

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA DIOCESE OF BRISBANE

The Second Session of the Eightieth Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane
met in St John's Cathedral, Ann Street, Brisbane and at the Anglican Church Grammar School
from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 June 2022.

ABRIDGED MINTUES

Opening and prayer

The President, the Most Rev'd Dr Phillip J Aspinall, took the Chair at 8:40pm. The Chaplain led the Synod in prayer.

Welcome

The Archbishop welcomed members of Synod, both Lay and Clerical. The Archbishop made a special welcome to those who were present for the first time.

Reports laid on the Table

The Reports of the Diocesan Council, Cathedral Chapter and various Commissions with Statements of Accounts and Select Committee were noted as having been tabled.

Notices of Questions or Motions [see SO C.6 & SO C.13]

The following notices of question were given

The Rev'd Jan Crombie asked a question regarding IT support for parishes.

Mr Graham Smyth asked a question regarding clergy leave entitlements.

Mr Graham Smyth asked two questions regarding the Sustainability Committee.

The following notices of motion were given.

Formal Motions

Language Matters

The Rev'd Sharon Mitchell moved; The Rt Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

That this Synod:

1. Acknowledges the importance of language used in worship, gatherings, and communications within ACSQ.
2. Requests the Diocesan Council to develop an inclusive language policy for ACSQ together with guidelines for its implementation and use.
3. Acknowledges the Anglican Diocese of Adelaide for their inclusive language policy leadership and recommends their work as a starting point in developing an inclusive language policy for ACSQ:

<https://adelaideanglicans.com/app/uploads/2019/11/Language-Matters-Booklet-2017.pdf>

Carried

Movement for the Ordination of Women

The Rev'd Rosemary Gardiner moved; The Rev'd Suzanne Grimmett seconding:

That Synod give thanks for the work of the Movement for the Ordination of Women which, with members of the Clergy of this Diocese and elsewhere worked to ensure the equal participation of women in the ordained ministry.

Carried

Aged Care and Disability Care

Synod granted leave for this motion to be moved by the Ven Bronwyn Pagram.

The Ven Bronwyn Pagram moved, the Rev'd Dr Rodney Wolff seconding:

That this Synod, noting Resolution R59/18 of the General Synod of Australia, calls on the incoming Commonwealth Government to develop and communicate a strategic roadmap for improvement to Aged Care and Disability Care which implements the findings of the Aged Care and Disability Royal Commissions, enables providers of Aged Care and Disability Care to have long-term confidence about sufficient funding for the provision of services, and assures people receiving support of the integrity of these systems.

Carried

Order of the Day

Talking Circles

The General Manager moved; the Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt seconding:

That Synod members participate in a Talking Circle dialogue session in the manner described in the material circulated to members before Synod, from 2pm to 3.30pm on Saturday 25 June 2022.

Carried

Report of the Cathedral Chapter

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt presented the report of the Cathedral Chapter.

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moved, Dr Christopher Gourlay seconded:

“That the report of the Cathedral Chapter be received.”

Carried

Consideration of Motions

Report of the Select Committee on the Nicene Creed

The Rev'd Dr Cathy Laufer moved; Dr John Wright seconding:

That this Synod:

1. receives the Report of the Select Committee on the Nicene Creed;
2. asks the President to forward the Report to the appropriate General Synod bodies, and
3. expresses its thanks to all who participated in the Study and to the Committee for its work.

Carried

SATURDAY 25 JUNE

Opening and Prayer

The President, the Most Rev'd Dr Phillip Aspinall, took the Chair at 8:30am, and his Chaplain read prayers.

President's Inaugural Address

The President, the Most Rev'd Dr Phillip Aspinall, welcomed Members of Synod and delivered his inaugural address, which was received with applause.

The Right Rev'd Cameron Venables moved, the Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves seconding:

“That Synod express its thanks to the President for his charge and asks that it be made available to Synod members for further reflection and discussion. Further, that this Synod congratulates Archbishop Phillip, who became Archbishop in February 2002, on this twentieth anniversary of his leadership of the Anglican Church in Southern Queensland.”

Carried with acclamation

Formal Motions

Dialogue re Same Gender Marriage Blessings

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moved, the Rev'd Michael Uptin seconding:

That this Synod receive the report entitled “PLAYING IN THE SAME SANDPIT – A report to Synod on the progress of a process of dialogue and learning which will allow faith communities within the Diocese to engage with the implications of the Appellate Tribunal determinations and opinions regarding same-gender marriage blessings.”

