



Newcastle Diocesan Synod

28th April 2018

A meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod will be held on Saturday 28th April at 10:00am at the Dr Thomlinson Church of England Middle School, Silverton Lane, Rothbury NE65 7RJ

The meeting begins at **10:00am** and is scheduled to finish by no later than **1:00pm**. Registration and refreshments will be available **from 9:15am**. The meeting will break at **11:15am** for refreshments and reconvene at **11:30am**.

President: The Rt Revd Christine Hardman, Bishop of Newcastle
Chair of the House of Clergy: The Revd Canon John Sinclair
Chair of the House of Laity: Canon Carol Wolstenholme

AGENDA

1. Welcome from the Chair *followed by*

Opening Prayer

2. Apologies

3. Declaration of interests

4. Minutes of previous meeting

- 4.1 Meeting held on 30th September 2017 **(Paper DS18 04)**
- 4.2 Matters arising
 - (a) Setting God's People Free

5. Notices

- 5.1 Elections to Diocesan Synod 2018 (timetable) **(Paper DS18 08)**

6. Questions

Questions submitted by members in advance of the meeting will be taken here.

7. Presidential Address

The Bishop of Newcastle will address the Synod.

**8. Establishing a Resource Church for the Diocese of Newcastle
(Papers DS18 09A; DS18 09B; and DS18 09C)**

This item will update the Synod on progress with the establishment of a Resource Church including an update about work with the National Church in respect of national funding for this project. The item will include a reminder of the Mission Strategy adopted by the Diocesan Synod in 2005 which has been refreshed with an accompanying Bishops' Teaching Document. The Diocesan Church Planting strategy will also support the work of the Resource Church.

This item will afford members a further opportunity to engage with the consultation and planning for this new initiative for the Diocese of Newcastle.



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9. General Synod Items

- 9.1 General Synod Report (Canon Carol Wolstenholme)
A presentation by our General Synod Members about the February 2018 Session of the General Synod.
- 9.2 Promulgation of Amending Canon 36 and Amending Canon 37
The Amending Canons No. 36 and No. 37 were enacted at the February 2018 group of sessions. There is a requirement for us to proclaim the Amending Canons at this meeting of the Diocesan Synod.

10. Annual Reports

- 10.1 Annual Reports for 2017 **(Paper DS18 07)**
A summary of some of the activities completed in 2017 is included in paper DS18 06 and this item will provide the Synod with an opportunity to reflect on these activities before the Archdeacon of Northumberland proposes:
'that the Annual Reports for Boards, Committees, Supporting Ministers and Task Groups be received.'

11. Financial Business

- 11.1 Financial Statements for 2017
The full financial statements for 2017 were made available electronically under paper reference **DS18 05** at www.newcastle.anglican.org/synod
A summary note was included with the Synod circulation under paper reference **DS18 05A**.
This item will take the form of a presentation by the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance followed by an opportunity for members to ask questions of clarification arising from the presentation. The item will then be opened for debate.
Following the debate the Chair of the Board of Finance will propose:
'that the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2017 be received.'
- 11.2 Contingency Budget for 2018 **(Paper DS18 06)**
The Diocesan Synod agreed the Budget for 2018 at a meeting of the Synod held on 30th September 2017. This item will update the Synod on progress with the budget and will propose some changes to be made which, if agreed, will have immediate effect. The item will take the form of a presentation followed by an opportunity for members to ask questions of clarification arising from the presentation. The item will then be opened for debate.
Following the debate the Chair of the Board of Finance will propose:
'that the contingency budget proposals for 2018 be agreed.'

12. Closing Prayer



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Future meetings of the Diocesan Synod in 2018

Tuesday 24 July (18:00 to 20:00) A consultative meeting about the budget

Saturday 20 October (10:00 to 13:00) Formal meeting of the Synod

Saturday 24 Nov (10:00 to 13:00) at this stage, an Open Synod Forum

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BY THE BISHOP'S COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE

Ecumenical Observers

By invitation of the President, observers representing the Methodist, Roman Catholic and United Reformed Churches and the Salvation Army can attend the meetings of the Synod. They also have the permission of the Chairman to address the Synod, but they have no right to move any motion or amendment or to vote.

Standing Orders

The current Standing Orders are available to members on request.

In view of the infrequency with which reference is made to Standing Orders, the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee has advised the Chairman of the Synod that it would be appropriate for the proceedings of the Synod to be interrupted and for the Orders to be checked before a ruling is given.

Members' attention is drawn to the fact that the lectern is provided for the benefit of speakers named on the agenda. Members of the Synod who are called to speak during a debate are asked to do so from the microphones in the body of the meeting.

Length of Speeches

The Chair has authority to limit the duration of speeches at their discretion. Following the advice of the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee, the Chair will normally allow an opening speaker 15 minutes and will limit other speeches to 10 minutes.

The time limit for a proposer to respond to a debate is ten minutes. The Standing Committee's advice is that there is no procedural need, nor one of etiquette, to respond to all speakers or points.

Synod Papers

The explanatory papers circulated with Synod agenda are primarily designed to give members the factual background to motions. Argument of the case is the responsibility of the proposer at the meeting itself.

It is the Synod's policy also to offer to members who wish to submit motions and amendments arising from the agenda the facility of circulating explanatory



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papers. In response to a request that this arrangement be clarified, the Standing Committee has determined that:

- (i) It is expected that such papers will also be designed primarily to set out the factual background rather than the argument.
- (ii) It is expected that they will have been prepared by member(s) concerned, rather than be publications prepared by other individuals or organisations.
- (iii) Sets of addressed envelopes can be made available to Synod members who wish to circulate papers which do not fall into either of these categories.

Motions and Amendments

The formal notice which is issued to members (and to Area Deans, Deanery Lay Chairs and Secretaries of Deanery Synods) six weeks before each meeting invites them to submit new business for the agenda. Under Standing Orders (no.26) this should be sent in writing to the Secretary and must reach the Secretary not later than 35 days before the meeting is held. Members may submit motions and amendments arising from the agenda up to 7 days before the meeting and, on important matters of policy, arrangements can be made as outlined above for explanatory papers to be circulated so that members can study them before the debate.

A motion or amendment can only be moved during a meeting without notice if the Chair gives permission and the text must be handed to the Secretary before it is moved. Members who have in mind the possibility of proposing an amendment during the meeting are asked whenever possible to give prior notice to the Chair and to the proposer of the motion concerned.

Question

Under Standing Orders (no.69) a question may be asked of the Secretary, the Registrar or the Chairman of any body constituted by the Synod on which it is represented. These should be sent to the Diocesan Secretary by 25th April 2018.

Closing Date

The closing date for motions and amendments arising from the Agenda of this meeting of Synod is **25th April 2018**.