

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE EIGHTEENTH GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
HELD IN SYNOD HALL, BENOWA BALLROOM,
RACV ROYAL PINES RESORT, GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND,
ON MONDAY 9 MAY 2022**

1 SYNOD ASSEMBLED

The Synod assembled at 8.45 am, with the Primate, Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, presiding.

2 PRAYERS

The Synod opened with a service of morning prayer led by the Right Reverend Garry Weatherill

3 ROLLS

The Rolls of Bishops, Clerical and Lay Representatives summoned to the Synod were tabled.

4 QUORUM

A quorum was confirmed pursuant to Section 21 of the Constitution.

R1/18

4A Arrangement of Synod Business to facilitate full member participation

Ms Anne Hywood moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding

That so much of Standing Orders be suspended to permit:

- a) that motion 17.12 relating to the Bill for the Eighteenth General Synod Participation Canon 2022 be dealt with forthwith, and
- b) Ian Gibson to be the Chair of Committees, Katherine Bowyer to be the Clerical Secretary and Tim Reid to be the Lay Secretary during the consideration of that Bill.

Carried

R2/18

17.12 Bill 13 – A Bill for the Eighteenth General Synod Participation Canon 2022

Leave was granted to present the Bill in an amended form by adding a schedule of names.

Justice Debra Mullins AO moving, Ms Anne Hywood seconding

That a Bill for the Eighteenth General Synod Participation Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Justice Debra Mullins AO moving, Ms Anne Hywood seconding

That the Bill do now pass.

The President announced that the Canon take effect immediately.

Carried

5 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The President opened the Synod with an acknowledgement of Country.

The President delivered his address to the Synod. The President's address was received with acclamation.

6 ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD

The Ven Arthur Copeman moving, Ms Anne Hywood seconding

- R3/18 6.1 **Clerical Secretary and Lay Secretary of Synod**
6.1.1 That the Very Rev'd Katherine Bowyer be elected as Clerical Secretary of Synod. **Carried**
- R4/18 6.1.2 That Mr Timothy Reid be elected as Lay Secretary of Synod. **Carried**
- R5/18 6.2 **A Chair and Deputy Chairs of Committees**
6.2.1 That Dr Ian Gibson be elected as Chair of Committees. **Carried**
- R6/18 6.2.2 That Ms Audrey Mills be elected as a Deputy Chair of Committees. **Carried**
- R7/18 6.2.3 That Justice Michael Meek be elected as a Deputy Chair of Committees. **Carried**
- R8/18 6.3 **A Committee of Elections and Qualifications**
That the following members be appointed to the Committee of Elections and Qualifications:
- (a) The Rt Rev'd Matt Brain
 - (b) The Ven Dane Courtney
 - (c) Justice Michael Meek
 - (d) Justice Debra Mullins AO
 - (e) Dr Carolyn Tan
- Carried**
- R9/18 6.4 **Members of a Committee to arrange the Order of Business**
That the following additional persons be elected to the Committee to arrange the Order of Business:
- (a) The Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Stead
 - (b) The Ven Arthur Copeman
- Carried**

7 GENERAL SECRETARY'S INTRODUCTION TO ARRANGEMENTS

The General Secretary announced some arrangements for Synod.

Synod adjourned for morning tea at 10.35am

Synod resumed at 11.00am

8 A MOTION FOR THE ARRANGEMENT OF SYNOD'S BUSINESS

R10/18

Ms Anne Hywood moving, The Ven Arthur Copeman seconding

- (a) That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the following motion relating to the orderly arrangement of the Synod's business being considered and if, approved, being implemented forthwith; and
- (b) That Synod order the following arrangements set out in paragraphs 8.1 to 8.12.

Carried

- R11/18 **8.1 Minutes Reading Committee**
- That a Minutes Reading Committee of five members be appointed to read and certify as a correct record the Minutes of this Session of Synod for confirmation by Synod and that the following be members of the Committee, any two of whom are to certify the minutes for a particular day:
- a) Mr Clive Ellis (Convenor)
 - b) Dr Ruth Kerr OAM
 - c) The Ven Dane Courtney
 - d) Mrs Sue Williams
 - e) The Rev'd Canon Scott Lowrey.
- Carried**
- 8.2 Hours of Sitting, Synod Program and Call over of Motions**
- R12/18 8.2.1 That the hours of sitting for this session of General Synod be those set out in the Synod Program in Book 2 of the General Synod papers titled *Standing Committee Report to the Eighteenth Session of General Synod*. **Carried**
- R13/18 8.2.2 That so much of Standing Orders as may be necessary be suspended to permit the program as set out in Book 2 of the General Synod papers titled *Standing Committee Report to the Eighteenth Session of General Synod* to be implemented. **Carried**
- R14/18 8.2.3 That so much of Standing Order 10(b) be suspended to allow the President in his discretion to call the motions on the business paper only at morning and evening sittings of this session **Carried**
- 8.3 Guests of General Synod**
- Leave was granted by Synod to move the motion in an amended form.
- R15/18 8.3.1 That the Rev'd John Gilmore, President of the National Council of Churches, be acknowledged as a guest attending the Synod's Opening Service of Holy Communion last night. **Carried**
- R16/18 8.3.2 That the representatives of the member churches of the ecumenical body 'Queensland Churches Together' be welcomed as guests and be granted permission to speak if called upon by the President, including Pastor Stephen Nuske representing the Lutheran Church of Australia. **Carried**
- R17/18 8.3.3 That the following persons, not being members of this General Synod, be granted permission to speak if called upon by the President:
- (a) The Rt Rev'd Grant Dibden, Bishop to the Defence Force
 - (b) The Rev'd Dr John Deane, Executive Director, Anglican Board of Mission – Australia Ltd
 - (c) The Rev'd Peter Laurence OAM, Chief Executive Officer of Anglican Schools Australia
 - (d) The Hon David Bleby QC, Chancellor to the Primate