Carried

General Synod Families and Culture Commission

The Rev'd Gillian Moses moved, the Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt seconding:

That this Synod:

1. commends the establishment of a General Synod Families and Culture Commission to examine questions that relate to family violence affecting members of the Church, the drivers of violence and the well-being of families and women and to make recommendations on matters relating to family violence affecting members of the Church, violence prevention and the well-being of families and women;
2. welcomes the commitment to working with NATSIAC to develop culturally appropriate resources for use with First Nations communities; and
3. Encourages the ACSQ Domestic and Family Violence Working Group to work closely with the Commission in promoting a national approach to Domestic and Family Violence prevention, intervention and response.

Carried

Climate Change – Call to Government

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moved, the Rev'd Pro Rodney Wolff seconding:

That this Synod:

1. Notes:

- a. Paragraph 5 of Resolution R78/18 of The General Synod of Australia which called ‘on the Australian Government, the community and all people of faith, to support Pacific and Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander communities in their call for urgent reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases by

- (i) accepting that climate change is a pressing human security challenge;
 - (ii) recognising the long-term activism of both Pacific national and Christian leaders on addressing climate change globally;
 - (iii) requesting the largest emitters and contributors, including Australia, act immediately to meet the Paris global warming target;
 - (iv) providing financial support to assist affected Pacific and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to adapt and protect their lands, islands, lives and futures; and
 - (v) encouraging Australian research into, and generous foreign aid for, mitigation, adaptability and resilience measures, especially in developing nations, because many of the impacts resulting from the changing climate are locked in for centuries (as the IPCC notes).
- b. that at Easter 2022, 37 Christian leaders, including heads of churches, leaders of ecumenical bodies, Anglican and Catholic Archbishops, Bishops and Deans signed a statement calling on those offering for election at the May 2022 Federal Election to 'take powerful action to preserve and protect God's creation by:
- (i) Halving carbon emissions this decade, in line with the recommendation of scientists and the targets of our major trading partners;
 - (ii) Transforming our energy system towards 100% renewable electricity while delivering a planned and just transition for energy workers; and
 - (iii) Investing in programs to support communities on the frontlines to plan, prepare and adapt to the extreme weather events.'
2. Congratulates those elected to parliament at the recent election and calls on them to pursue as a matter of urgency the goals outlined in the Christian Leaders' Easter Statement.
3. Requests the General Manager to communicate this resolution to the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate.

Carried

Thanks to the Reverend Dr Cathy Laufer

Ms Rebecca Crockett moved, Mr David Ward seconding:

That this Synod acknowledges the impending retirement at the end of 2022 of The Rev'd Dr Cathy Laufer and expresses its gratitude for her service across the Australian Anglican Church and in this Diocese as a lecturer at St Francis Theological College, as an examining Chaplain and also particularly over the last decade for her ministry as Priest in Charge at the Parish of Coolum where she has cultivated a warm and inclusive parish eager to grow further in the love of God and in ministry to each other and to the community.

Carried with acclamation

Report of the Diocesan Council

Mr Dan O'Connor presented the report of Diocesan Council.

Mr Dan O'Connor moved, the Hon Justice Debra Mullins seconding:

“That the report of the Diocesan Council be received.”

Carried

Report of the Community Services Commission

Mr Gary Brady presented the report of the Community Services Commission.

Mr Gary Brady moved, the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the report of the Community Services Commission be received.”

Report of the Ministry Education Commission

The Right Rev'd Dr Jonathan Holland presented the report of the Ministry Education Commission.

The Right Rev'd Dr Jonathan Holland moved, the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the report of the Ministry Education Commission be received.”

Carried

The Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves moved, the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

“That this Synod thanks Bishop Jonathan for his contribution to the diocese as priest, Bishop and for the last six years as Executive Director of the MEC.”

Carried with acclamation

Report of the Parishes and Other Mission Agencies Commission

Mrs Cathy Grant presented the report of the Parishes and Other Mission Agencies Commission.

Mrs Cathy Grant moved, the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the report of the Parishes and Other Mission Agencies Commission be received.”

Carried

Report of the Anglican Schools Commission

The Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves presented the report of the Anglican Schools Commission.

The Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves moved, the Rev'd Patrick Duckworth seconding:

“That the report of the Anglican Schools Commission be received.”

Carried

Motion without Notice

The Rev'd John Dougherty moved, the Rev'd Jonathan Kemp seconding:

“That this Synod acknowledge and give thanks for the leadership of Dr Mark Sly, founding Principal of Coomera Anglican College, who will retire after 27 years.”

