

DIOCESE OF LEEDS

RULES FOR DEANERY SYNODS

Approved by the Diocesan Synod

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Contents

The functions of a Deanery Synod:.....	5
Interpretation	5
Words Meaning	5
Membership, Elections and Co-options.....	5
Roll of Members	6
Variation of membership by resolution of Diocesan Synod	6
Procedure for co-options.....	6
Co-opted members	6
Participation by non-members	6
Members of General Synod appointed to attend meetings.....	6
Officers of the Synod	7
Election of Lay Joint Chairs	7
Chairing the Synod.....	7
Chairing separate meetings of the Houses.....	7
Powers of Chair.....	7
Secretary and Treasurer	7
Arrangement of Meetings	7
When and where held	7
Notice of ordinary meetings	8
Meetings by request.....	8
Notice of special meetings.....	8
Form of notice.....	8
Notice of Items for the agenda.....	8
Length of notice	8
When notice not required	9
Preparation of minutes.....	9
Agendas and Conduct of Meetings.....	9
Content of agendas.....	9
Circulation of agendas	9
Business permitted to be considered	9
Order of business.....	10
Varying the order of business	10
Quorum.....	10
If quorum not present	10
Informal discussion.....	10

Procedure determinable by Chair.....	10
Addresses, papers and discussions.....	10
Report of proceedings to Parochial Church Councils	11
General Rules of Debate	11
Order of speeches.....	11
Breach of order	11
Points of order	11
Personal explanations.....	11
Interruptions otherwise not permitted	11
Speaking to a motion	12
Speaking to the chair	12
Length of speeches – Limitation by Chair	12
Length of speeches – Limitation by motion.....	12
Special powers of Chair	12
Moving motions or amendments	13
When amendments are permitted.....	13
When amendments are not permitted	13
Amendments to amendments.....	13
Content of amendments.....	13
Delivery in writing.....	13
Form of amendments	13
Order of consideration	13
Withdrawal of motions or amendments	14
Reconsideration and rescission	14
Division.....	14
Procedure for decisions	14
Voting by Houses	14
Majority required for decisions	14
Mode of voting	15
Requests for separate voting by Houses	15
Voting rights of the Chair.....	15
Interrupting Business.....	15
Procedural motions	15
Content of procedural motions	15
When not permitted.....	16
Suspension of Rule.....	16
Limit of speeches for procedural motions.....	16

Amendments and other procedural motions	16
Effect of procedural resolutions	16
Adjourning amendments	16
Resumption of business interrupted	16
Reference back	16
The closure.....	17
Next business.....	17
Adjournment of the Synod	17
Meeting in separate Houses	17
When and where held	17
References by the Diocesan Synod.....	18
When considered.....	18
Prior notice and documents required.....	18
Consultations within the parishes	18
Procedure of debate	18
Report on result.....	19
Matters raised by Parochial Church Councils	19
Financial business	19
Duties of Standing Committee.....	19
General provisions	19
Admission of press and public	19
The Standing Committee	19
Membership of the Standing Committee	19
Elected members of the Standing Committee	20
Functions of the Standing Committee	20
Other Committees	20
Procedure of committees	20
Periods of notice	20
Procedural Defects.....	20
Amendment of Deanery Synod Rules.....	21

The functions of a Deanery Synod:

- (a) To consider matters concerning the Church of England and to make provision for such matters in relation to their Deanery, and to consider and express their opinion on any other matters of religious or public interest;
- (b) To bring together the views of the parishes of the Deanery on common issues to discuss and formulate policies , to foster a sense of community among those parishes, and generally to promote in the Deanery the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
- (c) To make known and so far as appropriate put into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod;
- (d) To consider the business of the Diocesan Synod, and particularly any matters referred to that Synod by the General Synod, and to sound parochial opinion whenever they are required or consider it appropriate to do so;
- (e) To raise such matters as the Deanery Synod consider appropriate with the Diocesan Synod:

If the functions referred to in paragraph, (a) hereof shall not include the issue of any statement purporting to declare the doctrine of the Church on any question.

