

# 53<sup>rd</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Sydney

## Second Session

### Minutes of Proceedings of the Synod for Saturday 14 and Monday 16 September 2024

#### 1. Assembly

The Synod assembled in the Rouse Hill Anglican College at 3.15 pm after a service of Holy Communion at which the address was given by the Rev Graeme Howells.

In accordance with Standing Order 1.4(3) the President adjourned the Synod until 3.25 pm.

#### 2. Prayers

Archdeacon Simon Flinders led the Synod in prayer.

#### 3. List of members of the Synod

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

#### 4. Procedural motion

##### 4.1 Arrangements concerning the Presidential Address

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

‘Synod –

- (a) agrees to treat Saturday 14 September and Monday 16 September 2024 together as the first day of this session for the purposes of the order of business set out in Standing Order 3.2 of the *Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019* (the Standing Orders), noting that –
  - (i) the business paper for day 1 will therefore be used for both 14 September and 16 September 2024, and that it is intended to address the matters in Standing Order 3.2 as follows –
    - (A) paragraphs (a)-(c) on Saturday 14 September, and
    - (B) paragraphs (d)-(s) on Monday 16 September,
  - (ii) as a consequence of these arrangements, minutes for Saturday 14 September and Monday 16 September will be together signed as a correct record (or otherwise dealt with) by the President on Tuesday 17 September, in accordance with Standing Order 3.3(c),
- (b) agrees to treat Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 September 2024 as the second and third days of this session respectively, for the purposes of the order of business set out in Standing Order 3.3, and
- (c) notwithstanding paragraph (a), agrees to commence the order of business for Monday 16 September 2024 with the following two items –
  - (i) The President, or a person appointed by him, is to pray,
  - (ii) The President, or a person appointed by him, is to read a passage from the Bible and apply it,

and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded and carried

## 5. Presidential Address

The President delivered his address to the Synod.

## Adjournment

At 4:35 pm, Archdeacon Simon Flinders moved –

‘That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3.15 pm on Monday 16 September 2024.’

Seconded and carried

## Resumption

The Synod resumed at 3.15 pm on Monday 16 September 2024 in the Wesley Theatre.

## 6. Prayers

Archdeacon Kara Hartley led the Synod in prayer.

## 7. Bible study

The Rev Kevin Kim led the Bible study.

## 8. Document appointing a Commissary

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

## 9. Procedural motions

### 9.1 Amendment to the business paper for Monday 16 September 2024

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

‘Synod permits the alteration of today’s business paper in the manner set out on the paper circulated to Synod members headed “Amendments to the business paper for 16 September 2024”, and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as may prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded and carried

### 9.2 Adoption of proposed Synod Standing Orders

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

‘Synod, noting –

- (i) the Bill for the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2024 (**the Bill**) proposes to amend the *Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019* (**the Standing Orders**) at this session, and
- (ii) a number of proposed amendments in the Bill relate to matters which will arise in the course of Synod business before the consideration of the Bill, such as notice of motions (rule 4.3), calling of motions (rule 4.5), and asking of questions (rule 6.3),

- (a) agrees it is preferable to maintain consistent procedures throughout a session of the Synod, and
  - (b) agrees to adopt the amendments to the Standing Orders proposed in the Bill for the entirety of the present session, irrespective of the passage of the Bill,
- and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.'

Seconded and carried

## 10. Calling of motions related to certain elections

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

### 10.1 Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Under section 12 of the *Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917*, the Synod declares a vacancy in the offices of members of the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney for the Rev Andrew Robson, Ms Margaret Stuart, Mr Caleb Teh, and Mrs Marianne Yacoel, who have come to the end of their terms of office, noting that Mr Robson, Ms Stuart, Mr Teh, and Mrs Yacoel have each been nominated in anticipation of these vacancies being declared.'

Seconded and carried

### 10.2 Committee for the Order of Business

Dr Robert Tong AM moved –

'Synod elects Archdeacon Simon Flinders as an additional member of the Committee for the Order of Business, for the duration of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Synod.'