- (e) The Venerable David Bassett, Assistant to the Primate
- (f) Mr Michael Codling, Convenor, Diocesan Financial Advisory Task Force
- (g) The Rt Rev'd Dr Tim Harris, member of the General Synod Ecumenical Commission and Anglican Co-Chair of the Australian Anglican – Lutheran dialogue group

Carried

R18/18

8.3.4 That the following persons be welcomed as guests of this Synod:

- (a) The Rev'd Greg Harris, National Director, Bush Church Aid
- (b) The Rev'd Anne Kennedy, President, Anglican Mothers Union Australia
- (c) Ms Margaret Naylor, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane who attends as an observer on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church's process Synod on Synodality.

Carried

8.4 Media Arrangements

That in order to provide appropriate controls and to prevent interference with the Business of the Synod the following media arrangements will pertain:

R19/18

8.4.1 Television filming on the floor of Synod may only take place at specific times declared by the President and from a designated area.

Carried

R20/18

8.4.2 At other times during the Synod accredited media representatives shall be permitted in the Synod Hall only in a designated area.

Carried

R21/18

8.5 Report on Financial Matters

That leave be granted for Mr Keith Stephens, General Synod Treasurer as mover of motions 16.3.1 to 16.3.5, and Ms Bernadette Bateman, General Synod Finance and Operations Manager, to make a presentation on the Standing Committee's Financial Report to General Synod.

Carried

R22/18

8.6 Report of the Family Violence Working Group

That leave be granted for the Rev'd Tracy Lauersen, as mover of motion 16.4 to make a presentation on the recommendations contained in the report of the Family Violence Working Group for 20 minutes, incorporating a video presentation on the Anglican Family Violence Research Project.

Carried

8.7 Ordering of Business on the Advice of the Provisional Business Committee

Anglican Lutheran Dialogue Group – *Perspectives on Mission*

- R23/18 8.7.1 That consideration of motion 16.9 be an Order of the Day at 12noon on Monday 9 May 2022 and that the Right Reverend Tim Harris, Co-Chair of the Anglican-Lutheran Dialogue, be authorised to use mover’s time in debate and reply. **Carried**

Safe Ministry to Children (Bills 01 to 04 and R01) and motions promoted by the Safe Ministry Commission

- R24/18 8.7.2 That consideration of motions for Bills 17.1 to 17.4 and 18.1, and motions at the request of the Standing committee 16.13 to 16.19, be an Order of the Day from 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm on Monday 9 May 2022. **Carried**

Anglican Family Violence Research Project and other motions promoted by the Family Violence Working Group

- R25/18 8.7.3 That consideration of motions 16.4 to 16.8 be an Order of the Day at 11.00 am on Tuesday 10 May 2022. **Carried**

Finance Motions

- R26/18 8.7.4 That consideration of motions 16.3.1 to 16.3.3 and the consideration in principle of motions 16.3.4 and 16.3.5 be an Order of the Day for 1.30 pm on Tuesday 10 May 2022. **Carried**

- R27/18 8.7.5 That final consideration of motions 16.3.4 and 16.3.5 be an Order of the Day for 1.30 pm on Thursday 12 May 2022. **Carried**

Marriage, Human Sexuality and Same-sex Relationships Motions

- R28/18 8.7.6 That consideration of motions 20.3 to 20.7 and other motions relating to marriage, human sexuality, and same-sex relationships, as determined by the Committee to arrange the Order of Business, be an Order of the Day for 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm on Tuesday 10 May 2022 and, if not concluded, the business in this category should continue at an Order of the Day at 11.00 am to 12.30pm on Wednesday 11 May 2022 **Carried**