Interpretation

In these Deanery Synod Rules, unless the context indicates another meaning, the following words shall have the following meanings:

Words	Meaning
Diocesan Synod	Diocesan Synod of the Diocese of Leeds
House	The House of Clergy of the Deanery Synod and/or the House of Laity of the Deanery Synod as appropriate
Joint Chairs	The joint chairs of the Deanery Synod as provided in Rule 8 of these Rules.
Rules	The Deanery Synod Rules contained in this document
Secretary	The Deanery Synod Secretary appointed in accordance with Rule 11
Standing Committee	The Deanery Synod Standing Committee referred to in Rule 82.

Membership, Elections and Co-options

Roll of Members

1. The Secretary shall keep a roll of the members of the Synod constantly up to date to comply with the requirements of the Church Representation Rules.

Variation of membership by resolution of Diocesan Synod

2. A resolution of the Diocesan Synod under rule 26 of the Church Representation Rules shall, unless otherwise provided, take effect at the conclusion of the term of office of the members appointed under any previous resolution in force.

Procedure for co-options

3. The co-option of additional members shall be in accordance with rule 24 (7) of the Church Representation Rules. The co-option of additional members shall be by resolution of the respective house passed on a motion moved either on behalf or by permission of the Standing Committee of the Deanery Synod.

Co-opted members

- 4 Co-opted members shall retire on the 31st day of May in the year of the triennial elections, unless the House concerned fixes a shorter period of office.

Participation by non-members

5. The following shall have the right to attend and speak but not to move any motion or amendment or to vote in the Synod:-
 - (i) The Bishop or a duly appointed commissary;
 - (ii) The Archdeacon;
 - (iii) The Registrar of the Diocese;
 - (iv) The Diocesan Secretary;
 - (v) Visitors invited by either of the Joint Chairs or the Standing Committee;
 - (vi) Persons appointed by the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod under the next succeeding Rule.

Members of General Synod appointed to attend meetings

6. If there is no member of the Deanery Synod who is a member of the General Synod, the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod shall nominate one or more members of the General Synod who represent the Diocese. Such persons shall be entitled to receive copies of notices and other documents circulated to full members of the Deanery Synod and to attend and speak at its meetings but not to move any motion or amendment or to vote.

Officers of the Synod

Election of Lay Joint Chairs

7. Before the first meeting of the Synod after any triennial election or in the event of a vacancy in the office, the House of Laity shall hold a meeting to elect the Lay Joint Chair. The Synod shall elect a Lay Joint Chair from among its number who may serve normally for not more than two consecutive terms of three years. However, in exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the Synod, the Lay Chair may serve for a further term or terms of three years but no more than three terms. A member of the House of Laity appointed by the Area Dean shall act as Chair for such meeting. Whoever so presides shall have a vote but no casting vote in the election and in the case of an equality of votes the decision shall be taken by lot. The Lay Chair, unless he/she resigns or ceases to be qualified, shall continue in office until the commencement of the meeting at which his/her successor is elected.

Chairing the Synod

8. The Area Dean and the Lay Chair shall be joint chairs of the Deanery Synod. They shall agree between them who shall chair each meeting of the Synod or particular items of business on the agenda of the Synod.

Chairing separate meetings of the Houses

9. The Joint Chairs shall preside over any separate meetings of their respective Houses, but if either is absent, a member of the House, chosen by the members present, shall take the chair.

Powers of Chair

10. Subject to these Rules, the procedure of the Synod and its Houses shall be regulated by the respective Chair of each.

Secretary and Treasurer

11. At the first meeting after each triennial election, the Synod shall appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer from among its own members. If no member is appointed Secretary, the Synod shall appoint some other fit person so to act, with such remuneration (if any) as the Synod shall think fit. The persons so appointed, unless they resign or cease to be qualified, shall serve until the conclusion of the meeting at which their successors are appointed.

Arrangement of Meetings

When and where held

12. The Synod shall hold two meetings at least in every year at such times and places as the Joint Chairs shall decide after consulting with the Standing Committee and taking account of the dates fixed for meetings of the Diocesan Synod.