Seconded and carried

## 11. Uncontested elections

A list of the uncontested elections was tabled, the results of which –

- (a) in the case of the election for the Anglican Church Property Trust, was declared by the President,
- (b) in the case of all other elections, were declared by the President on 3 September 2024, effective from 14 September 2024,

pursuant to rule 4.1(b) of the Second Schedule to the *Synod Elections Ordinance 2000*.

## 12. Tabling of the minute book of the Standing Committee

The minute book of the Standing Committee was tabled.

## 13. Petitions

There were no petitions.

## 14. Questions

A list of questions asked by the following members in accordance with Standing Order 6.3(2)(a) was tabled –

- (1) Dean Sandy Grant
- (2) The Rev David Morgan
- (3) The Rev John Chappell
- (4) The Rev Zac Veron
- (5) Professor Chris Bellenger
- (6) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (7) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (8) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (9) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (10) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (11) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (12) Mrs Alison Pollard
- (13) Mr David Minty
- (14) Mr David Minty
- (15) Mr David Minty
- (16) Mr David Minty
- (17) Mr David Minty
- (18) Mr David Minty
- (19) Mr David Minty
- (20) Mr David Lloyd
- (21) The Rev Mark Groombridge

## 15. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (1) Bishop Michael Stead
- (2) Bishop Michael Stead
- (3) Mr Tristan Anlezark
- (4) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (5) Mr Samuel Doherty
- (6) Mr Peter Hicks
- (7) The Rev Richard Blight
- (8) Dr Laurie Scandrett
- (9) Dr Laurie Scandrett

## 16. Procedural motions from members

### 16.1 Arrangements for consideration of motion regarding the Rev Jodie McNeill

Dr Laurie Scandrett moved as a procedural motion –

'Synod agrees to schedule consideration of the motion for which notice was given today, regarding the Rev Jodie McNeill, on Monday 23 September 2024 after Mission Hour.'

Seconded and carried

## 17. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (10) The Rev Andrew Lim

## 18. Procedural motions from members

### 18.1 Arrangements for consideration of further motion regarding the Rev Jodie McNeill

The Rev Andrew Lim moved as a procedural motion –

'Synod agrees to schedule consideration both motions regarding the Rev Jodie McNeill, for which notice was given today, together on Monday 23 September 2024.'

Seconded and carried

## 19. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (11) Mr Peter Mayrick
- (12) Canon Tim Swan
- (13) The Rev Dr Brian Tung

## 20. Procedural motions from members

### 20.1 Arrangements for consideration of motion regarding the Nepali Church Plant

The Rev Dr Brian Tung moved as a procedural motion –

'Synod agrees to schedule consideration of the motion for which notice was given today, regarding the Nepali Church Plant, on Monday 23 September 2024 at a time to be determined by the Committee for the Order of Business.'

Seconded and carried

## 21. Notices of Motions

Notices of motions were given by the following members –

- (14) Mrs Greta Morris

## 22. Procedural motions from members

### 22.1 Presentation regarding Mothers Union

Archdeacon Kara Hartley moved as a procedural motion –

'Synod agrees to allow a 2-minute video prepared by Mothers' Union, to be shown at a time prior to the dinner break on any day, determined at the discretion of the President.'

Seconded and carried

## 23. Calling of motions on the business paper

The President called the motions in the order in which they appeared on the business paper, except those motions about a proposed ordinance or those motions to be considered at a time determined by the President.

### 23.1 Arrangements concerning Daily Papers and amendments

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod –

- (a) notes that it is proposed to prepare and print Daily Papers (usually including the Business Paper and Schedule of motions with amendments) in a consolidated form and provide them to members in the foyer of the Wesley Theatre from 2.15 pm on each day,

- (b) notes that the Daily Papers will be posted on the SDS website, [www.sds.asn.au](http://www.sds.asn.au) as soon as they are finalised,
- (c) in order to facilitate this process, agrees that amendments for inclusion in the Daily Papers for any day of the session must be received by the Synod Secretary (either on paper or by email sent to [synodbusiness@sydney.anglican.asn.au](mailto:synodbusiness@sydney.anglican.asn.au)) in a substantially complete form by 10.30 am to be included in the Daily Papers for that day, and
- (d) notes that amendments received by the Synod Secretary after that time or which are not in a substantially complete form may, where feasible, be projected on the overhead screen in the Wesley Theatre (if required to be considered on that day) but will otherwise be included in the Daily Papers for the following day.'