- R29/18 **8.8 Authentication of Canons**

That pursuant to Sections 24 and 25(1) of the Constitution, the Canons passed at this Session of the General Synod shall be authenticated by use of the official seal of the General Synod. **Carried**

8.9 Reading and Confirmation of Minutes

R30/18	8.9.1	That the minutes of the first, second and third days of meeting of this Session of the Synod be read and confirmed on the resumption of business after the afternoon tea adjournment on the day following the relevant day of meeting	<i>Carried</i>
R31/18	8.9.2	That the minutes of the second-last day of meeting of this Session of the Synod be read and confirmed on the resumption of business after the morning tea adjournment on the final day of meeting	<i>Carried</i>
R32/18	8.9.3	That the minutes of the final day of meeting be read and confirmed at the first full meeting of the Standing Committee following this Session of the General Synod.	<i>Carried</i>
R33/18	8.10	Bill R02 - Amendment of Rule I – Standing Orders (Speaking to Motions) 2022 That so much of Standing Orders be suspended to permit that motion 18.2 relating to the amendment of Rule I be dealt with forthwith.	<i>Carried</i>
R34/18	18.2	Bill R02 – A Bill for a Rule to Amend Rule I – Standing Orders (Speaking to Motions) 2022 Justice Michael Meek moving, Mr Alex Milner seconding That a Bill for a Rule to Amend Rule I – Standing Orders (Speaking to Motions) 2022 be approved in principle. Justice Michael Meek moving, Mr Alex Milner seconding	<i>Carried</i>
R35/18		That the Bill do now pass.	<i>Carried</i>
R36/18	8.11	Bill R04 - Amendment of Rule III (Nomination and Ballot) 2022 That so much of Standing Orders be suspended to permit motion 18.3 relating to the amendment of Rule III be dealt with forthwith.	<i>Carried</i>
R37/18	18.3	Bill R04 – A Bill for a Rule to Amend Rule III (Nominations and Balloting) 2022 Justice Debra Mullins moving, Dr Carolyn Tan seconding That a Bill for a Rule to Amend Rule III (Nominations and Balloting) 2022 be approved in principle. Justice Debra Mullins moving, Dr Carolyn Tan seconding	<i>Carried</i> <i>Carried</i>

R38/18 That the Bill do now pass

8.12 Nominations and Elections under Rule III

R39/18 8.12.1 That nominations for the Special Tribunal, Appellate Tribunal and Standing Committee will close at 7.30 pm on Monday 9 May 2022. **Carried**

R40/18 8.12.2 That nominations for all other elections under Rule III will close at 1.30 pm on Tuesday 10 May 2022. **Carried**

R41/18 8.12.3 That voting will be conducted using online technology with access to smart devices for this purpose being provided to those who require them. Access to voting will be available at the following times:

- Wednesday 11 May 2022 from 10.30 am to 6.30 pm (all elections other than the Special Tribunal and Appellate Tribunal)
- Thursday 12 May 2022 from 8.00 am to 1.30 pm (Special Tribunal and Appellate Tribunal).

Carried

9 DOCUMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE BY THE PRESIDENT

9.1 A list of Special Bills which the President has declared to be Canons under Section 28(3)(iii) of the Constitution since the last session of General Synod.

There is no Special Bill in this category.

9.2 A list of Special Bills which have not been assented to by every diocesan synod together with the reports and recommendations received from such synods.

There is no Special Bill in this category.

9.3 A list of Bills which have come into force under Section 28A of the Constitution since the last session of General Synod.

There is no Bill in this category.

9.4 A list of Canons the President has declared to be in force following upon a reference of any question to the Appellate Tribunal under Section 29 of the Constitution.

There is no Canon in this category.

9.5 A list of Canons in which the Appellate Tribunal has found inconsistency or breach of Section 28.

There is no Canon in this category.

9.6 A list of Canons duly passed by the Synod together with the date appointed by the President upon which the said Canons came into force under Section 30 of the Constitution.

- No 1, 2017 Appellate Tribunal Amendment (Qualification)
Canon 2017
4 September 2017
- No 3, 2017 Appellate Tribunal Amendment (Reserve List)
Canon 2017
1 December 2019
- No 4, 2017 Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017
5 September 2017
- No 5, 2017 Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017
5 September 2017
- No 7, 2017 Offences Amendment Canon 2017
5 September 2017
- No 8, 2017 Redress for Survivors of Abuse Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 9, 2017 Disclosure of Information Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 10, 2017 National Register Amendment Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 11, 2017 Special Tribunal Amendment Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 12, 2017 Special Tribunal (Limitation Period) Canon 2017
8 September 2017
- No 13, 2017 Long Service Leave (Revision of Entitlement)
Canon 2017
2 October 2017
- No 14, 2017 Long Service Leave (Notification of Participating
Organisation) Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 15, 2017 Canon to Ratify the Amended New South Wales
Provincial Synod Constitution 2017
6 September 2017
- No 16, 2017 Canon Concerning Confessions (Revision)
Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 17, 2017 Canon Concerning Confessions (Vulnerable
Persons) Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 18, 2017 Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry)
Canon 2017

