

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND DAY OF THE SEVENTEENTH GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
HELD IN SYNOD HALL, WANDINY ROOM,
NOVOTEL TWIN WATERS RESORT, MAROOCHYDORE
ON TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2017**

1 SYNOD ASSEMBLED

The Synod assembled at 8.30 am, pursuant to adjournment with the Primate, Archbishop Philip Freier, presiding.

2 PRAYERS

The Synod opened with a service of morning prayer led by The Rev'd Canon Dr Colleen O'Reilly.

The President's Chaplain, the Rev'd Julie Worrall, led the prayer for the General Synod prior to the commencement of business.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous day will be read and confirmed on the resumption of business after the afternoon tea adjournment.

4 QUESTIONS

The questions of which notice has been given were noted.

5 PETITIONS

The President called for Petitions.
None were received.

6 NOTICES OF QUESTIONS

Notice was given of the following questions

Diocesan Finance Advisory Task Force - Mr Tim McGhie
Standing Committee Report – Mr Tim McGhie

7 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Notice was given of the following motions

Safe Ministry Implementation – Bishop Stephen Hale
Working with Children Check System – Mr Doug Marr
Faithfulness in Service and National Consistency – The Rev'd Canon Sandy Grant
Proclamation of the Gospel – Dr Barry Newman

8 CALL OVER OF THE MOTIONS

The following motions were passed formally

R27/17

**16.9 Church Agencies Network Disaster Operation
(CAN DO)**

Bishop Tim Harris moving, Bishop John Parkes AM

seconding

The General Synod commends the Church Agencies Network Disaster Operation (CAN DO) consortium as a significant and welcome demonstration of ecumenical collaboration, in an important area of global ministry and mission, and urges the Anglican Church of Australia to support the work of Anglican Board of Mission and Anglican Overseas Aid through CAN DO.

The Rev'd John Deane, ABM, addressed the Synod by leave on this work.

R28/17

16.14 First Nation's Voice

Carried

Dr Carolyn Tan sought the leave of Synod to move the motion in an amended form. Leave was granted.

Dr Carolyn Tan moving, The Very Rev'd Peter Catt seconding

The General Synod:

1. Supports the recommendation of the Referendum Council for a constitutionally-entrenched First Nations' Voice to the Commonwealth Parliament;
2. Encourages the governments in Australia to seek to negotiate in good faith with First Nations' Peoples towards treaties or other similar forms of agreement;
3. Requests the General Secretary to convey this resolution to the Prime Minister, State Premiers, and Leaders of the Opposition;
4. Requests the Public Affairs Commission in consultation with NATSIAC to prepare resources, including summaries and theological reflections for use by Anglican parishes, schools and organisations, on the Referendum Council Report on any subsequent referendum questions and on the progress of treaty or similar negotiations.

R29/17

16.17 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Environmental Issues

Carried

Ms Rose Elu moving, The Rev'd Canon Bruce Boase seconding

The General Synod,

1. Acknowledges that NATSIAC, as the voice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans in Australia, is committed to the preservation of God's creation; and
 - a) joins with NATSIAC in recognising the

implications of Climate Change upon the entire nation, its land, sea and waters but especially in the Torres Strait; and

- b) forwards the findings and recommendations of the Symposium on Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Change held in Darwin 2016 to the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, State Premiers, and relevant ministers.

- 2. Acknowledges that NATSIAC has been expressing concern over the use of fracking on traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands for many years, and joins with NATSIAC in condemning practices which seek to pressure elders to submit their traditional homelands and waterways to fracking and other practices that risk destroying hunting and fishing grounds and areas of major cultural significance.

Carried

17.5 BILL 15 – A BILL FOR THE SAFE MINISTRY TO CHILDREN CANON 2017

The President informed the Synod that he had received a certified copy of Bill 15.

Mr Garth Blake SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding That the Bill do not proceed as a Special Bill.

Carried

The President declared that the motion had achieved the required 75% majority in each House.

Mr Garth Blake SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding That the Bill do now pass.

Carried

9 ORDER OF THE DAY (11.00AM TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2017)

16.3 Motions relating to Financial Matters

R30/17

Mr Allan Perryman moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding

- 16.3.1** That the Treasurer's report on the financial position of the General Synod at 31 December 2016 be received.

Carried

R31/17

Mr Allan Perryman moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding

- 16.3.2** That the audited financial statements of the General Synod for the year ended 31 December 2016, as adopted by Standing Committee, be received.

Carried

R32/17 Mr Allan Perryman moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding

16.3.3 That the General Synod budget for the year ended 31 December 2017, as approved by Standing Committee, be received.

Carried

R33/17 Mr Allan Perryman moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding

16.3.4 That the General Synod budget for the year ended 31 December 2018, be approved in principle.

Carried

R34/17 Mr Allan Perryman moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding,

16.3.5 That Synod receives the General Synod forecast budget for years ended 31 December 2019 and 2020.

The Synod noted that final consideration of Motions 16.3.4 and 16.3.5 is an order of the day for 9.30 am on Thursday, 7 September 2017.