Seconded and carried

## 23.2 Arrangements for the scheduling of business

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod notes that the Timetable for Synod Business sets out the anticipated order of business, including the following presentations that have been approved by the Standing Committee –

- (a) on Tuesday 17 September (afternoon session, from 5.25 pm) –
  - (i) a presentation from Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney (Youthworks), from Canon Craig Roberts, the Rev Mike Dicker, the Rev Steve Carlisle, and Mr Andy Stevenson, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer, and
  - (ii) a presentation from the Parish of Pymble, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer,
- (b) on Tuesday 17 September (evening session, from 7.00 pm), a presentation on the principles and processes used in developing the proposals for the restructure of the central organisational structures of the Diocese, including visuals, of up to 20 minutes,
- (c) on Wednesday 18 September (afternoon session, from 5.25 pm) –
  - (i) a presentation from Moore Theological College, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer, and
  - (ii) a presentation from the Parish of Woollahra, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer,
- (d) on Tuesday 24 September (afternoon session, following the formal matters), a presentation from the Synod in the Greenfields organising committee, including visuals, of up to five minutes including prayer,

and notes that the Standing Committee has approved the following being presented at a time determined at the discretion of the President –

- (e) a presentation from the Endowment of the See Corporation, including visuals, of up to five minutes including prayer,
- (f) a presentation regarding the HOPE25 Mission, including visuals, of up to five minutes including prayer, and
- (g) a presentation from Anglicare, including visuals, of up to ten minutes including prayer,

and agrees –

- (h) to deal with its business in accordance with the Timetable for Synod Business, subject to the ultimate discretion of the President,
- (i) that the mover and seconder of the motion at M3 (Sadleir: Classification as a Parish) may combine for a joint presentation with visuals for up to 15 minutes including prayer, on Monday 16 September (evening session, from 7.00 pm),
- (j) that the mover and seconder of the motion at M4 (Sussex Inlet: Classification as a Parish) may combine for a joint presentation with visuals for up to 15 minutes including prayer, on Monday 23 September (afternoon session, immediately prior to the dinner break),

- (k) that Dr Emma Penzo, a member of the Central Diocesan Structures Review Committee who is not a member of the Synod, may attend and speak to any motion moved at the session in connection with the review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese, if called on to do so, but not vote on any such motion,
  - (l) to a one-page flyer, in connection with the presentation mentioned in paragraph (f), being made available in the foyer of the Synod venue following the presentation for collection by members, and
  - (m) to reserve the evening of Wednesday 18 September for the conclusion of debate on any matters commenced but not yet concluded earlier in the session,
- and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

Seconded and carried

### 23.3 Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 Outbreak

Mr Simon Miller moved –

‘Synod, noting that –

- (a) the Report of the coronial inquest into the Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 outbreak has not yet been released,
- (b) a class action has been commenced and continues against Anglican Community Services (**Anglicare Sydney**) and others in relation to the Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 outbreak, and
- (c) by resolution 3/23, the Synod requested a report be provided to the Standing Committee on this matter when all inquiries and legal matters are resolved,

agrees not to consider any motion on the topic of the Newmarch House 2020 COVID-19 outbreak and Anglicare Sydney’s response at this session and suspends all Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.’

Seconded and carried

### 23.4 Arrangements for consideration of Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese motion and Bill

The Rev Nigel Fortescue moved –

‘Synod agrees to –

- (a) allow a five-minute video from the Indigenous churches in the Diocese, to be shown immediately prior to the motion at M10 (Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese), in lieu of a seconder’s speech on the motion, and
- (b) consider the Bill at B4 (Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese Amendment Ordinance 2024) immediately following the motion at M10 (Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese).’

Seconded and carried

### 23.5 Arrangements for the consideration of M24 40th anniversary of the establishment of Sports & Leisure Ministries

The Rev Dr Richard Wenden moved –

‘Synod agrees to schedule consideration of the motion at M24 (40th anniversary of the establishment of Sports & Leisure Ministries) in the 30 minutes before the dinner break on Wednesday 18 September 2024.’