7 September 2017

- No 19, 2017 Canon Concerning Services Amendment
Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 20, 2017 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Anglican Council Amendment Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 21, 2017 Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and
Networks Amendment Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 22, 2017 Missionary Dioceses (Amendment) Canon 2017
7 September 2017

**9.7 A list of Canons amending the Constitution passed under
Section 67 of the Constitution which have come into effect
since the last Session of General Synod**

- No 4, 2014 Constitution Amendment (Membership of the
Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014
1 July 2019
- No 5, 2014 Constitution Amendment (Membership of the
Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014
1 July 2019
- No 2, 2017 Constitution (Appellate Tribunal) Amendment
Canon 2017
1 December 2019
- No 6, 2017 Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal)
Amendment Canon 2017
1 November 2019

**9.8 Notifications and advice from dioceses under Section 30(c)
of the Constitution**

No notifications under Section 30(c) have been received since the
conclusion of the Seventeenth Session of the Synod.

**9.9 Amendment sheet prepared by the Secretaries of Synod
under Standing Order 42A(a)**

10 PETITIONS

The President called for Petitions.
None were received.

11 NOTICES OF QUESTIONS

Notice was given of the following questions:

1. Conflict of interest – Dr Leanne Beagley
2. Safe Ministry Audits – Mr Doug Marr
3. Equal Representation of Women – Mr Doug Marr
4. Guests listed at 8.3.3 – Mr Doug Marr
5. Reducing the cost of General Synod – the Rev'd James Warren
6. 21.1 Bill 11- Canon concerning services - Carolyn Tan
7. Cost of General Synod Expenses – Dr Laurence Scandrett
8. General Synod Office Staffing – Dr Laurence Scandrett
9. Safe Ministry Bill Number 1 – Rt Rev'd Peter Stuart
10. Making Public Statements by PAC – Caitlin Orr
11. Attendance by the Primate at Primates' meetings

12 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Notice was given of the following motions:

1. Statutory Assessment – the Rev'd Gavin Pool
2. Funding of Commissions, Task Forces or Projects – the Rev'd Simon Roberts
3. Affirmation of Same-sex Marriage – the Rev'd Assoc Prof Matthew Anstey
4. Sydney Anglican Schools – the Rev'd Assoc Prof Matthew Anstey
5. Unity of the Church – the Right Rev'd Ian Coutts moving
6. Doctrine Commission – the Rev'd James Harricks moving
7. Aged Care and Disability Care – the Right Rev'd Dr Peter Stuart
8. Federal Gambling Reform – the Rev'd Dr Michael Bird moving
9. Great Commission – the Very Rev'd Sandy Grant moving
10. State and Territory Gambling Reform – the Very Rev'd Sandy Grant moving
11. Anglican Super – Mr Allan Thomson moving
12. Anglican Schools Australia – the Right Rev'd Jeremy Greaves moving
13. Thanks for Preparation of Bills for General Synod – Mr Robert Wicks moving
14. Euthanasia – Dr Karin Sowada moving
15. Rates of Suicide of Australian Defence Force (ADF) Veterans – the Right Rev'd Keith Dalby

13 ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF CLERGY AND THE HOUSE OF LAITY

The Synod noted:

- 1) The Right Rev'd Michael Stead had been elected Chair of the House of Clergy.
- 2) Justice Debra Mullins had been elected Chair of the House of Laity.

14 CALL OVER OF THE MOTIONS

The following motions were passed formally:

15 **REPORTS, ACCOUNTS AND MOTIONS CONNECTED THEREWITH**

The Ven Arthur Copeman moving, Ms Anne Hywood seconding

That the following reports and documents be laid on the Table and be received without preventing further discussion of specific matters arising from them:

Carried

15.1 **Standing Committee of General Synod Reports** (Book 2 of the Synod Papers)

- Membership of the Standing Committee of General Synod and its Committees
- Implementation of Substantive Resolutions of the Seventeenth Session of General Synod 2017
- Summary of Business of the Standing Committee from December 2017 to March 2022
- Financial Protection Canon 1995
- National Register Canon 2007
- Trust Corporation of the Anglican Church of Australia
- Appellate Tribunal
- Special Tribunal
- General Synod Legislation
- Changes in the Episcopate since the Seventeenth General Synod
- A list of the Members of the Eighteenth Session of General Synod
- Program for the Eighteenth Session of General Synod

(Book 3 of the Synod papers)

- General Synod Financial Performance 2017–2021
- General Synod Budget for 2022
- General Synod Budget 2023 and Forecasts 2024–2025

15.2 **Bills for Canons circulated in accordance with Section 27(1)(i) of the Constitution**

