# MINUTES OF THE SECOND 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 TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022

#### 1 SYNOD ASSEMBLED

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

#### 2 PRAYERS

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

#### 3 MINUTES

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

#### **4 GENERAL SECRETARY UPDATE ON ARRANGEMENTS**

The General Secretary announced some arrangements for Synod.

#### **5 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

#### **Question 5**

Carolyn Tan asked

Is the President of the opinion that Bill 11 - A Bill for the Canon Concerning Services (Amendment) Canon:

- (a) a bill that deals with or concerns ritual ceremonial or discipline of this Church;
- (b) required to follow the procedure for a special bill under section 28 of the Constitution?

The President answered:

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes

#### **Question 7**

Mr Doug Marr asked:

Which, if any, of the persons listed in item 8.3.3 of the Business Paper for Monday 9 May, are having their travel or accommodation costs paid for by the General Synod?

The President answered:

The General Synod has funded the costs of travel or accommodation for the following guests:

- The Hon David Bleby QC, Chancellor to the Primate
- The Venerable David Bassett, Assistant to the Primate
- Mr Michael Codling, Convenor, General Synod Diocesan Financial Advisory Task Force

 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

During consideration to item 16.3, the Honorary Treasurer on behalf of the president provided the following:

#### Question 1

Dr Laurence Scandrett asked:

What is the detailed breakdown of the line item "Cost of General Synod", which totals \$182,971 across 2020 and 2021, in the Expenses section of the :Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehenive Income for the year ended 31 December 2021" found on page 3-081 in Book 3 and also on page 3-101 (Note) in Book 3?

#### Response:

The \$182,871 is detailed as followed:

\$177,967 Cancellation fee paid to The Novotel due to postponement of GS18 in 2020 and 2021.

\$4,900 Fees paid to event manager 104 miscellaneous

\$182,971

#### **Question 3**

Dr Laurence Scandrett asked:

- a. How many full-time staff and how many part-time staff were employed by the General Synod at the time of GS17 in 2017? What was the staffing FTE at that time?
- b. How many full-time staff and how many part-time staff are currently employed by the General synod, ie at this time of GS18 in 2022? What is the current staffing FTE?

This information was also provided in the Finance reports yesterday.

In 2017 the GSO had a head count of 10, made up of 4 part-time staff and 6 full-time staff. This head count is converted to a full time equivalent of 6.95 staff. The Long Service Leave Fund contributed to the salaries of 1.6 full time equivalents. The balance of 5.35 full time equivalents were funded from Statutory Assessments.

At the time of GS18, the GSO head count is 9, made up of 2 part-time staff and 7 full-time staff. This head count is converted to a full time equivalent of 7.7 staff. The Long Service Leave Fund and Anglican Redress (National Redress Scheme) Limited contribute to the salaries of 2.05 full time equivalents. The balance of 5.65 full time equivalents are funded from Statutory Assessments.

#### 6 PETITIONS

The President called for Petitions. None were received.

#### 7 NOTICES OF QUESTIONS

#### 1. Dr Laurence Scandrett asked

What is the total expected cost (not including accommodation paid for by Dioceses or the time of the General Synod staff) of the 2022 General Synod being held here at the RACV Royal Pines Resort?

#### **8 NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

#### NOTICE WAS GIVEN OF THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS:

- The Right Rev'd Dr Michael Stead Religious Discrimination & Religious of Freedom Act
- 2. Allan Thomson Anglican Super 60th Anniversary

### 9 CALL OVER MOTIONS

Leave was granted by Synod to defer the call over to later in the day.

## 17 MOTIONS FOR BILLS FOR CANONS BY REQUEST OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Synod returned to legislation from Day 1

## R56/18 17.1 Bill 01 – A Bill for the Safe Ministry Legislation Amendments Canon 2022

Leave was given by Synod to amend the mover and seconder: Ms Audrey Mills moving, Ms Dianne Shay seconding

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.