Carried with acclamation

Training and Professional Supervision Canon

The Ven Olaf Anderson moved, the Rev'd Dr Andrew Peters seconding:

“That the general principles of the Training and Professional Supervision Canon 2022 be agreed.”

Carried

Synod resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Synod to consider the proposed Canon.

In Committee the proposed Canon was considered in detail.

In Synod, the Chairman of Committees reported that the Committee had considered the proposed Canon and agreed to the same with amendments.

The President moved:

“That the Report of the Committee of the Whole Synod be adopted.”

Carried

Financial and Diocesan Services Commission Report

Mr Bruce Wilson presented the report of the Financial and Diocesan Services Commission.

Mr Tim Reid moved, Mr David Sneesby seconding:

“The report of the Financial and Diocesan Services Commission for the year ended 31 December 2021 be received.”

Carried

Auditor’s Report and Statement of Accounts

Mrs Joanne Segond von Banchet presented the Statement of Accounts.

Mr Tim Reid moved, Mr David Sneesby seconding:

“That the Auditor’s Report and Statement of Accounts of The Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane and related entities and The Corporation of the Lesser Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Brisbane for the year ended 31 December 2021 as incorporated in the Report Book be adopted.”

Carried

Budget 2023

Mrs Joanne Segond von Banchet presented the 2023 Budget.

Mr Tim Reid moved, Mr David Sneesby seconding:

“That this Synod approves the Budget for the year ending 31 December 2023 as detailed in the attached summary and in so doing notes:

1. this Budget has been prepared eight months in advance of the year of operation;
2. that the Budget will need revision and approval by Diocesan Council in the light of any unforeseen external economic factors and more up-to-date estimates of revenue and costs which may emerge in the intervening period; and
3. whilst Synod acknowledges that the budget may require a refresh in light of changed circumstances, the intent of operational initiatives included in the budget as submitted be honoured where possible.”

Carried

Consideration of motions

Anglican Board of Mission November Appeal

The Rev’d Eron Perry moved, the Rev’d Danni Clark seconding:

“That this Synod:

1. Commends the people of the Diocese for their support of ABM, generally, with \$378,221 being raised for ABM in 2021 (through parishes, church organisations and individuals).
2. Commends the people of the Diocese for their support of the 2021 Archbishop’s November Appeal, through which over \$9,943 was raised to date, to help support the church in Torres Strait Islands.
3. Encourages the people of our Diocese to support the forthcoming 2022 Archbishop’s November Appeal. The appeal will support Papua New Guinea’s Newton Theological College (NTC). Funds raised will go towards:
 - a) Building repairs.
 - b) Better equip students through the provision of library materials, IT equipment and bridging courses for students.
 - c) Sponsoring a staff member from Newton Theological College to attend an appropriate theological college to gain experience in theological college administration.
4. Commends the Anglican Schools as they support ABM Projects.
5. Encourages the people of the Diocese to collect used stamps, the sale of which benefited ABM by over \$12000 last financial year.”

Carried

Training and Professional Supervision Canon

Debate was resumed on the proposed Canon.

The Ven Olaf Anderson moved, the Rev’d Dr Andrew Peters seconding:

“That the Training and Professional Supervision Canon 2022 do now pass.”

Carried

The President announced that he has assented to the Training and Professional Supervision Canon 2022.

Parishes Regulation Canon Amendment Canon

The Rev’d Canon Nicole Colledge moved, the Right Rev’d Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the general principles of the Parishes Regulation Canon Amendment Canon 2022 be agreed.”

Carried

The Rev’d Canon Nicole Colledge moved, the Right Rev’d Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the Parishes Regulation Canon Amendment Canon 2022 do now pass”.

Carried

The President announced that he has assented to the Parishes Regulation Canon Amendment Canon 2022.

Synod Canon Amendment Canon

The General Manager moved, Mr Dan O’Connor seconding:

“That the general principles of the Synod Canon Amendment Canon 2022 be agreed.”

Carried

The General Manager moved, Mr Dan O’Connor seconding:

“That the Synod Canon Amendment Canon 2022 do now pass”.

Carried

The President announced that he has assented to the Synod Canon Amendment Canon 2022.

General Synod Legislation Amendment Canon

The Hon Justice Debra Mullins moved, the Rev’d Canon Gary Harch seconding:

“That the general principles of the General Synod Legislation Amendment Canon 2022 be agreed.”