Seconded and carried

### 23.6 Publication of presentation material

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod agrees that any video presentation or presentation material may be published by the Secretary of the Synod, with the agreement of the presenter of the material, on the Synod webpage.'

Seconded and carried

**23.7 Annual reports submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for organisations with a financial year ending 30 June**

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod notes that the following annual reports, submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2023, have been tabled and receives them –

- Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (The) \*
- Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (The), as trustee of the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Ministry Fund \*
- Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (The), as trustee of the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief and Aid Fund \*
- Anglican Community Services\*

Seconded and carried

**23.8 Other annual reports**

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod notes that the following annual report for the Financial Year ending 31 December 2023 has been tabled and receives it –

- Mission to Seafarers (The), Sydney'

Seconded and carried

**23.9 Standing Committee and other special reports**

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod receives the following reports and notes that they have been printed at the direction of the Standing Committee –

- (1) 2024 Report of the Standing Committee
- (2) Synod Funds Amalgamated Annual Financial Report for 2023
- (3) Parish Funds Amalgamated Annual Financial Report for 2023
- (4) Synod – St Andrew's House Fund Annual Financial Report for 2023
- (5) Sadleir: Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish to a parish
- (6) Sussex Inlet: Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish to a parish
- (7) Attendance Patterns and Mission in the Diocese (64/23)
- (8) Doctrine Commission Report: The Anglican Communion and the Anglican Church of Australia
- (9) Doctrine Commission Report: The Relationship of Church and State and Religious Freedom (38/22)
- (10) Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (12/23)
- (11) Leadership of Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese (10/23)
- (12) Ordinances passed by the Standing Committee (since August 2023)
- (13) Partnership with Anglican Schools (56/23)
- (14) Professional Development for Ministry Workers (54/22)
- (15) Property priorities to progress Indigenous ministry (22/22)
- (16) Review of the central organisational structures of the Diocese



- (17) Shaping Parish Structures for Mission
- (18) Stipends, Allowances and Benefits for 2025 (2/05)
- (19) Toward the development of a Diocesan Property Strategy (15/22)
- (20) Use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in the Diocese (48/23)
- (21) Ministry Spouse Support Fund Report Annual Report for 2023
- (22) Reporting on the National Redress Scheme (Annual Report) (42/18)
- (23) Regional Councils' Annual Reports for 2023
- (24) Safe Ministry Board and the Office of the Director of Safe Ministry Annual Report 2023-2024
- (25) Work Outside the Diocese
- (26) Review of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations (33/23)
- (27) Parish Governance Policy
- (28) Explanatory statements and reports on Bills.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.10 Professional Development for Ministry Workers

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod, noting the report "Professional Development for Ministry Workers" –

- (a) invites members of the Synod to provide feedback to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 December 2024 on the proposed arrangements for all ministry workers in the Diocese to undertake mandatory, regular professional development as contemplated in the report, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to implement arrangements for professional development for all ministry workers having given regard to any feedback received.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.11 Acknowledgement of former ACPT, SAHC, and ACGC members

Mrs Melinda West moved –

'Synod noting that, as a consequence of the formation of the transitional Sydney Anglican Property (SAP) Board on 1 January 2024, the following 14 former members of the Anglican Church Property Trust, St Andrew's House Corporation, and Anglican Church Growth Corporation did not continue as members of the SAP Board –

Canon Christopher Allan	Mr Richard Neal
Mr Howard Bellchambers	Mr David Nelson
Mr Andrew Buckley	Mr Trevor Ratcliff
Mr Marcin Firek	Mr Peter Rusbourne
Mr Robert Freeman	The Rev James Sneddon
The Rev Dr Raj Gupta	Dr Robert Tong AM
Mr Peter Janssen OAM	The Rev Philip Wheeler,

- (a) acknowledges the collective 133 years of service represented by those 14 former members, and
- (b) thanks each of them for their contribution to the wise stewardship of these organisations over many years.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.12 Partnership with Anglican Schools

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod, noting the report "56/23 Partnership with Anglican Schools" –