Ms Audrey Mills moving, Ms Dianne Shay seconding

That the Bill proceed not as a special Bill.

Carried

Further consideration of the Bill was deferred until a certified copy is available.

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

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.

Consideration of the Bill was adjourned to Thursday, 12 May 2022.

## R57/18 17.9 Bill 09 - A Bill for the Episcopal Standards Investigations Amendment Canon 2022

Justice Debra Mullins AO moving, Dr Carolyn Tan seconding

That a Bill for the Episcopal Standards Investigations Amendment Canon 2022 be approved in principle.

Carried

Synod moved into Committee to consider the Bill.

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

Consideration of the Bill was adjourned.

#### 9 CALL OVER MOTIONS

The following motions were passed formally:

#### R58/18 24.6 **Doctrine Commission**

The Rev'd James Harricks moving, the Ven Kara Hartley seconding

We thank the Doctrine Commission for their report on the gospel and its consequences and commend it to the General Synod as we continue to reflect on the glorious gospel of grace that indeed 'impacts the whole of life personally, corporately, and socially.

Carried

#### R59/18 24.7 Aged Care and Disability Care

Moved by Peter Stewart; seconded by Katherine Bowyer

This General Synod in response to the findings of the Aged Care Royal Commission and in response to community concerns about the National Disability Insurance Scheme and in response to issues being raised in the Disability Royal Commission calls on the incoming Commonwealth Government to develop and communicate a strategic roadmap for improvement to Aged Care and Disability Care which implements the findings of the Aged Care and Disability Royal Commissions, enables providers of Aged Care and Disability Care to have long-term confidence about sufficient funding for the provision of services, and assures people receiving support of the integrity of these systems.

Carried

#### R60/18 24.8 Federal Gambling Reform

Mr Michael Bird moving, Sandy Grant seconding

The General Synod notes that the Bible says "Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God" (Proverbs 14.31). Therefore it joins the Alliance for Gambling Reform in calling on the next federal Parliament:

- to ban all sports gambling advertising on TV, radio and online, (or at least before 10.00pm at night);

- to complete legislative changes to ban the use of credit cards for gambling, including online, directly or through third party payment systems like digital wallets;
- to expand the national consumer protection framework to regulate casinos and online gambling at a national level, for example by creating a national casino regulator and an online gambling ombudsman:
- to ban donations from any gambling license holder, including Board or committee members of gambling license holders, or their peak bodies to political parties and candidates.

The General Synod requests the General Secretary to communicate the terms of the resolution to the national Leaders of all political parties represented in the federal Parliament before the imminent federal election, and to ensure that all members and senators of the newly convened Parliament are advised of the terms of this resolutions as soon as possible after the election is declared.

Carried

#### R61/18 24.9 **Great Commission**

The Very Rev'd Sandy Grant moving, Bishop Rick Lewers seconding

General Synod submits to the universal authority in heaven and earth given by God to the risen Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we recommit to the 'Great Commission' he has given to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything Jesus has commanded us.

Synod also recalls that the first and key mark of the Anglican Consultative Council's Five Marks of Mission is "To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom", and that the second Mark is to "To teach, baptise and nurture new believers".

Therefore, Synod laments the lack of attention we have given in the ordering of our business towards encouraging evangelism and disciple-making.

However, Synod commends Anglican organisations such as ABM (the Anglican Board of Mission), the Defence Force Board with its Anglican Chaplains, the Mission to Seafarers, BCA (the Bush Church Aid Society) and NATSIAC (the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council) for how central or important "preaching" or "proclaiming" the gospel of Christ is to their stated missions.

We also affirm the observation made (Book 4, p 4-175) by the Diocesan Financial Advisory Task Force (DFATF), in the context of addressing the serious lack of financial sustainability of many dioceses and so encouraging the possibility of combining of 'back office' functions, that "... with a growing church, many of the financial concerns that DFATF and others have been attempting to address would be ameliorated or disappear. Hence the strategic priority of

the Church should be on most effectively sharing the gospel and nurturing the faithful with a view to increasing Church membership."