Notice of ordinary meetings

13. The date, time and place of ordinary meetings of the Synod, when fixed, shall be announced to members as soon as possible in such manner as the Joint Chairs shall approve; provided that not less than 28 days before each meeting a notice specifying any proposed business and inviting other business shall be posted or delivered to every member. Once announced the dates, times and places of meetings may only be varied by the Standing Committee.

Meetings by request

14. The Joint Chairs may summon a meeting of the Synod at any time. If they receive a requisition for that purpose signed by not less than one third of the members of the Synod, they shall summon a meeting of the Synod, which shall be held within 28 days following receipt of the requisition. If they fail to summon a meeting within the prescribed period of 28 days, the members signing the requisition may summon a meeting.

Notice of special meetings

15. In case of sudden emergency or other special circumstances, the Joint Chairs may convene a special meeting at not less than 7 days' notice but the quorum for the transaction of any business at such a meeting shall be not less than a quarter of the members of each House and only business specified in the notice may be transacted.

Form of notice

16. Every notice under Rules 13 and 15 shall be in writing and signed by the Secretary and posted and/or sent electronically.

Notice of Items for the agenda

17. Subject to Rules 15 and 23, notice of any business for a meeting of the Synod shall be in writing, signed and delivered to the Secretary by hand or by post or electronic means not later than the period before the meeting specified in Rule 18.

Length of notice

18. The following periods of notice shall be required :
 - (i) New business for the agenda 14 days;
 - (ii) The procedure for debate of a motion proposed by an individual shall be:
 - a) the text of such motion must be received by the Secretary not less than 14 days before a Synod meeting, and it must be accompanied by an indication of the costs involved if it were passed;
 - b) upon the text appearing on the agenda it may be accompanied by advice from the Standing Committee.

- (iii) Motions and amendments arising from the agenda 7 days.

When notice not required

19. Notice of the following business shall not be required :

- (i) A motion or amendment moved by permission of the Chair presiding provided that the full **written** text of such motion or amendment, except by permission of the Chair presiding, shall be handed to the Secretary before it is moved;
- (ii) Business adjourned under Rule 67 or 68 to a specified time or meeting;
- (iii) A procedural motion specified in Rule 61 (subject as provided in that Rule).

Preparation of minutes

20. The Secretary shall attend and prepare minutes of every meeting, which shall be circulated to members.

Agendas and Conduct of Meetings

Content of agendas

21. The Standing Committee shall settle the agenda for each of the Synod's meetings, subject to these Rules and any resolution of the Synod, and without prejudice to the rights of individual members to a reasonable opportunity within the time available of bringing matters before that Synod. The agenda shall specify all business :

- (i) Of which due notice has been received and which is in order;
- (ii) All business of the Diocesan Synod which is of concern to the Deanery Synod, and particularly any matters referred to the Diocesan Synod by the General Synod;

and the Standing Committee shall determine the order in which the business so included shall be considered.

Circulation of agendas

22. The Secretary shall post or deliver in person or by electronic means an agenda paper to every person entitled to receive a notice of meeting, at least 14 days before a meeting, or in the case of a special meeting called at less than 14 days' notice, at the same time as the notice.

Business permitted to be considered

23. Save for urgent or other specially important business added thereto by direction of the Joint Chairs, and such matters as may arise therefrom, no business shall be considered at a meeting other than that specified in the agenda (or any notice paper relating thereto) or arising from business so specified.

Order of business

24. In considering the order of business, the Standing Committee shall give special consideration to items referred to the Deanery Synod by the Diocesan Synod or General Synod.

Varying the order of business

25. The order of business may be varied by resolution of the Synod or, unless any member objects, by the Chair presiding.

Quorum

26. One-quarter of the members of each house shall form a quorum of the Synod, which shall be necessary for the consideration of all business except the adjournment of the Synod under Rule 61 or of a debate under Rule 61 or 68.

If quorum not present

27. If a quorum is not present, the Chair presiding shall adjourn the Synod until such time as he/she shall determine. Any member may call the attention of the Chair presiding to the absence of a quorum at any time before the question is put on a motion or amendment. A quorum shall thereafter be deemed to be present and it shall not be in order further to query the presence of a quorum until after the Chair presiding has conclusively announced the result of the vote on that question.