(Book 1 of the Synod papers)

Bill 01 - A Bill for the Safe Ministry Legislation Amendments Canon 2022

Bill 02 - A Bill for the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) (Amendment) Canon 2022

Bill 03 - A Bill for the Constitution Amendment (Mandatory Suspension) Canon 2022

Bill 04 - A Bill for the Constitution Amendment (Mandatory Deposition) Canon 2022

- Bill 05** - A Bill for the Constitution (Repeal of Canon No 9 of 2010) Canon 2022
- Bill 06** - A Bill for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council Amendment Canon 2022
- Bill 07** - A Bill for a Defence Force Ministry (Amendment) Canon 2022
- Bill 08** - A Bill for the Special Tribunal (Removal from Office) Canon 2022
- Bill 09** - A Bill for the Episcopal Standards Investigations Amendment Canon 2022
- Bill 10** - A Bill for the Long Service Leave (Sabbatical Allowance Amendment) Canon 2022
- Bill 11** - A Bill for the Canon Concerning Services (Amendment) Canon 2022
- Bill 12** - A Bill for the Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Amendment Canon 2022
- Bill 13** - A Bill for the Eighteenth General Synod Participation Canon 2022
- Bill 14** - A Bill for the General Synod Presence Canon 2022

15.3 Bills for Rules
(Book 1 of the Synod papers)

- Bill R1** A Rule to Amend Rule II – Standing Committee (Conflict of Interest) 2022
- Bill R2** A Rule to Amend Rule I – Standing Orders (Speaking to Motions) 2022
- Bill R3** A Rule to Amend Rule II – Standing Committee (Membership) 2022
- Bill R4** - A Rule to Amend Rule III Nominations and Balloting 2022

15.4 Commissions
(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

- Church Law Commission
- Doctrine Commission
- Ecumenical Relations Commission,
- Liturgy Commission
- Mission and Ministry Commission
- Public Affairs Commission
- Safe Ministry Commission

15.5 **Task Forces and Working Groups**

(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

- Family Violence Working Group
- Refugee and Migrant Working Group
- Viability and Structures Working Group
- Diocesan Financial Advisory Task Force
- General Synod Assessments Task Force

15.6 **General Synod Bodies**

(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

- Anglican Board of Mission – Australia
- Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Limited
- Australian College of Theology
- Broughton Publishing
- Defence Force Board
- Long Service Leave Board
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council
- The National Home Mission Fund

15.7 **Networks**

(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

- Advisory Council for Religious Life in Australia
- Anglican Schools Australia
- Anglican Theological Educators
- Anglicare Australia
- Australian Anglican Diaconal Association
- Australian Cathedral Deans Network
- Children's and Youth Ministry Network
- Defence Force Anglican Chaplaincy Inc
- National Network of Directors of Professional Standards
- Rural Ministry Network

15.8 **Other Groups**

(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

- Anglican Cursillo Movement of Australia
- Anglican Mothers Union Australia
- The Bush Church Aid Society of Australia
- Mission to Seafarers
- SPCKA - SparkLit

15.9 **Anglican Communion**

(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

- Anglican Consultative Council - Meeting of ACC17

15.10 **Reports required of the Protection to the Environment Canon 2007**

(Book 4 of the Synod papers)

Reports from the dioceses of:

- Adelaide
- Ballarat
- Bathurst
- Brisbane
- Bunbury
- Canberra and Goulburn
- Gippsland
- Grafton
- Melbourne
- Newcastle
- Northern Territory
- Perth
- Tasmania
- Wangaratta

R42/18 16.21 **Mission to Seafarers**

Bishop John Stead moving, Bishop Gary Nelson seconding

That General Synod

- a) receives the report of the Mission to Seafarers
- b) recognises and seeks to include the celebration of Sea Sunday annually as a way to support the ministry of the Mission to Seafarers and highlight the plight of Seafarers
- c) calls on the Federal and State Governments to take seriously its responsibility under the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 and fully fund shore-based Seafarer welfare centers
- d) respectfully requests the Primate to convey the above terms of this resolution to the Prime Minister and Federal Transport Minister and Shadow counterparts.

Carried

R43/18 23.4 **Directors of Professional Standards**

Mr Lachlan Bryant moving, Justice Debra Mullins AO seconding

This General Synod:

- i. Affirm the importance of all Dioceses in the national church having robust child protection and professional standards systems in place for the safety and wellbeing of church members.
- ii. Encourage all Dioceses to have or appoint a Director of Professional Standards who is able to fully participate in the Network of Directors of Professional Standards and to be properly

resourced to undertake their role, including the provision of skilled professional supervision.

- iii. Encourage all Dioceses to do their utmost to prioritise the support and resourcing of the office of their Professional Standards Director commensurate to the importance of their work in child protection and professional standards.