- (a) notes that the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education has been presented to heads and chaplains as requested by the Synod, and thanks heads and chaplains for their thoughtful engagement with the statement and for their detailed feedback,
- (b) reaffirms Synod's acknowledgement of, and thanks for, Anglican Schools, as partners in the mission and ministry of the Diocese,
- (c) requests the Standing Committee to form a suitably qualified committee to review the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education, to report back to the next ordinary session of the Synod in 2025, and provide the committee with all the feedback received on the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education,
- (d) requests that the revision of the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education address (among other things) the specific areas raised in the report,
- (e) requests that the revised Diocesan Policy Statement on Education incorporate key insights and principles contained in the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education, and
- (f) requests the Diocesan Secretary communicate the substance of this resolution to heads and chaplains of Diocesan schools, including a copy of the Diocesan Policy Statement on Education, and expressing Synod's commitment to continuing dialogue with schools regarding these matters.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.13 Shaping Parish Structures for Mission

Archdeacon Anthony Douglas moved –

'Synod, noting the report "Shaping Parish Structures for Mission" –

- (a) invites members of the Synod to provide feedback to the Diocesan Secretary by 30 November 2024 on the proposed changes as contemplated in the report, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to implement the proposed changes in light of feedback received.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.14 Doctrine Commission Report: The Relationship of Church and State and Religious Freedom

The Rev Dr Mark Thompson moved –

'Synod, noting the report "The Relationship of Church and State and Religious Freedom" –

- (a) endorses the report, and
- (b) approves its publication on the Commission's website.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.15 Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

Ms Nicola Warwick-Mayo moved –

'Synod, noting the report "12/23 Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse", requests the Standing Committee to provide a further update to the next session of the Synod in relation to implementation of the actions set out in the table to the report.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.16 Mr Greg Hammond OAM

Ms Evelyn Horton moved –

'Synod, noting that on 31 July 2024, Mr Greg Hammond OAM retired as Chairman of Anglican Community Services (Anglicare Sydney) after eight years of faithful service –

- (a) gives thanks to God for His work through Anglicare Sydney during Mr Hammond's chairmanship of the organisation including –
  - (i) the successful formation of Anglicare Sydney with the merger of Anglican Retirement Villages and the Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society in 2016,
  - (ii) the increased alignment of Anglicare Sydney with the Diocesan Mission and the firm commitment of the organisation to partnerships with parishes to further the Gospel of Christ,
  - (iii) successfully managing the succession of the Chief Executive Officer of the organisation in 2021-2022,
  - (iv) the expansion of Anglicare Sydney's footprint to include the Armidale and Bathurst Dioceses and the growth of services to older Australians, and families and people in marginalised communities,
  - (v) leaving Anglicare Sydney in a robust financial position after the uncertainty and challenges following the Royal Commission into Aged Care, and
  - (vi) representing Anglicare Sydney on the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Sydney and Anglicare Australia as Chair of the Anglicare Australia Chairs Network, and
- (b) thanks God for Mr Greg Hammond's leadership and Mrs Beth Hammond's support, and prays for their ongoing commitment to the Gospel and contribution to the Diocese and beyond through service on the Standing Committee, the Governance Policy Review Committee and the Board of the Australian College of Theology.'

Secoded and carried with acclamation

Ms Horton led the Synod in prayer for Mr Greg and Mrs Beth Hammond.

#### 23.17 Retirement of the Rev Eric Percival

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod gives thanks for the ministry of Eric and Christine Percival. After nineteen years of ministry to the Parish of Greenwich, Eric will retire from full-time ministry later this year. The Parish have expressed their thanks for Eric's emphasis on small groups as a means of helping spiritual growth and providing pastoral support. They have valued his wise and insightful preaching and are especially thankful for how he brought the congregation through Covid and we all pray God's blessings on them as they retire.'

Secoded and carried

Bishop Edwards led the Synod in prayer for the Rev Eric and Mrs Christine Percival.