Informal discussion

28. The Chair presiding may, with the consent of a majority of those members present and voting, permit informal discussion outside the usual rules of debate for such period as he/she determines, during which period Rules 26-27, 32-53 and 60-71 shall not apply.

Procedure determinable by Chair

29. The Chair presiding shall determine the procedure for any part of a meeting during which the item under consideration is not a motion or amendment but is:-
 - (i) An address or the presentation of a paper, whether a report or other document by a member or a visiting speaker;
 - (ii) A general discussion, whether or not introduced by such address or paper.

Addresses, papers and discussions

30. Either of the Joint Chairs, or, with the consent of the Standing Committee, any other member, may give notice for the agenda of a subject for an address, paper or general discussion without the moving of a formal motion. An address or paper may be given by the member signing the notice or by a visiting speaker, and then be followed by a general discussion, if the Standing Committee so decide.

Report of proceedings to Parochial Church Councils

31. After a meeting of the Deanery Synod, the Secretary shall prepare and circulate to the secretaries of the Parochial Church Councils in the Deanery a report approved by the Standing Committee of the proceedings of that meeting. Such report may be in the form of the minutes.

General Rules of Debate

Order of speeches

32. The Chair presiding shall call upon members who desire to speak and may require them to give their names to the Secretary. He/she shall also determine the order in which they speak.

Breach of order

33. The Chair presiding shall call a member to order for failure to address the Chair, irrelevance, tedious repetition of arguments previously put forward by the same or any other member, unbecoming language, reading a speech without permission of the Chair presiding, disregard of the authority of the Chair presiding, or any other breach of order, and may order the member to end any speech which he or she is making.

Points of order

34. A member may call the Chair's attention to a breach of order under Rule 33 at any time and for this purpose may interrupt another speaker. A member rising to do this shall say "Point of Order" and shall then state what the member has to say in the form of a succinct question.

Personal explanations

35. A member may ask the Chair's permission to interrupt a debate to make a personal explanation but only so as to correct an important misunderstanding of fact during the debate with regard to what the member has said, or to explain some matter of strictly personal concern, and for this purpose may interrupt another speaker by saying "Point of Explanation" and then asking this permission. Such permission shall be given only if any person interrupted consents and if in the opinion of the Chair the debate is likely to benefit from such an explanation.

Interruptions otherwise not permitted

36. Save as provided in Rule 34 and 35 the interruption of a speech shall not be permitted. Where it occurs in breach of this Rule it shall be reckoned as a speech on the question before the Synod and shall preclude the interrupter from speaking further on that question. The ruling of the Chair on a point of order or the admissibility of a personal explanation shall not be open to question.

Speaking to a motion

37. A member shall not speak unless upon a motion or amendment save as provided in Rule 34, 35 and 58 requests for separate voting.
38. A member may speak only once on a question before the Synod (whether the question is a motion or an amendment) except :-
- (i) By permission of the Chair presiding and with the consent of the Synod;
 - (ii) The mover of a motion (but not an amendment) may reply; such reply shall not introduce any new matter and shall close the debate;
 - (iii) as provided in Rules 34 and 35 (points of order and personal explanations).

For the avoidance of doubt, a motion and each amendment to a motion are deemed to be separate questions.

Speaking to the chair

39. Every speech shall be addressed to the Chair and shall be succinct and relevant to the matter under debate.

Length of speeches – Limitation by Chair

40. The Chair may also determine without moving a motion that speeches shall be limited to a specified number of minutes, provided that if any member objects, the Chair shall put the proposed speech limit as a motion. The Chair may at his or her discretion allow a longer time to the member (if any) who has a right of reply on the question under discussion.

Length of speeches – Limitation by motion

41. Any member may, before or after any speech, move "that all (further) speeches on this question be limited to a specified number of minutes", and if the Chair thinks that such limitation is desirable for the better transaction of the Synod's business she or he shall forthwith put the motion.

Special powers of Chair

42. Unless the Synod otherwise provides, the Chair shall:
- (i) adjourn the Synod at the hours fixed in accordance with these Rules;
 - (ii) adjourn the debate on any question at the hour fixed for the commencement of other business in accordance with Rule 21;
 - (iii) close the debate on any motion at the hour appointed in accordance with Rule 21 whether or not there are other members who still desire to speak, and thereupon the provisions of Rule 70(the closure) shall apply.