We urge the Standing Committee and its Commissions to keep obedience to the first and primary mark of mission firmly in view, even when the particular matters in front of them are not directly related to gospel proclamation.

Lastly, Synod acknowledges that the primary carriage of obedience to Christ's Great Commission lies not with Commissions, Agencies or Synods but with local churches. So as members of the same, we rededicate ourselves in personal faith and obedience to the Lord Jesus for the varied parts we can play in evangelism and disciplemaking.

Carried

#### R62/18 24.10 State and Territory Gambling Reform

The Very Rev'd Sandy Grant moving, the Rev'd Dr Michael Bird seconding

The General Synod notes that Australia has the world's worst rate of gambling losses per capita, with poker machines causing the significant majority of those losses, being home to less than half a percent of the world's population but with 20 percent of its pokies. The General Synod also notes that the Bible reminds rulers to "Speak up and judge fairly, defend the rights of the poor and needy" (Proverbs 31:9).

Therefore, in light of the enormous losses on poker machines, General Synod urges all State and Territory parliaments, to consider urgently:

- implementation of \$1 bet limits on all poker machines (recommended by Productivity Commission);
- implementation of a cashless gaming smart card system (commended by the Bergin Inquiry);
- more extensive compulsory shut down periods for all poker machines, for example between midnight and 10am, and;
- as an immediate initial step, mandating that all future electronic gaming device technology (including the gaming devices themselves and any gambling card technology) be capable of implementing such measures.

The General Synod requests the General Secretary to communicate the terms of this resolution to the Premiers and Opposition Leaders of each State and Territory Parliament.

Carried

Synod adjourned at 10.30am for morning tea Synod resumed at 11.00am

ORDER OF THE DAY - Tuesday, 10 May 2022 at 11.00am

#### R63/18 16.4 National Anglican Family Violence Project

The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, the Very Rev'd Sandy Grant seconding

The General Synod receives the reports of the National Anglican Family Violence Project commissioned by the Anglican Church of Australia Standing Committee:

- I. National Anglican Family Violence Research Report: for the Anglican Church of Australia
- II. NAFVP Prevalence Study Report,
- III. NAFVP Clergy and Lay Leaders Study Report, and
- IV. NAFVP Experience Study Report, and
- a) notes the 28 findings of the Research Project
- b) laments the violence which has been suffered by some of our members and repents of the part we have played in allowing an environment where violence went unaddressed
- requests dioceses to respond to the findings of the National Family Violence Project and to introduce and develop primary prevention strategies and pastoral responses relating to family violence.

Carried

## 64/18 16.5 Ten Commitments for Prevention and Response to Domestic and Family Violence in the Anglican Church of Australia

Dr Karin Sowada moving, the Rev'd Tracy Lauersen seconding

The General Synod

- a) notes the development of the Ten Commitments for Prevention and Response to Domestic and Family Violence in the Anglican Church of Australia as a best practice guide for the Anglican Church of Australia to prevent and respond to violence.
- b) notes the endorsement of the Ten Commitments for Prevention and Response to Domestic and Family Violence in the Anglican Church of Australia by the Standing Committee
- c) thanks those dioceses who have adopted the Ten Commitments in their recent diocesan Synods
- d) encourages remaining dioceses to adopt the Ten Commitments at their coming synods.

Carried

#### 16.6 Families and Culture Commission

Dr Karin Sowada moving, the Rev'd Tracy Lauersen seconding

The General Synod, noting the results of the National Anglican Family Violence Research Project, the scope of prevention work outlined in the Ten Commitments made by the Church and the long-term nature of culture change

- a) ratifies the new Families and Culture Commission established by the General Synod Standing Committee
- confirms the functions of the Families and Culture Commission to be

- to examine questions that relate to family violence affecting members of the Church, the drivers of violence and the well-being of families and women referred to it by the Primate, the Standing Committee or the General Synod, and to report thereon to the referring party and to the Standing Committee, and
- II. to make recommendations to the Standing Committee on matters relating to family violence affecting members of the Church, violence prevention and the well-being of families and women.
- c) confirms that any resolutions at this Synod which referred tasks to the Family Violence Working Group will now be referred to the Families and Culture Commission.