Carried

The Hon Justice Debra Mullins moved, the Canon Rev’d Gary Harch seconding:

“That the General Synod Legislation Amendment Canon 2022 do now pass”.

Carried

The President announced that he has assented to the General Synod Legislation Amendment Canon 2022.

Age Limitation Canon Amendment Canon

The Rev’d Canon Paul Mitchell moved, the Rev’d Prof Rodney Wolff seconding:

“That the general principles of the Age Limitation Canon Amendment Canon 2022 be agreed.”

Carried

The Rev’d Canon Paul Mitchell moved, the Rev’d Prof Rodney Wolff seconding:

“That the Age Limitation Canon Amendment Canon 2022 do now pass”.

Carried

The President announced that he has assented to the Age Limitation Canon Amendment Canon 2022.

SUNDAY 26 JUNE 2022

Opening and Prayer

The President, the Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall, took the Chair at 11.30am, and his Chaplain read prayers.

Formal Motions

30th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women

The Ven Mark Carlyon moved, the Hon Justice Debra Mullins seconding:

“That this Synod gives thanks to God as it:

1. recognises that this year marks the 30th anniversary of the ordination of the first women priests in the Anglican Church of Australia and that by the end of 1992, ninety-two women had been ordained priests, in all states in Australia;
2. celebrates that two of the original ninety-two ordained priests are now bishops:
 - a) The Most Reverend Kay Goldsworthy AO, the Archbishop of Perth (and the first Anglican woman in the world to be made an Archbishop) and
 - b) The Right Reverend Kate Prowd, Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Melbourne;
3. acclaims the pioneering ministry of the first six women ordained priests in the Diocese of Brisbane on December 20, 1992, -- remembering The Reverends Joan Pascoe, Leah Mary Shaw, Pat King, Eileen Thomson (D'cd), Kaye Pitman and Val Graydon -- whose unique ministries and experiences have enriched the Anglican Church of Southern Queensland;
4. honours the ministry of The Right Reverend Alison Taylor who served as Bishop of the Southern Region from 2013-2017 and was the first woman to be consecrated as bishop in this Diocese;
5. notes that the Anglican Church Directory 2020/21 lists 3831 Anglican Clergy of whom 888 (23%) are women – 7 are bishops, 397 active priests, 171 active deacons, 66 not specified and 247 retired;
6. acknowledges the important contribution ordained women have made and continue to make to worship, ministry and leadership in the Anglican Church in Australia;
7. affirms that women who are deacons, priests or bishops teach and lead with full spiritual authority;
8. notes the number of opportunities to celebrate this anniversary across the nation including a service at St John's Cathedral on Friday 18 November as well as a panel discussion at St Francis College, a long lunch hosted by the SSA with conversation on “Women in the Church”, and stories and other resources available online to celebrate the ministry of ordained women in the life of the Anglican Church.”

Carried

Gambling Reform

Synod granted leave for this motion to be moved by The Rev'd Suzanne Grimmett

The Rev'd Suzanne Grimmett moved, the Rev'd Prof Rodney Wolff seconding:

“That this Synod, noting Resolution R60/18 of the General Synod of Australia, calls on the Queensland Government to implement the measures proposed by the General Synod of Australia to the broadest equivalent within the state jurisdiction and the widest extent possible, such as but not limited to:

1. banning all sports gambling advertising on TV, radio and online, (or at least before 10.00pm at night);
2. regulating casinos and online gambling at a state level, for example by creating an appropriate regulator and/or ombudsman;
3. banning donations from any gambling license holder, including Board or committee members of gambling license holders, or their peak bodies to political parties and candidates.

This Synod requests the General Manager to communicate this resolution to the State Premier, Leader of the Opposition, and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.”

Carried

Diverse Worship Participation

The Rev'd Canon Gary Harch moved, the Rev'd Dr Peter Catt seconding:

“That this Synod:

1. recognize the diverse experiences of participating in worship over the last three years, and the limits of our canonical structures;
2. requests Diocesan Council (DC) to consult with all interested parties and obtain legal advice regarding the present definition of ‘elector’ in our Canons;
3. requests DC to report back to the next Synod or sooner, if necessary with changed regulations and /or suggested canonical amendments, in response to in particular, but not limited to, the following questions:
 - a) Given the work of the PMC and the variety of electronic services offered, is there any situation where someone who views any electronic worship service, either live or recorded, can be counted as an attendee?
 - b) Is anyone who views worship, either live or recorded, with a real or assumed name, able to then state they are a ‘communicant parishioner’ i.e., a communicant ‘member of this church who is at least eighteen years of age and who has been for a period of not less than three months and is an accustomed worshipper in the said Parish’ and thus are able to recorded as an elector in a parish?