Moving motions or amendments

43. Every matter debated in the Synod shall have been moved by a member. If the member, who gave notice of a motion or amendment, on his/her name being called chooses not to move it another member may do so in his/her stead.

When amendments are permitted

44. Except as provided in Rule 45, any member may move an amendment to a motion, which has been duly moved, and such amendment shall be disposed of before that motion is put or any further amendment is moved.

When amendments are not permitted

45. Amendments to the following shall not be permitted :
- (i) A procedural motion under Rule 61;
 - (ii) A motion to receive the report of a committee;
 - (iii) A motion under Rule 77(i) in reply to any question referred by the Diocesan Synod.

Amendments to amendments

46. No amendment may be moved to an amendment except by permission of the Chair.

Content of amendments

47. An amendment shall be relevant to and shall not have the effect of reversing the main motion or amendment.

Delivery in writing

48. Before an amendment is moved, a copy thereof in writing shall be delivered to the Secretary to the Synod, unless this requirement is dispensed with by the Chair.

Form of amendments

49. An amendment may be made:-
- (i) by leaving out words; or
 - (ii) by leaving out words in order to insert other words; and/or
 - (iii) by inserting or adding words.

Order of consideration

50. Amendments shall be moved and put to the vote in the order in which they first affect the main motion to which they relate, and if more than one amendment has been received

affecting the same place in that motion or amendment, they shall be moved and put to the vote in the order determined by the Chair presiding. By his/her permission, during the debate on an amendment, other amendments may be discussed but not moved.

Withdrawal of motions or amendments

51. A motion or amendment, once moved, may be withdrawn by the mover or at his or her request, with the consent of the Synod.

Reconsideration and rescission

52. No motion or amendment to the same effect as, or dependent upon, one which has been rejected within the preceding twelve months and no motion to rescind a resolution passed within the same period shall be proposed without the agreement of the Standing Committee or the consent of the Synod.

Division

53. The Chair presiding may, with the consent of the mover, divide any motion or amendment in such manner as to enable the Synod to express its judgement separately upon each part of the motion or amendment so divided.

Voting

Procedure for decisions

54. Questions relating only to the conduct of business shall be decided by the votes of all the members of the Deanery Synod present and voting, and every other question shall be decided in like manner, the assent of both Houses being presumed.

Voting by Houses

55. A separate vote of each House shall be taken if :
 - (i) The Chair presiding requires;
 - (ii) Any five members require;
 - (iii) The matter has been referred by Diocesan Synod.

The voting on a vote by Houses shall be recorded in the minutes.

Majority required for decisions

56. Decisions of the Synod when no separate vote is taken by each House shall require the votes of a majority of all the members of the Synod present and voting, subject to any statutory requirements. Decisions of the Synod when a separate vote is taken by each House shall require the votes of a majority of all the members of each House present and voting.

Mode of voting

57. The Chair presiding on putting any question to the vote shall take a show of hands, the result of which as announced by him/her shall be conclusive, and may at his/her discretion order the hands to be counted. A vote by Houses shall always be counted and recorded in the minutes.

Requests for separate voting by Houses

58. Where any members request a separate vote of each House such a request shall be made before the question is put or immediately upon the announcement of a show of hands, whether counted or not.

Voting rights of the Chair

59. The Chair shall have the same voting rights as other members and shall have no second or casting vote. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby specified that in the case of an equality of votes, the motion shall be deemed lost.

Interrupting Business

Procedural motions

60. A procedural motion mentioned in these Rules may be moved without notice, unless express provision is made to the contrary.

Content of procedural motions

61. Subject to these Rules, the following procedural motions may, with the consent of the Chair presiding, be moved with or without notice but not so as to interrupt the speech of any member :
- (i) "That the Synod do pass to the next business"" or "That the Synod do pass to the next business before the question is put" ("next business");
 - (ii) "That the Synod do now adjourn" ("adjournment of the Synod");
 - (iii) "That the debate be now adjourned" ("adjournment of debate");
 - (iv) "That the debate be now closed" ("closure");
 - (v) "That the matter under discussion be referred back" ("refer back");
 - (vi) "That all further speeches on this question be limited" ("speech limit");
 - (vii) A motion to vary the order of business;
 - (viii) A motion to suspend a Rule.