Carried

R44/18 23.5 **Broughton Publishing - Anglican Church of Australia Directory**

Mr Philip Gerber moving, The Very Rev'd Richard Humphrey seconding

Synod commends the board and management of Broughton Publishing and editor Colin Reilly on the production of the Anglican Church of Australia Directory in both print and online editions, and encourages dioceses, parishes and members of the clergy to fully support this project by offering every assistance in keeping information up to date.

Carried

R45/18 23.6 **Australian Anglicans Worship**

The Ven Dane Courtney moving, The Rev'd Dr Elizabeth Smith AM seconding

Synod expresses its thanks to the Rev'd Dr Charles Sherlock and Broughton Publishing for providing the important resource Australian Anglicans Worship, which offers a commentary on A Prayer Book for Australia and related liturgical material together with suggestions about how it may be creatively used and commends this publication to all who plan and lead services in our churches.

Carried

R45A/18 16.9 **ORDER OF THE DAY – 12.00PM MONDAY 9 MAY**

Anglican Lutheran Dialogue - Perspectives on Mission

Archbishop Phillip Aspinall AC moving, Bishop John Stead seconding

General Synod gave leave for Bishop Tim Harris, Anglican Co-Chair of the Australian Anglican – Lutheran dialogue group, to utilise the mover's time to introduce to the motion. The Primate invited Pastor Stephen Nuske, of the Lutheran Church of Australia to speak to the motion.

The General Synod

- (i) commends the Anglican-Lutheran Dialogue Group for *Perspectives on Mission*;
- (ii) notes the Doctrine Commission's advice that *Perspectives on Mission* conforms to the doctrine of this Church and that it is suitable for the purpose for which it is intended, that is as a third appendix to *Common Ground*; and adopts it for that purpose;

- (iii) encourages members of the Anglican Church of Australia to study *Common Ground* and *Perspectives on Mission* and to foster closer cooperation and relations with the Lutheran Church of Australia.

Carried

17 MOTIONS FOR BILLS FOR CANONS BY REQUEST OF STANDING COMMITTEE

17.5 Bill 05 - A Bill for the Constitution (Repeal of Canon No 9 of 2010) Canon 2022 (Book Ref 1-45)

Justice Debra Mullins AO moving, Justice Michael Meek seconding

That a Bill for the Constitution (Repeal of Canon No 9 of 2010) Canon 2022 be approved in principle (Mandatory Deposition) Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

That the Bill proceed not as a special Bill

Carried

Justice Debra Mullins AO moved, Justice Michael Meek seconding

That the Bill do now pass

Carried

17.6 Bill 06 - A Bill for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council Amendment Canon 2022

Bishop Chris McLeod moving, Justice Debra Mullins AO seconding

That a Bill for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council Amendment Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Bishop Chris McLeod moving, Justice Debra Mullins AO seconding

That the Bill do now pass

Carried

17.7 Bill 07 – A Bill for a Defence Force Ministry (Amendment) Canon 2022

Archbishop Philip Freier moving, Mr Alan Gallimore seconding

That a Bill for a Defence Force Ministry (Amendment) Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Archbishop Philip Freier moving, Mr Alan Gallimore seconding

That the Bill do now pass

Carried

17.8 Bill 08 – A Bill for the Special Tribunal (Removal from Office) Canon 2022

Leave was granted to move the Bill in an amended form.

Dr Robert Tong AM moving, Justice Debra Mullins AO seconding

That a Bill for the Special Tribunal (Removal from Office) Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Consideration of the Bill was adjourned.

17.1 ORDER OF THE DAY (3.30 PM TO 5.30 PM MONDAY 9 MAY 2022)

Bill 01 – A Bill for the Safe Ministry Legislation Amendments Canon 2022

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That a Bill for the Safe Ministry Legislation Amendments Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Synod moved into Committee to consider the Bill.

The Chair of Committees reported progress and sought leave to sit again.

Carried

Consideration of the Bill was adjourned.

17.2 Bill 02 – A Bill for the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) (Amendment) Canon 2022

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That a Bill for the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) (Amendment) Canon 2022 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

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That the Bill proceed not as a special Bill.

Carried

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That the Bill do now pass.

Carried

The President announced that the Canon take effect immediately.

17.3 **Bill 03 – A Bill for the Constitution Amendment (Mandatory Suspension) Canon 2022**

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That a Bill for the Constitution Amendment (Mandatory Suspension) Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That the Bill do now pass.
The President announced that the Canon take effect immediately.

Carried

17.4 **Bill 04 - A Bill for the Constitution Amendment (Mandatory Deposition) Canon 2022**

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That a Bill for the Constitution Amendment (Mandatory Deposition) Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That the Bill do now pass.
The President announced that the Canon take effect immediately.