#### Amendment

Dr David Phillips moving, Mr Grant Chapman seconding Deleting the words "women" twice and adding the words "individuals" twice.

Lost

#### **Amendment**

The Very Rev'd Sandy Grant moving, the Rev'd David Ould seconding

Replace the words ", and women" twice and adding the words ", women and men" twice

Lost

#### R65/18 16.6 Families and Culture Commission

Dr Karin Sowada moving, the Rev'd Tracy Lauersen seconding

The General Synod, noting the results of the National Anglican Family Violence Research Project, the scope of prevention work outlined in the Ten Commitments made by the Church and the long-term nature of culture change

- a) ratifies the new Families and Culture Commission established by the General Synod Standing Committee
- b) confirms the functions of the Families and Culture Commission to be
  - to examine questions that relate to family violence affecting members of the Church, the drivers of violence and the well-being of families and women referred to it by the Primate, the Standing Committee or the General Synod, and to report thereon to the referring party and to the Standing Committee, and
  - II. to make recommendations to the Standing Committee on matters relating to family violence affecting members of the Church, violence prevention and the well-being of families and women.
- c) confirms that any resolutions at this Synod which referred tasks to the Family Violence Working Group will now be referred to the Families and Culture Commission.

Carried

Synod adjourned at 12.28pm for lunch Synod resumed at 1.30pm

The Rt Rev'd Keith Joseph sought leave to make Motion 23.8 an order of the day for Wednesday, May 11, 2022 Leave was granted.

#### ORDER OF THE DAY - Tuesday 10 May 2022 at 1.30pm

#### 16.3 Motions relating to Financial Matters

Mr Keith Stephens moving, The Right Rev'd Dr Michael Stead seconding

R66/18 16.3.1 That the Treasurer's report on the financial position of the General Synod at 31 December 2021 be received.

Carried

16.3.2 That the audited financial statements of the General Synod for the year ended 31 December 2021, as adopted by Standing Committee, be received.

Carried

R68/18 16.3.3 That the General Synod budget for the year ended 31 December 2022, as approved by Standing Committee, be received.

Carried

#### 16.7 Resourcing the Families and Culture Commission

The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, Dr Karin Sowada seconding

The General Synod, noting the results of the National Anglican Family Violence Research Project, the scope of prevention work outlined in the Ten Commitments made by the Church and the long-term nature of culture change, supports the allocation of General Synod resources to meet the objectives of the Family and Culture Commission, and

- a. requests the Treasurer to recast the General Synod budget to allocate \$52,000 to the Family and Culture Commission in the 2022 General Synod Statutory Assessment budget and \$186,000 in the 2023 budget and 2024-25 forecasts; and
- requests Standing Committee to apply this funding to staffing b. and resourcing the Anglican Church of Australia's prevention and response to family violence affecting its members.

#### Amendment

R67/18

Dr Laurence Scandrett moving,

Deleting the words:

"(a) requests the Treasurer to recast the General Synod budget to allocate \$52,000 to the Family and Culture Commission in the 2022 General Synod Statutory Assessment budget and \$186,000 in the 2023 budget and 2024-25 forecasts; and"

#### Adding the words:

"(a) requests the Standing Committee to consider how to provide additional funding for the Families and Culture Commission for 2023 to 2025 without increasing the Statutory Assessment or Special Assessment, including giving consideration to drawing down from the reserves for this purpose; and"

That the amendment be agreed to: Electronic voting results 114 Yes 127 No

Lost

#### Amendment

Mr Greg Hammond OAM moving, Deleting the words:

"b. requests Standing Committee to apply this funding to staffing and resourcing the Anglican Church of Australia's prevention and response to family violence affecting its members."