When not permitted

62. A procedural motion shall not be moved :
- (i) For next business, the closure or reference back on any question referred by the Diocesan or General Synod;
 - (ii) For next business on an amendment or another procedural motion.

Suspension of Rule

63. After notice or, by permission of the Chair, without notice a member may move that a Rule be suspended during a particular debate or meeting. Such motions shall not be deemed to have been carried unless a majority of those members present and voting are in favour.

Limit of speeches for procedural motions

64. The debate shall be limited to a brief speech by the proposer of not more than two minutes and, unless the Chair presiding permits further speeches, a brief reply by the mover of the original motion or, failing him/her, one other member.

Amendments and other procedural motions

65. The adjournment or closure may be moved on an amendment or another procedural motion but a motion to pass to the next business or to refer back shall not be so moved.

Effect of procedural resolutions

66. In the event of any procedural motion being passed, the debate to which it relates shall be closed or stand adjourned, as the case may be, except that in the case of a motion that the debate on a motion be closed the mover thereof shall have a right to reply before the matter is put to the vote.

Adjourning amendments

67. The adjournment of an amendment shall be deemed to adjourn the debate on the original motion.

Resumption of business interrupted

68. Unless otherwise resolved, business interrupted by an adjournment of the Synod shall be resumed at the next meeting, and on an adjournment of debate, if and when the Standing Committee so decides.

Reference back

69. If a motion to remit specifies no one to whom the matter is to be referred, this question shall be decided by the Standing Committee.

The closure

70. The following rules of debate shall apply :
- (i) If such motion is permitted by the Chair presiding, it shall be put forthwith without discussion.
 - (ii) If the closure is carried, the member, if any, who has a right of reply on a motion superseded by the closure shall be given an opportunity to speak for not more than two minutes in reply, and the motion or amendment shall be put without further debate.

Next business

71. The following rules of debate shall apply:
- (i) A motion for next business shall take precedence over all amendments of which notice has been given.
 - (ii) If such motion is carried, the original motion shall lapse either forthwith or before the question is put, as the case may be, and not be reconsidered during the same meeting of the Synod.
 - (iii) If such motion fails, it shall not be moved again on the original motion unless that motion be substantially amended.
 - (iv) During discussion on a motion "That the Synod do pass to the next business before the question is put" it shall not be in order to debate the merits of the original question.

Adjournment of the Synod

72. The following rules of debate shall apply:
- (i) The motion to adjourn may, but need not, specify a time for the next sitting of the Synod or the resumption of the business interrupted.
 - (ii) If the motion to adjourn is carried and the Synod has not by the same resolution appointed a time for its next sitting, such sitting shall be held at the time appointed in accordance with Rule 68.
 - (iii) If the motion fails, the adjournment of the Synod shall not be moved again, except by permission of the Chair, until a further hour has elapsed.

Meeting in separate Houses

When and where held

73. Each house shall meet separately when :
- (i) It is required so to do under these Rules;

- (ii) It has so decided in accordance with its own rules;
- (iii) The Chair of the House has so directed, or
- (iv) The Synod has so directed

and subject to any directions by the Synod or the House concerned, the date, time and place of any separate meeting shall be fixed by the Chair of that meeting. The procedures of each House shall be governed, with necessary changes, by the rules of the Synod, subject to such further rules not inconsistent therewith as each House may from time to time decide.

References by the Diocesan Synod

When considered

74. References by the Diocesan Synod shall be included in the agenda of such meeting as the Standing Committee shall consider appropriate.

Prior notice and documents required

75. Unless the Standing Committee decide to the contrary for any reason:
- (i) At least 28 days' notice of any matter referred shall be given to every member; and
 - (ii) A report or other document prepared by or on behalf of either the General Synod, Diocesan Synod or the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod shall be circulated.

Consultations within the parishes

76. Subject to any timetable laid down by the Diocesan Synod, the Deanery Synod before voting on a reference may refer any question to all of the Parochial Church Councils in the Deanery.