Carried

18.1 **Bill R01 – A Bill for a Rule to Amend Rule II – Standing Committee (Conflict of Interest) 2022**

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That a Bill for a Rule to Amend Rule II – Standing Committee (Conflict of Interest) 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Mr Garth Blake AM SC moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

That the Bill do now pass.
The President announced that the Canon take effect immediately.

Carried

R46/18 16.13 **Safe Ministry - Child Safety Regulatory Environment**

Ms Audrey Mills moving, Ms Dianne Shay seconding

The General Synod, in the light of developing child safety regulatory requirements of States and Territories, requests the Standing Committee to establish a group to:

- a. review the compliance, audit and reporting obligations of dioceses under the *Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017* in light of the child safety regulatory requirements imposed on those dioceses by the laws of State and Territories applicable to them;
- b. provide recommendations as to whether, and if so how, the requirements of the *Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017*

might be changed for dioceses now subject to a regime imposed by a State or Territory with requirements covering the same subject matter;

- c. provide recommendations as to whether, and if so how, to exempt from compliance with the obligations in the *Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017* to dioceses subject to equivalent statutory requirements imposed by a State or Territory;
- d. report to the Standing Committee at least twelve months prior to the Nineteenth Session of General Synod;
- e. present for the approval of the Standing Committee instructions for any legislation to be drafted by the Church Law Commission for consideration at the Nineteenth Session of General Synod.

The group will consist of the follow persons appointed by the Standing Committee in consultation with the Safe Ministry Commission:

- i. a chair;
- ii. two representing dioceses in jurisdictions where there are statutory regulatory frameworks relating to child safe standards;
- iii. one from another Christian denomination with experience in undertaking child safety audit processes;
- iv. one from the wider community with experience in child safety audit processes and who is not currently providing services as an employee or contractor to the Anglican Church of Australia or its dioceses;
- v. four members of the Safe Ministry Commission.

Carried

R47/18 16.14 **Safe Ministry Priorities**

Ms Audrey Mills moving, Ms Dianne Shay seconding

The General Synod requests the Safe Ministry Commission:

- a) to measure and review the Church's progress towards being a child safe institution in light of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, and report to the Standing Committee;
- b) to continue to report to the Standing Committee on the Church's progress towards responding to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and make recommendations to the Standing Committee as to any further actions to be taken;
- c) in consultation with diocesan safe ministry authorities to develop a clear, accessible and child-focused complaint handling policy which addresses the guidelines provided in the National Office for Child Safety Complaint Handling Guide, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee;

- d) to report to the 19th General Synod as to the progress of the Church in the development and implementation of safe ministry policies and structures;
- e) to review *Faithfulness in Service*:
 - i. in consultation with the Family & Domestic Violence Working Group to examine whether amendments should be made to respond to family and domestic violence; and
 - ii. to examine whether amendments should be made to safeguard adults at risk
 - iii. in the light of the statutory regulatory frameworks relating to child safe standards
 and report to the Standing Committee with any proposed amendments.

Carried

R48/18 16.15 **Persons of Concern Video**

Bishop Greg Anderson moving, Bishop Ian Coutts seconding

The General Synod:

- a) notes the endorsement of the Persons of Concern video by the Standing Committee; and
- b) requests the Safe Ministry Commission to consult with dioceses to seek feedback regarding the usage and usefulness of the resource.

Carried

R49/18 16.16 **Ministry Wellbeing and Development: Policy Guidelines and Resources**

The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, Bishop Ian Coutts seconding

The General Synod notes:

- a) Royal Commission recommendations 16.4, 16.44 and 16.45 for national mandatory standards for professional development, professional/pastoral supervision and performance appraisals; and
- b) the endorsement of the *Ministry Wellbeing and Development: Policy, Guidelines and Resources* document by the Standing Committee

and encourages dioceses to fully implement the policy and guidelines to enhance the wellbeing and professional development of clergy and some paid church workers.

Carried

- R50/18 16.17 **Safe Ministry Resource – Providing pastoral support to people affected by sexual abuse**
- The Rev'd Prof Peter Sandeman moving, Bishop Greg Anderson seconding
- The General Synod:
- a) notes the endorsement of the *Providing pastoral support to people affected by sexual abuse: Guidance for clergy and church workers in the Anglican Church of Australia* resource by the Standing Committee; and
 - b) encourages dioceses to make this resource available to clergy and church workers providing pastoral care to enhance the pastoral care of those who have been affected by sexual abuse.
- Carried**

- R51/18 16.18 **National Council of Churches – Safer Churches Conference**
- Bishop Ian Coutts moving, Ms Dianne Shay seconding
- The General Synod commends the National Council of Churches in Australia for organising the Safer Churches Conference on transforming the culture of safeguarding within Australian churches, and supports ongoing joint action by member churches and other participating Australian churches to promote the welfare and safety of all people within their communities. The General Synod requests the General Secretary to convey this resolution to the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in Australia.
- Carried**