#### Adding the words:

"b. requests Standing Committee to apply this funding to staffing and resourcing the Anglican Church of Australia's prevention and response to family violence affecting its members; and

c. requests Standing Committee to investigate opportunities for philanthropic and community funding to support the objectives of the Family and Culture Commission."

That the amendment be agreed to:

Carried

#### R69/18 16.7 Resourcing the Families and Culture

The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, Dr Karin Sowada seconding

The General Synod, noting the results of the National Anglican Family Violence Research Project, the scope of prevention work outlined in the Ten Commitments made by the Church and the long-term nature of culture change, supports the allocation of General Synod resources to meet the objectives of the Family and Culture Commission, and

- a. requests the Treasurer to recast the General Synod budget to allocate \$52,000 to the Family and Culture Commission in the 2022 General Synod Statutory Assessment budget and \$186,000 in the 2023 budget and 2024-25 forecasts; and
- b. requests Standing Committee to apply this funding to staffing and resourcing the Anglican Church of Australia's prevention and response to family violence affecting its members; and
- requests Standing Committee to investigate opportunities for philanthropic and community funding to support the objectives of the Family and Culture Commission.

Carried

Synod adjourned at 3.01pm for afternoon tea Synod resumed at 3.30pm

ORDER OF THE DAY – Tuesday 10 May at 3.30pm Marriage, Human Sexuality and Same-sex relationships

20.3 Statements as to the Faith, Ritual, Ceremonial or Discipline of this Church made under Section 4 of the Constitution (Diocese of Sydney)

In accordance with Rule V, the text of this statement, together with an Explanatory Memorandum, was sent to all members of the General Synod prior to the Synod. The Statement and Explanatory Memorandum are available at <a href="https://anglican.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/GS18-Statements-as-to-the-faith-ritual-ceremonial-or-discipline-of-this-Church.pdf">https://anglican.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/GS18-Statements-as-to-the-faith-ritual-ceremonial-or-discipline-of-this-Church.pdf</a>

Rule V outlines the procedures for submitting, circulating and considering Statements

#### Statement 1 - Marriage as the union of a man and a woman

Archbishop Kanishka Raffel moving, The Rev'd Natalie Rosner seconding

The motion is presented below in its amended form at the end of the business session Tuesday 10 May 2022.

Pursuant to the authority recognised in s.4 and s.26 of the Constitution to make statements as to the faith, ritual, ceremonial or discipline of this Church, and in accordance with the procedures set out in Rule V, the General Synod hereby states:

- 1. The faith, ritual, ceremonial and discipline of this Church reflect and uphold marriage as it was ordained from the beginning, being the exclusive union of one man and one woman arising from mutual promises of lifelong faithfulness, which is in accordance with the teaching of Christ that, "from the beginning the Creator made them male and female", and in marriage, "a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Matt 19:4-5).
- 2. In 2004 (Resolutions 62/04, 63/04) General Synod did 'not condone the liturgical blessing of same sex relationships' nor 'the ordination of people in committed same sex relationships' recognising that both matters were subject to 'ongoing debate in this church and that we all have an obligation to listen to each other with respect.
- 3. In 2017 the Commonwealth Parliament amended the definition of 'marriage' in the Marriage Act (1961) to mean 'the union of 2 people to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life', thereby making lawful the marriage of two persons of the same sex and presenting this church with a profoundly altered missional and pastoral context.
- 4. The solemnisation of a marriage between a same-sex couple is contrary to the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church.
- Any rite or ceremony that purports to bless a same-sex marriage is not in accordance with the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church.

#### Amendment

The Rt Rev'd Jonathan Holland moving, the Rev'd Paula Bullock seconding

Deleting the words as stuck out:

- 2. The solemnisation of a marriage between a same-sex couple is contrary to the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church.
- 3. Any rite or ceremony that purports to bless a same-sex marriage is not in accordance with the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church.

