



Introductory note for the Diocesan Synod, 15 June 2024

To: Diocesan Synod members

Please find enclosed the agenda and papers for Diocesan Synod on 15 June at St Michael's Centre, The Green, Stoke Gifford BS34 8PD.

The Diocese of Bristol is continuing its journey through the *Transforming Church. Together* process and your contributions, perspectives, and experiences are essential for the synodical debates to ensure that the views of the people you represent are heard. We would therefore like to urge you to stay for the full meeting please, to ensure that the decisions made by Diocesan Synod are representative - and reflect the views of - its full membership and the wider Diocese.

This Diocesan Synod is largely formed of three parts:

1. **Annual General Meeting:** This involves the annual director's report, financial statements and the appointment of the auditors.
2. **Routine Business:** This includes reports from recent meetings of Bishop's Council, Board of Directors, DMPC, and Transforming Church. Together (TC.T). Additionally, there will be an update on Bristol Diocese's Safeguarding Annual Report and Audit.
3. **Children and Young People in Churches:** An external speaker Mr Joel Preston, CEO of Mullers and Chair of South West Youth Ministries (SWYM), will present on the challenges and opportunities in Youth Ministry, as well as question time.

Written questions

Any written questions must be submitted 7 days before Diocesan Synod. As this is the case, please could any written questions be submitted via the form (link in email) by 9am Friday, 7 June. This gives us time to direct your question to the most appropriate person and send you an answer prior to the meeting.

Minutes from 16 March 2024

If you have any proposed amendments or questions about the minutes, please do fill in the form (link in email) by 9am Friday, 7 June. The minutes can then be amended ahead of the meeting.

If you have any questions, or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact governance.support@bristoldiocese.org.



Agenda, Diocesan Synod

Date: 15 June 2024

Time: 9.30am to 1.00pm (coffee from 9.00am)

Venue: St Michael's Centre, The Green, Stoke Gifford BS34 8PD

Topic			Papers	Led by	Time
	Worship			The Revd Sally Robertson	09:30
Annual General Meeting of the Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd					
Richard Bacon in the Chair					
1.	The Directors' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 1a. Presentation 1b. Questions	LO	Y	Mr Richard Bacon, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance (presentation by Mr Stephen Sheridan, Director of Finance)	09:40 09:55
2.	Appointment of Auditors for the year ending 31 December 2024	LO		Mr Richard Bacon, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance	10:05
Diocesan Synod					
<i>The Revd Trudie Wigley (Chair of the House of Clergy) in the Chair</i>					
3.	Welcome Minutes of last meeting, apologies	LO	Y		10:10

Topic			Papers	Led by	Time
4.	The appointment of members of Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance Limited	LO			10:15
5.	Bishop's address	I		The Rt Revd Viv Faull, Bishop of Bristol	10:20
6.	Bishop's Council & Board of Directors report (14 May 2024)	LO	Y	The Revd Beverley Charles, Bishop's Council Member	10:35
7.	Amending Canon No 43	I	Y	The Revd Trudie Wigley, Chair of House of Clergy	10:45
8.	Safeguarding Annual review and Audit recommendations 8a. Safeguarding Annual Review 8b. Audit Recommendations 8c. Questions	D&A	Y	Mr Adam Bond, Safeguarding Officer	10:50
					11:05
					11:15
Coffee					11:25
<i>Mr Bruce Fynamore (Chair of the House of Laity) in the Chair</i>					
9.	Transforming Church. Together 9a. Update report 9b. Table discussion 9c. TC.T Good News Story 9d. Questions	D&A		The Rt Revd Neil Warwick, Bishop of Swindon (supported by Rob Mountain, Director of	11:45
					11:55
					12:05

Topic			Papers	Led by	Time
				Transformation)	12:10
10.	Children and Youth Crisis and Opportunities 10a Introduction by The Revd Adam Beaumont 10b Presentation by Mr Joel Preston 10c Questions	I	Y	The Revd Adam Beaumont (presentation by Mr Joel Preston. CEO of Mullers and Chairman of SWYM)	12:15 12:20 12:40
11.	Question Time	D&A		Mr Bruce Finnamore, Chair of the House of Laity	12:50
12.	Blessing and Close			The Rt Revd Vivienne Faull, Bishop of Bristol	13:00

Proposed motions for debate

- 1: Mr Richard Bacon (Chair of the Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance) to move:
 - a) that the BDBF receives and adopts the Directors' Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance Limited for the year ended 31st December 2023.

- 2: Mr Richard Bacon (Chair of the Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance) to move:
 - a) that the BDBF appoints Mazars LLP as auditors for the year ending 31st December 2024 and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

- 6: The Revd Beverley Charles (Bishop's Council Member) to move:
 - a) that this report be received.

Upcoming Synods:

9 October 2024 - Introduction Meeting for New Synod - St Michael's Centre, The Green, Stoke Gifford BS34 8PD

23 November 2024 - Pattern Church, Penzance Drive, Swindon, SN5 7JL

Sat 22 March 2025 – Bristol, venue to be confirmed

Sat 14 June 2025 – Bristol, venue to be confirmed

Sat 15 November 2025 – Swindon, venue to be confirmed

Diocesan Synod legend

Purpose: to outline the functions of Synod (with abbreviations), and for those abbreviations to be used against each agenda item.

Function	
Article 8 decisions passed down by General Synod, or fulfilling Synod's statutory legal obligations	LO
Decisions on expenditure	DOE
Discussion, and advice to the Bishop	D&A
Information to enable Diocesan Synod members to be advocates in a particular area of Diocesan business	I