Carried

Hybrid Synod

The Rev'd Canon Gary Harch moved, the Rev'd Suzanne Grimmett seconding:

“That Diocesan Council investigate the feasibility of making future sessions of Synod a hybrid model to allow electronic participation.”

Carried

Answers to Questions

The Rev'd Jan Crombie asked:

Kenmore Brookfield Parish, like many others, joined the Diocesan IT platform last year. Subsequently we have been comprised significantly three times with connection severance, losing workdays – and with incredible frustration. Two of these incidents have been on weekends when no support was available. We have advocated from the beginning for seven days a week support to match the reality of work patterns in parishes. My question is, how is that support-need progressing in becoming an essential reality?

Answer -

The issue of seven day a week IT support for Parishes has been raised with FDSC. We are actively seeking options from our provider that meet the needs of Parishes within financial constraints.

This item of additional expenditure is to be considered by the Budget Working Group which has been charged by the Diocesan Council with the responsibility to review the Diocesan budget and expenditure.

Mr Graeme Smyth asked:

Can the President provide advice as to progress to date regarding review of Clergy leave entitlements, processes and obligations as requested by Synod 2021 under the Clergy Personal Leave motion; and when does the Diocesan Council anticipate being able to present a summary of findings and recommendations to Synod.

Answer -

This matter is progressing and an in-principle approach to better manage clergy leave entitlements has been agreed by Gaiters (Bishops, Dean and Archdeacons). Individual clergy through Deanery meetings, commencing with the Toowoomba Deanery are now being consulted about the proposed approach. Issues have been identified through this direct consultation, particularly with regard to the recording methodology. Clergy have expressed a preference for the recording of leave as 'days' rather than 'hours'. We are currently investigating the practicalities of whether the system can record leave in this way and once we have a proposal, we will recommence consultation and a trial of an approach. Following this trial, we expect to be able to report and make recommendations to Diocesan Council and to Synod in 2023.

Consideration of Motions

Regulations regarding the Training and Professional Supervision Canon

The Rev'd Sharon Mitchell moved, the Rev'd Canon Gary Harch seconding:

"That this Synod, noting:

1. Section 9(b) of the Training and Professional Supervision Canon, which states that, subject to Regulation, licensed clergy are required to undertake "at least 6 hours one on one with a professional supervisor in a 12-month period"; and
2. Regulation 1 of the Training and Professional Supervision Canon issued by Diocesan Council in anticipation of the adoption of the Canon, which states that all active licensed clergy (including Bishops, Archdeacons, Area Deans, Rectors and Priests-in-charge) are required to undertake "8 hours one on one over each 12-month period";

requests Diocesan Council to regulate that all licensed clergy be required to undertake "at least 6 hours, and preferably 8 hours, one on one with a professional supervisor in a 12-month period."

Not carried

Climate Change – Call to the Church

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moved, the Rev'd Prof Rodney Wolff seconding:

"That this Synod,

1. noting Resolution R55/18 of the General Synod of Australia which 'Encourages the Dioceses and Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia to work towards net zero carbon emissions by 2040, and to consider faster reductions where possible', and
2. noting also the request of this Synod in 2021 that Diocesan Council explore options to devise a diocesan sustainability charter inclusive of a 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target together with a roadmap to achieve the initial 2030 target and a pathway beyond this to achieving net-zero emissions;
3. requests the Diocesan Council and Diocesan Sustainability Committee to work collaboratively with Angligrreen and The Social Responsibilities Committee to develop,

- by 31 December 2022, a Diocesan Strategy for working towards net zero carbon emissions by 2040 or sooner inclusive of an interim 2030 emissions reduction target, and
4. encourages Parishes, Schools and Agencies to embrace the challenge of reducing net carbon emissions to zero by 2040 or sooner; to report this to their communities in their Annual Report for 2022; and to furnish the same to the Diocese in the gathering for Annual Returns early in 2023.”

Carried

Reconciliation Action Plan

The Rev'd Canon Bruce Boase moved, the Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves seconding:

“That this Synod:

1. In accordance with the Diocesan Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan:
 - a) Acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which our parishes, schools, ministries and agencies operate.
 - b) Commits through its parishes, schools, ministries and agencies to:
 - (i) Engaging with First Nations communities, Traditional Owners and Elders to build strong partnerships.
 - (ii) Establishing and maintaining relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and organisations to foster Reconciliation.
2. Encourages all parishes, schools, ministries and agencies to meet with their respective Traditional Owners in the next 12 months to build relationships.”