Adding the words as underlined and italicised:

- 2. The <u>Currently the</u> solemnisation of a marriage between a same-sex couple is <u>unlawful within</u> contrary to the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church (<u>Appellate Tribunal</u> 2020, Wangaratta, 39, 70-732, 123).
- 3. Any rite or ceremony that purports to bless a same-sex marriage that conforms to the constitutions and canons in force in a diocese of this church from time to time is not unlawful in this Church.is not in accordance with the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church.

The amendment be agreed to: Electronic voting results 91 Yes 152 No

Lost

#### **Amendment**

Dr Jane Fremantle moving, Dr Leanne Beagley seconding Statement 1 – Marriage as the union of a man and woman

Adding the words after existing sub-section1:

- 2. In 2004 (Resolutions 62/04, 63/04) General Synod did 'not condone the liturgical blessing of same sex relationships' nor 'the ordination of people in committed same sex relationships' recognising that both matters were subject to 'ongoing debate in this church and that we all have an obligation to listen to each other with respect.'
- 3. In 2017 the Commonwealth Parliament amended the definition of 'marriage' in the Marriage Act (1961) to mean 'the union of 2 people to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life', thereby making lawful the marriage of two persons of the same sex and presenting this church with a profoundly altered missional and pastoral context.

And renumber existing 2. and 3. to become 4. and 5.

The amendment be agreed to: Electronic voting results 195 Yes 49 No

Carried

#### Amendment

The Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer moving, The Rev'd Mark Lindsay seconding

Deleting the words that are struck out:

1. The faith, ritual, ceremonial and discipline of this Church reflect and uphold marriage as it was ordained from the beginning, being the exclusive union of one man and one woman arising from mutual promises of lifelong faithfulness, which is in accordance with the teaching of Christ that, "from the beginning the Creator made them male and female", and in marriage, "a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Matt 19:4-5).

Adding the words that are underlined and italicised:

1. <u>Currently, the</u> The faith, ritual, ceremonial and discipline of this Church reflect and uphold marriage as it was ordained from the beginning, <u>as</u> being the exclusive union of one man and one woman arising from mutual promises of lifelong faithfulness, which is in accordance with <u>Matt 19.4-5</u>: the teaching of Christ that, "from the one who made them at the beginning the Creator made them male and female", <u>and said</u>, and in marriage, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Matt 19:4-5).

The amendment be agreed to: Electronic voting results 93 Yes 153 No

Lost

#### Amendment

Mr Wayne Harris moving, the Rev'd Prof Peter Sandeman seconding

Deleting the words:

In Point 1 it was ordained from the beginning

Point 1 which is in accordance with the teaching of Christ that, "from the beginning the Creator made them male and female", and in marriage, "a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Matt 19:4-5).

Point 2 is

Point 3 Any is not

Adding the words:

Point 1 traditional
reflects and upholds

Point 2 has traditionally been considered to be

Point 3 While any has not traditionally been considered to be this church remains open to the leading of the Holy Spirit as we seek to discern how to respond to the emerging understanding of human sexuality.

To reflect the following:

- 1. The traditional faith, ritual, ceremonial and discipline of this Church reflects and upholds marriage as, being the exclusive union of one man and one woman arising from mutual promises of lifelong faithfulness.
- 2. The solemnisation of a marriage between a same-sex couple has traditionally been considered to be contrary to the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church.
- 3. While any rite or ceremony that purports to bless a same-sex marriage has not traditionally been considered to be in accordance with the teaching of Christ and the faith, ritual, ceremonial and/or discipline of this Church, this church remains open to the leading of the Holy Spirit as we seek to discern how to respond to the emerging understanding of human sexuality.

The amendment be agreed to: Electronic voting results 96 Yes 147 No

Lost

Synod adjo	ourned at 5.30pm	
	-	President
		Date
Minutes of the Second day of Australia on Tuesday 10 May	the Eighteenth General Synod of 2022	f the Anglican Church of
Confirmed by Minutes Readin	g Committee:	
The Ven Dane Courtney		
·		
Dr Ruth Kerr		
-		