#### 23.18 Giving thanks to God for the ministry of Cursillo

The Rev Robert Happer moved –

'Synod gives thanks to Almighty God for the ministry of Cursillo, Diocese of Sydney, noting that –

- (a) over the past 30 years, this lay led ministry has been used by God to grow disciples and to lead women and men into a clear and vital relationship with our Lord Jesus,
- (b) many hundreds of people have shared in the program and we are grateful to them for their service and dedication,
- (c) after extensive consultation, prayer, and dialogue with the Archbishop, the Cursillo Secretariat wound up the ministry and formally concluded activities with a public celebration on 3 August 2024.'

Secoded and carried

#### 23.19 National Online Gambling Reform

Dean Sandy Grant moved –

'Synod, noting that –

- (a) it has been over a year since the parliamentary report "You Win Some, You Lose More", from the committee chaired by the late Peta Murphy, was tabled with 31 recommendations to minimise the growing harm occurring in Australia from sports betting and other online gambling,
- (b) online gambling rates are increasing rapidly and a recent ANU survey found that 1.2 million adults were personally affected by someone else's gambling in the past 12 months, and
- (c) regrettably, the federal Government has still not announced its response to this urgent matter of public health and welfare,

again requests the Archbishop, along with all concerned Anglican church members, to write to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, calling on them to lead bipartisan legislative action to enact the Murphy Committee's unanimous cross-party recommendations, especially the phased but rapid removal of all sports bet advertising from TV in Australia.'

Seconded and carried

### 23.20 Archbishop of Melbourne

Mr Samuel Doherty moved –

Synod –

- (a) notes that the current Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most Rev Dr Philip Leslie Freier, will retire next year, and
- (b) prays for Melbourne's Board of Nominators and election Synod, that God would give them wisdom and guide them as they nominate and elect a new Archbishop.

Seconded and carried

Mr Doherty led the Synod in prayer for Melbourne's Board of Nominators and election Synod.

## 24. Procedural motions from members

### 24.1 Arrangements for consideration of Diocesan Governance Policy

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod agrees to –

- (a) consider the form of the statement in Appendix 3 of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy prior to consideration of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy as a whole, without the necessity for the Diocesan Governance Policy to be approved in principle first,
- (b) schedule consideration of the motions regarding Appendix 3 (M11 - M13) for Monday 16 September (afternoon session, following formal matters) with the following arrangements –
  - (i) each motion will be moved together without a seconder's speech, with the mover speaking for up to 10 minutes in total to provide background information to the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy and the context for the Governance Policy Review Committee bringing the motions to Synod,
  - (ii) following the speech of the mover, a "set piece debate" will be held in the order shown, with speeches up to the duration shown –
    - (A) M11 The Rev Dr Mark Thompson (in favour) – 10 minutes,
    - (B) M11 The Rev Dr Andrew Katay (against) – 10 minutes,
    - (C) Debate to proceed on M11 – 5 minutes per speech,
    - (D) the speakers at (A) and (B) each be given the right of reply on M11 – 5 minutes each,
    - (E) M11 will be put to a secret ballot by houses,

- (F) M12 Dean Sandy Grant (in favour) – 10 minutes,
  - (G) M12 The Rev Dr Michael Jensen (against) – 10 minutes,
  - (H) Debate to proceed on M12 – 5 minutes per speech,
  - (I) the speakers at (F) and (G) each be given the right of reply on M12 – 3 minutes each,
  - (J) M12 will be put to a secret ballot by houses,
  - (K) M13 Dr Laurie Scandrett (in favour) – 10 minutes,
  - (L) M13 The Rev Tim Bowden (against) – 10 minutes,
  - (M) Debate to proceed on M13 – 5 minutes per speech,
  - (N) the speakers at (K) and (L) each be given the right of reply on M13 – 3 minutes each, and
  - (O) M13 will be put to a secret ballot by houses,
- (iii) a secret ballot by houses will be taken on each of the motions, with each vote taken at the end of the debate on the corresponding motion,
  - (iv) debate on the subsequent motions may nonetheless proceed before the result of the ballot on the prior motion is known, and
  - (v) if the President announces that M11 has not been carried, Synod grants the mover leave to withdraw M12 and M13 immediately,
- (c) schedule consideration of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy for a subsequent day of the session,
  - (d) begin such consideration with a motion, without a seconder's speech, that the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy in a form which reflects the decisions made by the Synod regarding Appendix 3 be approved in principle,
  - (e) request the Diocesan Secretary to prepare and circulate electronically to the Synod a revised form of the Diocesan Governance Policy reflecting the outcome of Synod's consideration of motions M11 - M13, and
  - (f) consider the motion at M14 immediately following the passing of the Policy, and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.'