- R52/18 16.19 **Anglican Communion Safe Church Commission – Guidelines**
- Ms Audrey Mills moving, The Ven Arthur Copeman seconding
- This General Synod welcomes the *Guidelines to enhance the safety of all persons – especially children, young people and vulnerable adults – within the provinces of the Anglican Communion* approved by the Anglican Consultative Council in May 2019 and asks the Safe Ministry Commission to review the guidelines and report to the Standing Committee on any steps necessary to implement them.
- Carried**

- R53/18 **MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE**
Vote of Thanks – Garth Blake
- Primate – The Most Rev'd Geoffrey Smith moving
- That this Synod thanks Garth Blake for his work and leadership in safety and protection of children and vulnerable people, with the goal of creating a safe Church.

Garth has also made a significant contribution with his legal knowledge and assistance as a member of Standing Committee and to this Synod over many years.

Garth was the first chair of the Child Protection Unit, until the formation of the Professional Standards Commission in 2004, now constituted as the Safe Ministry Commission.

In these roles he has led the significant work in the national church in the development of legislation, understanding of the national and state requirements, and the ensuring that as a church we have recognised the need for our church to respond to past and present abuse and do all we can to protect it.

Garth has also led this work in the Anglican Communion.

Notably his leadership enabled us to respond positively to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, and that work continues.

That this Synod give thanks to God for Garth's work and service to the General Synod and the Anglican Church of Australia.

***Carried by
acclamation***

R54/18 16.10 **Jobseeker**

Leave was granted by Synod to move the motion in an amended form.

The Rev'd Prof Peter Sandeman moving, Dr Carolyn Tan seconding

The General Synod –

1. Notes that:
 - a) More than a million people across Australia live on government payments that do not cover the cost of housing, food, transport and healthcare.
 - b) The next generation is paying the price of poverty. Over one million children live in households reliant on JobSeeker. Living on JobSeeker is the biggest contributing factor behind growing up in poverty.
 - c) The Government has previously briefly raised the rate of JobSeeker above the poverty line, lifting hundreds of thousands of people out of poverty. It has the power to do this again.

2. Calls for:
 - a) An immediate raise to the rate of JobSeeker above the poverty line.
 - b) An independent Social Security Commission with the power to set government payments, to make sure payments never again fall below the poverty line.
 - c) Redesign of the Jobactive System to encourage more effective participation in job search and training, and also to recognise better the legitimate contributions made by those receiving JobSeeker benefits who engage in formal volunteering or providing unpaid care.

Carried

16.11 Climate Change – Call on Australian Governments

Leave was granted by Synod to defer this motion to a time to be determined by the Order of Business Committee.

R55/18 16.12 Climate Change – Call to the Church

Leave was granted by Synod to move the motion in an amended form.

The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moving, The Ven Tiffany Sparks seconding

That this Synod,

A. Noting:

1. Resolution A17:05 of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) 2017, in which the ACC recognised that there is a Climate Emergency and called on member churches to respond in ways that are 'a living testament to our faith';
2. Resolution A17:06 of the ACC 2017, in which the ACC called upon member churches to work towards building climate resilience;
3. That the 2020 meeting of the General Synod of The Church of England (C of E) called on 'all parts of the C of E ... to work to achieve year-on-year reductions in emissions and urgently examine what would be required to reach net zero emissions by 2030 in order that a plan of action can be drawn up to achieve that target'.
4. With concern, the lack of progress in the Anglican Church of Australia in reporting on the Protection of the Environment Canon 2007 and reporting on the calculation of emissions as requested in R62/17.

B. Recognises that the global climate emergency is a crisis for God's creation, and a fundamental injustice, which ultimately stems from rebellion against our Creator and his commands to humans regarding stewardship of his world.

C. Trusts Jesus Christ as ultimate reconciler of all things in creation, through his blood shed on the cross and looks with hope to his promise of a renewed creation.

D. Encourages consideration of the actions involving worship, mission, advocacy, and community participation commended to the Church in ACC 2017 Resolutions A17.05 and A17.06.

E. Encourages the Diocese and Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia to work towards net zero carbon emissions by 2040, and to consider faster reductions where possible.

F. Urges the Dioceses and Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia to:

1. Strengthen their efforts to report on the Protection of the Environment Canon 2007;
2. Submit their best estimates of carbon emissions on an annual basis to The Standing Committee to enable us as a Province to track our progress toward net zero carbon emissions; and

3. Embrace the actions commended to the Church through ACC 2017 Resolutions A17.05 and A17.06, considered the most appropriate to their contexts. **Carried**

Synod adjourned at 8.55pm

President

Date

Minutes of the First day of the Eighteenth General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia
on Monday 9 May 2022

Confirmed by Minutes Reading Committee:

Mr Clive Ellis (Convenor) _____

Mrs Sue Williams _____