Carried

8 CALL OVER OF THE MOTIONS

The President continued the call over. The following motions were passed formally.

R35/17 **22.1 Bishop Greg Thompson**

Bishop Peter Stuart moving, Ms Sue Williams seconding

This General Synod gives thanks to Almighty God for the courageous ministry and prophetic leadership by the 13th Bishop of Newcastle The Rt Rev'd Gregory Thompson in calling the Church and especially the Diocese of Newcastle to face their past about child sexual abuse and shape a healthy future in responses to Christ's call to protect, esteem and nurture children and vulnerable people.

Further this General Synod requests the Primate to convey these sentiments to Bishop Thompson.

Carried

R36/17 **22.2 Church Law Commission Membership**

The Hon Richard Refshauge moving, Bishop John Parkes seconding

That having regard to:

(a) The history of clergy membership on the Church

- Law Commission;
- (b) The fact that Church Law matters can affect the clergy in a way different to the way it affects the laity;
- (c) The desirability of theological considerations being taken into account and informing Church Law,

the Primate, when appointing members to the Church Law Commission on the advice of the Standing Committee under section 14 of the Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998, give active consideration to the appointment of at least one member of the Clergy to the Church Law Commission.

Carried

R37/17

22.3 UN Conference on Nuclear Disarmament

Bishop Philip Huggins moving, Bishop Cameron Venables seconding

That this General Synod urges our Australian Government to be a strong and positive contributor to the 2018 high level UN Conference on Nuclear Disarmament.

Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and aware of current instabilities, we urge that this opportunity be taken to elevate the issue of nuclear disarmament and to build pressure on nuclear-weapon States to agree to specific nuclear disarmament proposals.

Carried

R38/17

22.4 Recommittal of Motion

Bishop Garry Weatherill moving, The Rev'd Scott Lowrey seconding

That Motion 16.10 be recommitted so that the Church might also be challenged to respond to this challenge.

Carried

R39/17

22.6 Report Content Policy

The Rev'd Gavin Poole moving, The Rev'd Paul Hunt seconding

Synod requests Standing Committee to consider writing a policy that requires minimum mandatory information to be included in reports to Synod from commissions, task forces and working groups. Such information should include:

- (a) Expenses incurred compared to budget and reasons for variation;
- (b) Frequency and attendance at meetings;
- (c) Membership changes; and
- (d) Synod resolutions addressed by the group.

Carried

R40/17

22.7 World Week of Peace in Palestine and Israel

Ms Helen Rainger moving, Mr Phillip Davies seconding

That this Synod encourages members of General Synod and those within their Dioceses to consider marking in some way the World Week of Peace in Palestine and Israel, 17-24 September 2017.

Synod notes that resources for liturgy and prayer are available on the World Council of Churches website.

Carried

R41/17

MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE AS TO AN ORDER OF THE DAY

With leave, The Ven Arthur Copeman moving, The Rev'd Canon Katherine Bowyer seconding

That the Presentation on the Viability and Structures Report be made an Order of the Day for 1.30pm on Wednesday 6th September 2017.

Carried

9 ORDER OF THE DAY (3.30pm Tuesday 5th September)

17.20 Bill 20 – A Bill for the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017

Justice Debra Mullins sought leave to bring the Bill in an amended form. Leave was granted.

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies seconding,

That the Bill for the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017 be approved in principle.

Carried

Synod moved into Committee to consider the Bill

The Chair of Committees reported the bill in amended form.

The President moved that the report be adopted.

Carried

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies seconding

That the Bill not proceed as a Special Bill.

Carried

The President declared that the motion had achieved the required 75% majority in each House.

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies seconding

That the Bill do now pass.

Carried

**17.21 Bill 21 – A Bill for the Constitution
(Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment
Canon 2017**

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies
seconding

That the Bill for the Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special
Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017 be approved in
principle.

Carried

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies
seconding
That the Bill do now pass.

Carried

The Primate declared the Bill had passed with a majority
in each House.

**17.22 Bill 22 – A Bill for the Offences Amendment
Canon 2017**

Justice Debra Mullins sought leave to present the Bill in
an amended form. Leave was granted.

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies
seconding

That the Bill for the Offences Amendment Canon 2017
be approved in principle.

Carried

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies
seconding
That the Bill do not proceed as a Special Bill.

Carried

The President declared that the motion had achieved the
required 75% majority in each House.

Justice Debra Mullins moving, Archbishop Glenn Davies
seconding
That the Bill do now pass.

Carried

COMMENCEMENT OF CANONS

The President declared that the date of commencement for each of the following canons is 5 September 2017:

- Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017
- Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017
- Offences Amendment Canon 2017.

The President recognised and gave thanks for the long service of a number of members of the Synod.

Received with acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

Synod adjourned at 5.53 pm.

President

Date