Procedure of debate

77. (i) When the reference by the Diocesan Synod is in the form of a question requiring the answer Yes or No, the question shall be put to the Deanery Synod as a formal motion in the affirmative sense. No amendment shall be in order and a separate vote of each House shall be taken under Rule 55. If the motion is defeated, the question shall be decided in the negative.
- (ii) When the reference invites a fuller statement of opinion, a motion containing a draft of such statement shall be moved on behalf of the Standing Committee and amendments to such a motion shall be in order.
- (iii) When all motions under the foregoing paragraphs (i) and (ii) have been decided, other motions arising therefrom may, if otherwise in order, be moved by any member.

Report on result

78. The decisions on such motions and on any related motions not specifically included in the reference, shall be reported by the Secretary of the Deanery Synod to the Secretary of the Diocesan Synod. The number of votes cast in each House shall be included in the report.

Matters raised by Parochial Church Councils

79. Any Parochial Church Council in the Deanery may, on a motion moved by a member representing that parish, bring before the Deanery Synod any matter either of general Church interest or affecting that parish and may move a motion that (if the Deanery Synod agrees) an identified representative of the Deanery Synod on the Diocesan Synod be instructed to bring such matter before the Diocesan Synod on behalf of the Deanery Synod.

Financial business

Duties of Standing Committee

80. The Standing Committee shall not later than 1st May in each year submit to the Synod:-
- (i) a report and financial statements for the preceding financial year;
 - (ii) a statement showing the estimated expenditure of the Synod during the next financial year;
 - (iii) proposals for raising the income required to meet such expenditure.

General provisions

Admission of press and public

81. Subject to any directions by the Synod or the Standing Committee, any member of the Synod may move that the representatives of the press and members of the public shall withdraw during the whole or part of the business before the Synod. If the motion is carried, the Chair presiding shall request the representatives of the press and the public to withdraw.

The Standing Committee

Membership of the Standing Committee

82. There shall be a Standing Committee of the Synod consisting of the Joint Chairs, the Secretary (if a member of the Synod), Treasurer and not less than four persons elected by the members of each House in equal numbers from among their members. This committee shall have no power to co-opt additional members. The Secretary of the Deanery Synod shall be Secretary of the Standing Committee.

Elected members of the Standing Committee

83. Elected members shall retire on the election of their successors or on ceasing to be qualified. Elections shall be triennial and immediately after elections to the Synod. Voting shall be by Houses and procedure otherwise the same, with essential modifications, as for elections at an Annual Parochial Church Meeting but so that the outgoing Standing Committee shall make no nominations.

Functions of the Standing Committee

84. The functions of the Standing Committee shall be :
- (i) To plan the business of the Synod, to prepare the agenda for its sessions and to circulate to members information about matters for discussion;
 - (ii) To ensure that members are adequately informed on questions raised and other matters of importance to the Deanery
 - (iii) To transact the business of the Synod when it is not in session, subject to any directions of the Synod;
 - (iv) To make such appointments as directed by the Synod;
 - (v) To carry out such other functions as the Synod may delegate to it.

Other Committees

85. The Synod may constitute additional committees with such chairs, membership, term of office, functions, mode of appointment and other procedure as it thinks fit.

Procedure of committees

86. Subject to these Rules and any resolution of the Synod, the chair and other procedure of a Committee, including the Standing Committee, shall be determined by itself.

Periods of notice

87. Any period of notice required by these Rules shall be deemed to consist of clear days or weeks, not including the date of dispatch and the date of the event before which the notice must be delivered.

Procedural Defects

88. A meeting of the Synod or any of its committees of which the minutes have been approved and signed, shall be deemed to have been duly summoned and held notwithstanding any defect in the procedure for summoning or conducting such meeting and no proceedings thereat shall be invalidated by the accidental omission to give the required notice of the meeting to any member.

Amendment of Deanery Synod Rules

89. A motion for the amendment of these Rules shall not be moved unless it complies with the provisions for making or amending Deanery Synod rules contained in the Church Representation Rules 2017 as amended or replaced from time to time.