Seconded

The Rev Joseph Wiltshire moved as an amendment to Mrs Bounds' motion –

'Amend the motion by omitting the words "by houses" in paragraphs –

- (a) (b)(ii)(E),
- (b) (b)(ii)(J), and
- (c) (b)(ii)(O).'

Seconded

The President asked –

'Does any member intend to request that the vote on motions M11, M12, and M13 be taken by Houses?'

More than eight members of the Synod stood to indicate their intention to request that the votes be taken by Houses.

Having been granted leave, Mr Wiltshire withdrew his amendment.

Mrs Bounds' motion was carried without amendment.

## 25. Motions

### 25.1 Annual reports submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for organisations with a financial year ending 31 December

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'Synod notes that the following annual reports, submitted under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995* for the Financial Year ending 31 December 2023, have been tabled and receives them –

- (1) Abbotsleigh (The Council of)
- (2) Anglican Church Growth Corporation
- (3) Anglican Church Growth Corporation as trustee for the Ministry Infrastructure Development Fund
- (4) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney as trustee for the Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney Grants Administration Fund \*
- (5) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney
- (6) Anglican Media Council
- (7) Anglican Schools Corporation
- (8) Anglican Youth and Education Diocese of Sydney (Youthworks) \*
- (9) Archbishop of Sydney's Discretionary Trust
- (10) Arden Anglican School Council (The)
- (11) Arundel House Council
- (12) Barker College (The Council of)
- (13) Campbelltown Anglican Schools Council \*
- (14) Endowment of the See Corporation as trustee of the Endowment of the See Property Fund
- (15) Evangelism and New Churches (The Board of)
- (16) Glebe Administration Board as trustee of the Diocesan Cash Investment Fund
- (17) Glebe Administration Board as trustee of the Diocesan Endowment
- (18) Glebe Administration Board as trustee for the Long Term Pooling Fund
- (19) Illawarra Grammar School (The Council of The) \*
- (20) King's School (The Council of The)
- (21) Living Faith Council
- (22) Macarthur Anglican School Council (The)
- (23) Ministry Training and Development (The Council of)
- (24) Moore Theological College Council \*
- (25) Northern Regional Council
- (26) St Andrew's Cathedral School (The Council of)
- (27) St Andrew's House Corporation as trustee of the St Andrew's House Trust
- (28) St Catherine's School Waverley (The Council of)
- (29) South Sydney Regional Council
- (30) South Western Regional Council
- (31) Sydney Anglican Loans Board
- (32) Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee
- (33) Sydney Church of England Grammar School Council (Shore)
- (34) Sydney Diocesan Services
- (35) Tara Anglican School for Girls (The Council of)
- (36) Trinity Grammar School (The Council of)
- (37) Western Sydney Regional Council

(38) William Clarke College Council \*

(39) Wollongong Regional Council'

Seconded and carried

## 25.2 Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of Statement of Personal Faith paragraphs

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod, noting the report "33/23 Review of the Governance Policy for Diocesan Organisations", agrees that the following two paragraphs be inserted in the form of Appendix 3 of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy as new paragraphs 1 and 2 (with consequential re-numbering) –

- "1. I believe –
  - (a) that all the canonical scriptures of the books of the Old and New Testaments are the ultimate rule and standard of faith given by inspiration of God and contain all things necessary to salvation,
  - (b) in the Christian faith as professed by the church of Christ from primitive times, and in particular as set forth in the creeds known as the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed, and
  - (c) that there is only one way to be reconciled to God which is through his Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and was raised for our justification, and that we are justified before God by faith only.
2. I also believe that all the canonical scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct and am personally committed to living in obedience to the commands of Christ."

Seconded

Debate proceeded in accordance with the procedural motion passed at item 24.1.

After a time for debate, the President asked –

'Does the Synod consider that the motion has been sufficiently debated and should now be voted on?'

