of Gospel ministry and outreach.

And

That such Commission be empowered to contact selected diocesan bishops to discuss this proposal and/or possibilities of sending help.

The Commission is to consist of the Archbishop (ex officio as President/Chairman), Mr Warwick Olson, the Revs John Cornford and Dr Glenn Davies, the Chief Executive Officer of Anglican Youthworks, Deaconess Margaret Rodgers and the mover, with power to co-opt.

(The Rev Neil Flower/The Rev John Cornford)

(14) Amendment of the Local Revenues Ordinance 2001

Synod requests that the Standing Committee amend the Local Revenues Amendment Ordinance 2001 so that fees obtained from non-exclusive licence agreements can be included by parishes as local income or revenue.

(The Rev Denis Robinson)

(15) **Consideration of members' motions**

Synod -

- (a) values the work of Standing Committee on its behalf, and
- (b) endorses the principle that up to 40% of Synod sitting time be allocated to the discussion of motions received by the Standing Committee and other business arising from the Synod at large, and
- (c) directs that the Standing Committee prepare an ordinance for the next ordinary session of the Synod to enact the principle referred to in (b).

(Canon Dr James McPherson/The Rev John Cornish)

** (16) **Jubilee 2000**

Remembering -

- (a) that Synod as part of its *Jubilee 2000* resolution overwhelmingly voted that 1% of appropriations be directed to needy overseas dioceses, and
- (b) that this allocation was one of the 4 top priorities in forming the Synod Estimates Ordinance 1999 for the present triennium, and
- (c) our new Archbishop's emphasis in his Presidential Address that we have a message of salvation for the world, and that "the salvation of the world is God's glory",

Synod resolves that the principle of allocating at least 1% of Diocesan appropriations to partnership in gospel work with needy overseas dioceses be maintained in the next Synod Estimates Ordinance.

(The Rev Frank Gee/Bishop Reg Piper)

** (17) **Amendment of the business rules**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee amend the business rules so that -

- (a) oral votes in the affirmative can be made by saying "Aye", and
- (b) notices of motion given at the beginning of each day be read to the Synod so that early notice may be had of the motion.

(Mr Robert Tong/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

** (18) **Preparation of a new business rule**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee prepare a suitable business rule for adoption next Synod to allow the Diocesan Secretary to convene either before Synod, or during Synod, meetings of members who wish to propose amendments to bills so that the time of Synod as a whole is used more effectively.

(Mr Robert Tong/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

** (19) **Committee to review the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee appoint a committee to review the Conduct of the Business of Synod Ordinance 2000 and to bring to the next session of the Synod an amending ordinance to implement changes it thinks are appropriate.

(Mr Graeme Marks)

** (20) **Weekend Synod**

Synod, having agreed under resolution 40/99 to be "guinea pigs" to trial the novel idea of weekend Synods, recommends to the 46th Synod that the members of the 45th Synod are of the view that we should never do this again!

(Mr Graeme Marks)

** (21) **Voting for regional council elections**

Synod, noting -

- (a) that the election process for regional council members requires that at least one lay member and one clerical member be from each area deanery, but that

- (b) nonetheless, where only one such lay and/or clerical nomination is received for a Deanery, this person is still included on the ballot paper, and so
- (c) Synod members still need to vote for some nominees who will in any event be “automatically” elected,

requests that the Standing Committee consider reviewing the appropriate election ordinance(s) so that in these (and any similar circumstances) such nominees would be declared elected and would so not need to be included on the ballot paper.

(Mr Brian Gaetjens)

**** (22) Motions that have not been considered**

Synod requests that the Standing Committee -

- (a) review all motions which remain on the Business Paper for 3 November 2001 without being either debated or voted on, and
- (b) take such action in respect of each such motion as it considers appropriate (which may include taking no action), and
- (c) inform the proposer of each such motion of the result of the above steps.

(Mr Brian Gaetjens)

**** (23) Use of word processing and projection technology during debates**

Synod, noting the problems that some members have following the debate and voting on amendments to motions and proposed ordinances, requests that the Diocesan Secretariat consider a further trial, during debates and voting, of the projection onto screen of -

- (a) the wording of each motion (or clause of a proposed ordinance) being considered, and
- (b) for each amendment, what would be the changed wording if that amendment were passed.

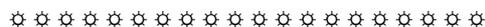
(Mr Brian Gaetjens)

**** (24) Use of the word “presbyter”**

Synod asks that the Standing Committee bring legislation to the next session -

- (a) recognising, in the preamble, that the meaning of the word “priest” is now very different to what was understood by our reformers, and that our current convention, of using this word to describe New Testament ministers, is unhelpful, confusing and misleading, and
- (b) directing the use of the word “presbyter” in all places where, according to our current conventions, the word “priest” occurs, or would be used, in legislation and formularies.

(The Rev Chris Clerke)



Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: Saturday 3 November 2001

Bible Reading (2 Corinthians 12:1-10):

¹ I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. ² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know - God knows. ³ And I know that this man - whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows - ⁴ was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell. ⁵ I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. ⁶ Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say.

⁷ To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: He who would valiant be

1. Who would true valour see,
let him come hither;
one here will constant be,
come wind, come weather.
There's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.
2. Who so beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound;
his strength the more is.
No lion can him fright,
he'll with a giant fight,
but he will have a right
to be a pilgrim.
3. Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
can daunt his spirit:
he knows he at the end
shall life inherit.
Then fancies fly away;
he'll fear not what men say;
he'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

John Bunyan 1628-88

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Pianist: The Rev Geoff Deutscher