



Diocese of Bristol

Introductory note for the Diocesan Synod, 18 March 2023

To: Diocesan Synod members

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

You will note that the papers include the draft minutes from 19 November 2023. If you have any comments about those minutes, please click on the link in paperwork email.

This meeting is largely formed of **three parts**.

The **first** part will cover routine business and will include a report from the most recent meeting of General Synod, as well as updates regarding the post of Suffragan Bishop, Living in Love and Faith (LLF), and Transforming Church. Together (TCT).

The **second** part will look at TCT and achieving net zero carbon. Synod will also be asked to approve the governance for TCT and the Carbon Net Zero budget.

The **final** part will focus on Bishops Mission Orders (BMOs) and will include the Bishop's Council / Board of Directors / DMPC which requests Synod's approval for the Church Representation Rule (CRR) Scheme for the Diocese's most recent BMO, Hazelnut Community Farm.



Agenda, Diocesan Synod

Date: 18 March 2023

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

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

		Function	Papers	Led by	Time
1.	Opening worship			Christiana Olomolaiye	9:30am
Diocesan Synod					
<i>Trudie Wigley in the Chair</i>					
2.	Welcome Minutes of last meeting, apologies	LO	Y		9:40am
3.	Bishop's Address			Bishop Viv	9:45am
4.	Episcopal Ministry and Suffragan Sees	D&A		Bishop Viv	10:00am
5.	General Synod Report	I	Y	Paul Langham	10:15am
6.	Update on Living in Love and Faith (LLF)	I		Bishop Viv	10:25am
7.	Transforming Church. Together update	I		Richard Leaman	10:40am
8.	Transforming Church. Together – Route map (to note) and Governance (to approve) (motion below)	I & LO	Y	Rob Mountain	10:45am
Coffee Break					11:10am
9.	Diocesan Route Map to net zero carbon - Delivering on General	LO & DOE	Y	Lindsey McCullam	11:25am

		Function	Papers	Led by	Time
	Synod's ambition – 3 years after declaration (motion below)				
10.	Current BMO arrangements and the role of the Bishop's Visitor	I	Y	Simon Taylor	12:00pm
11.	Hazelnut Community Farm BMO – presentation	I		The Revd John White	12:05pm
12.	Bishop's Council & Board of Directors report 6 December 2022 and 21 February 2023, including CRR Scheme for Hazelnut Community Farm BMO (motion below)	LO	Y	Abby Scott	12:15pm
13.	Question Time	I			12:30pm
14.	Blessing and close			Bishop Lee	By 1pm

Proposed motions for debate

8: Christopher Bryan (Archdeacon of Malmesbury) to move:

- a) That the proposed route map is noted; and
- b) the proposed Governance for Transforming Church.Together is approved.

9: Neil Warwick (Archdeacon of Bristol) to move:

- a) that Synod approve the Carbon Net Zero Budget of £2,189,507 to cover the 2 year period of 2023 & 2024. The Budget is to be allocated from the DBF reserves.

12: Abby Scott (Bishop's Council Member) to move:

- a) The Bishop's Council report is received; and
- b) the Church Representation Rules (CRR) Scheme for Hazelnut Community Farm BMO is approved.

Upcoming Synods:

St Michael's Church Centre, Stoke Gifford on 10 June 2023

Pattern Church, Swindon on 18 November 2023

Diocesan Synod legend

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

Function	Abbreviation
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 briefings to enable Diocesan Synod members to be evangelists in a particular area of Diocesan business	I

NOTES

BUSINESS

No business other than that specified on the Agenda shall be introduced except by the President or an urgent matter by any member who previously obtains the special sanction of the President.

ATTENDANCE

On arrival, members should indicate their attendance on the deanery lists. Apologies for absence may be submitted via the link on the paperwork email.

QUESTION TIME

Questions may be submitted in writing to the Secretary seven days in advance of the meeting and written answers will be provided and spoken to. Members may ask up to two original questions and may ask one supplementary question in respect of each original question. With a larger Synod, written questions and supplementary questions to them are prioritised and as many as possible will be addressed within the 30 minutes set aside. Verbal questions will be allowed if there is time.

Questions should relate to the duties of an officer or the business of the body concerned and should not ask for an opinion or the solution of either an abstract legal question or a hypothetical problem.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome to attend. Please let Emma Bakewell know. Visitors are welcome to participate in small group discussions but have no vote or voice in debate and the proceedings.

INDUCTION LOOP SYSTEM AND DISABLED ACCESS

An induction loop system is available at Synod meetings. If you wish to use this facility, please speak to the Secretary on arrival. If you require disabled access of special facilities, please let the Secretary know in advance.

REFRESHMENTS

Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be available on arrival.

DIRECTIONS & CAR PARKING

Please see attached.