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

## 26. Procedural motions from members

### 26.1 Arrangements for ballot on M11

Archdeacon Simon Flinders moved as a procedural motion –

'Synod agrees that the ballot on M11 be conducted following the dinner break, before moving to M3, which was previously scheduled for 7.00 pm.'

Seconded and carried

## Adjournment

At 5.35 pm, Archdeacon Simon Flinders moved as a procedural motion –

'That the Synod adjourn and resume at 7.05 pm tonight.'

Seconded and carried

## Resumption

The Synod resumed at 7.05 pm.

## 27. Motions

### 27.1 **Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of Statement of Personal Faith paragraphs**

Bishop Edwards' motion was taken by secret ballot by Houses.

Prior to the notice of the result of the vote by secret ballot by Houses, the Synod adjourned this matter.

### 27.2 **Sadleir: Classification as a Parish**

The Rev David Morgan gave a presentation, including a video presentation, regarding ministry in Sadleir.

Mr Morgan moved –

'Synod assents to the classification of Sadleir as a parish with effect from 1 November 2024.'

Seconded and carried by acclamation

Bishop Peter Lin led the Synod in prayer for the parish of Sadleir.

## 28. Presentations

### 28.1 **Endowment of the See Corporation**

A video presentation was given regarding the work of the Endowment of the See Corporation.

The Rev Stuart Milne led the Synod in prayer for the work of the Endowment of the See Corporation.

### 28.2 **Hope25**

The Rev Philip Wheeler gave a presentation, including a video presentation, regarding the Hope25 initiative of the Mission and Ministry Commission of the General Synod.

The Rev David Yung led the Synod in prayer for Hope25.

### 28.3 **Anglicare**

Mr Simon Miller gave a presentation, including a video presentation, regarding the work of Anglicare.

## 29. Results of vote by secret ballot

### 29.1 **Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of Statement of Personal Faith paragraphs**

The results of the secret ballot were announced as follows –

	<b>Lay</b>	<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Total</b>
For	256	157	<b>413</b>
Against	140	79	<b>219</b>
Informal	1		<b>1</b>

Bishop Edwards' motion was therefore carried.



### 30. Motions

#### 30.1 **Diocesan Governance Policy, Appendix 3 – addition of further Statement of Personal Faith paragraph**

Bishop Chris Edwards moved –

'Synod agrees that the following paragraph be inserted in the form of Appendix 3 of the proposed Diocesan Governance Policy as a new paragraph 3 (with consequential re-numbering) –

- “3. I also believe that this faith produces obedience in accordance with God’s word, including sexual faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman, and abstinence in all other circumstances.”

Seconded

Debate proceeded in accordance with the procedural motion passed at item 24.1.

After a time for debate the President asked –

'Does the Synod consider that the motion has been sufficiently debated and should now be voted on?'

The majority of members present answered in the affirmative.

Bishop Edwards' motion was taken by secret ballot by Houses.

Prior to the notice of the result of the vote by secret ballot by Houses, the Synod adjourned this matter.

#### 30.2 **Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2024**

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'That Synod agree to consider passing the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2024 formally.'

Seconded and carried

Mrs Bounds spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The President asked –

'Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?'

There were no questions.

Mrs Bounds moved –

'That the proposed ordinance pass formally as an ordinance of the Synod.'

Seconded and carried

#### 30.3 **Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2024**

Mrs Briony Bounds moved –

'That Synod agree to consider passing the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2024 formally, in a form incorporating the amendment shown on today's business paper.'

Seconded and carried

Mrs Bounds spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The President asked –

‘Does any member have a question about the proposed ordinance?’

There was a time for questions.

The Rev Joseph Wiltshire moved as a procedural motion –

‘That Synod defer consideration of this matter.’

Mr Wiltshire’s procedural motion was put and was not carried.

Mrs Bounds moved –

‘That the proposed ordinance pass formally as an ordinance of the Synod.’

Seconded and carried

### Adjournment

At 9:27 pm, Archdeacon Simon Flinders moved –

‘That the Synod adjourn and resume at 3.15 pm tomorrow.’

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

17 September 2024