Carried

Raising the Age of Criminal Responsibility

Synod granted leave for this motion to be moved by The Rev'd Prof Rodney Wolff.

The Rev'd Prof Rodney Wolff moved; the Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt seconding:

“That this Synod, noting the Resolution of the General Synod of Australia:

1. supports raising the age of Criminal Responsibility from 10 to 14 years;
2. asks the General Manager to convey this resolution and support for it to the Federal Attorney-General, The Attorney-General of Queensland and the Meeting of Attorneys-General.”

Carried

Apology LGBTI+ Community

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moved, the Rev'd Deborah Bird seconding:

“That this Synod, noting Resolution R82/18 of the General Synod of Australia, in which the General Synod apologised to members of the LGBTIQ+ community for ‘disrespectful, hurtful, intentionally insensitive, bullying or abusive behaviour’ and committed the church to working towards creating safe churches for members of the LGBTIQ+ community:

1. affirms the statement made at this year's General Synod in Resolution R82/18 that we ‘recognise and rejoice in the image of God as reflected in every human being, regardless of race, social circumstances, creed or sexual identity’,
2. acknowledges that the Church's attitudes and behaviours have created and are creating trauma and affirms efforts to support those so affected,
3. requests Diocesan Council to work in consultation with members of the LGBTIQ+ community towards crafting an apology to members of the LGBTIQ+ community on behalf of this diocese, and bringing a report and the apology for endorsement by Synod,

4. requests Diocesan Council, parishes, schools and agencies to work with LGBTIQ+ Anglicans to explore ways to build safer, inclusive and affirming communities.”

Carried

Restrictions on Sales of Church Lands

Mr Tom Finn moved, Dr Chris Gourlay seconding:

“Synod acknowledges that Church Lands and Properties are gifts to the glory of God; held in trust by the church for future generations.

Synod notes that the market for property is such that should these be sold, within a matter of years, even with an increase in liquidity, re-acquiring that or similar real estate is in effect impossible. That is the sale is irreversible. As such any sale or mortgage of real property should continue to face full scrutiny and approval by the Archbishop-in-Council and the FDSC, with an outline of the reasons for the sale and any alternative uses that were considered reported to the next session of Synod,

Synod encourages parishes to explore other appropriate ministry uses for church property which do not require the sale of land, for example early learning centres.”

Not carried.

Amendment to Faithfulness in Service

The Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves moved, the Rev'd Dr Margaret Wesley seconding:

“That Faithfulness in Service, as used in this Diocese, be amended as follows:

In Section 7.2: placing a full stop after ‘taking responsibility for their sexual conduct’ and removing the words, ‘by maintaining chastity in singleness and faithfulness in marriage.’

In Section 7.4: replacing the words in Section 7.4 with ‘Your sexual behaviour should be characterised by faithfulness and integrity.’.”

Carried

Motions of Thanks

By leave of Synod, the Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves moved, the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the thanks of Synod be accorded to –

- His Grace the Archbishop as President of Synod and for his charge which is available in printed and electronic forms
- the Chair of Committees,
- the Deputy Chair of Committees,
- the Chancellor & Deputy Chancellor,
- the Chaplain to Synod,
- the Clerical and Lay Secretaries of Synod,
- the Minutes Committee,
- the Committee of Elections and Qualifications,
- the Timekeeper,
- the Deputy Timekeeper,
- the General Manager,

- those assisting, particularly with the administration and organisation
- the medical volunteers

Carried with acclamation

By leave of Synod, the Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves moved, the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables seconding:

“That the thanks of Synod be accorded to –

- the Headmaster Dr Alan Campbell, and staff of the Anglican Church Grammar School, in particular Ms Diane Cross and Mr Brian Bowen for the use of facilities of the School;
- Chartwells Catering for the Boarding House catering and our tea and coffee;
- the audio-visual staff and student volunteers;
- all of the Diocesan staff who have made themselves available during Synod and for their work in the preparations for Synod;
- the volunteers who assisted with the sign in procedure and
- the Dean and Cathedral personnel for the inspiring Service and catering on Friday evening.”

Carried with acclamation

Adjournment

The President adjourned the Synod at 5.35pm, after Prayers.



The Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall AC
Archbishop of Brisbane
By His Commissary

Confirmed 20 September 2022