

**Oxford Diocesan Synod
Saturday 10 June 2023**

The meeting will be held on Zoom from 9.15am to 1pm

AGENDA

Time	Item	Mins
09:15	Worship including Dwelling in the Word	20
09:35	<p>Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 11 March 2023 (Previously Circulated)</p> <p>Notices</p> <p>Questions under S.O(70) A written response will be available if questions received.</p>	15
09:50	<p>Approval of revised General Synod environmental motion</p> <p>Chair to move this composite motion for consideration by General Synod:</p> <p>‘That this Synod, affirming the fifth mark of mission, concerned by the scientific evidence that climate change is proceeding at a rapid rate and by the impact of climate events, and seeking to build on the decisions taken with respect to GS 2159:</p> <p>a) urges the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England to prioritise investment in renewable energy;</p> <p>b) calls on all parts of the Church of England to review their policies and procedures, in order to ensure that they give due priority to creation care;</p> <p>c) urges the Church of England to further develop pre- and post-ordination and lay training to deepen understanding in how care for the earth is part of our Christian faith and a missional imperative;</p> <p>d) urges all parts of the Church of England to seek to support, through prayer, advocacy and practical action, the poorest in the world who are suffering the most from the impacts of climate change, in the awareness that our nation has been among those who have benefited most from the emissions that have caused the crisis;</p> <p>e) commits earnestly and regularly to pray - and to promote prayer - about the climate and wider environmental crisis.</p>	5

	<p>(f) Calls upon all institutions of the Church of England to make urgent practical preparations for the delivery of substantial reduction of the Church’s carbon footprint, including, but not restricted to, the following immediate actions in respect of Church buildings:</p> <p>(i) ensuring that the NCIs are adequately resourced to provide DACs, Buildings Departments, Education Departments and others with authoritative national guidance notes, advice and training on key technical and procedural questions relating to adaptation of buildings for the net zero target; and</p> <p>(ii) ensuring that Parish Buying and other national-level entities have the capacity to engage with manufacturers and suppliers of products and processes recommended for making our buildings more efficient, with a view to using the scale of the national net zero project to achieve both sympathetic design and economies of scale on cost.’</p> <p>(g) requests Bishops and the Liturgical Commission to encourage confirmation services to include an additional question ‘Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth?’</p> <p>(h) asks that HM Government reviews the weight given to the environmental public benefit in planning regulations to facilitate the installation of renewable technologies, including for buildings that are listed or in conservation areas.’</p> <p><i>Note: The above motion comprises as (a) to (f) the motion passed by Diocesan Synod on 14 March 2020, which it is not proposed to amend; as (h) the motion (with summarised wording) agreed by Diocesan Synod in March 2023; and (g) comes from Bishop Steven’s June 2022 Presidential Address to Diocesan Synod. This composite wording will be on the agenda for General Synod in July 2023 subject to formal agreement by Diocesan Synod at this meeting. Proceeding in this way avoids the need for (g) and (h) to have to be moved as separate amendments in General Synod. It is intended to take this motion as a formal item moved by the chair without speeches. If any Synod member however requires an amendment to be considered they must submit that to the Synod Secretary by 2 June 2023.</i></p>	
09:55	<p>Presidential Address and response The Bishop of Oxford</p>	25
10:20	<p>Annual Report and Accounts of the ODBE Paper ODS 23.05</p> <p>The report will be introduced by the Bishop of Buckingham, as Chair of the Board of Education, and Mr Tony Wilson, Diocesan Director of Education, who will give a short presentation.</p> <p>There will be a brief opportunity for questions.</p> <p>The Chair to move: <i>‘That this Synod take note of the annual report and accounts of the Diocesan Board of Education’.</i></p>	25

10:45	Finance: Draft Budget 2024 and Share Apportionment Paper ODS 23.06	25
	The Chair of the Board of Finance, Sir Hector Sants, will introduce the item. There will be an opportunity for questions. The Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance to move: <i>'That this Synod takes note of paper ODS 23.06'</i>	
11.10	Coffee	15
11.25	AGM of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance The Chair of the Board of Finance, Sir Hector Sants Papers: AGM Agenda and 2022 Minutes Directors' Report and Financial Statements 2022 Synod will adjourn for the Annual General Meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (see the separate agenda and papers). The Synod will then reconvene.	5
11:30	Children, Young People and Schools Paper ODS 23.07	45
	The item will be introduced by the Bishop of Dorchester, the Rt Revd Gavin Collins. There will be a presentation by the Discipleship Enabler team (Ian Macdonald, Yvonne Morris and James Wood) and the Chaplaincy Adviser (Charlie Kerr), with time for discussion in groups and an opportunity for questions or comments.	
12.15	Christ Church, Oxford Governance Review Paper ODS 23.08	25
	The Bishop of Oxford will introduce the item. There will be opportunity for questions.	
12.40	Annual Review (Approved by Bishop's Council) Paper ODS 23.09	10
	The annual review approved by Bishop's Council will be introduced on behalf of Bishop's Council by a member of Bishop's Council and there will be an opportunity for questions or comments. The Chair to move: <i>'That this Synod take note of the Annual Review of the Diocese of Oxford'</i> .	
12:50	Reflection (Mr Peter Foot) Blessing (Bishop of Reading)	10
13:00	Finish	-

NOTES:

1.	Any apologies for absence should be made in advance of the meeting to the Diocesan Secretary via the Clerk of the Synod, Sam Adams. Email: synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org	
2.	The Annual Report of the Diocesan Safeguarding Panel is being circulated for the information of members of Diocesan Synod. It is being scheduled for debate every two years and so will next be on the Synod agenda in 2024. In the meantime, any questions on it should be addressed to Louise Whitehead, louise.whitehead@oxford.anglican.org .	
3.	HOW TO JOIN Diocese of Oxford is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. On arrival, please wait to be admitted. The link will be sent by email to all Synod members.	
4.	On arrival, members will be asked to wait to be admitted from the waiting room.	
5.	The attention of members is drawn to the fact that under the Synod's Standing Orders: a) the period of notice for new business has expired, save for urgent or other especially important business included by direction of the President; b) notice of motions arising out of the business on the agenda and of amendments to motions must be received by the Secretary of the Synod (the Diocesan Secretary) by Friday 2 June 2023 c) notice of questions under Standing Order 70 must be received by the Secretary of the Synod by Friday 2 June 2023 Email: diosec@oxford.anglican.org copied to synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org . Please ensure any amendments raised or questions have been acknowledged as received safely.	
6.	Being mindful that this is a formal gathering of the Synod and Standing Orders apply, when wishing to speak, members are asked to raise their hand using the 'raise hand' function button found in the 'reactions' on the bottom bar. Please give your name and number if known, or Deanery or relevant position. The Chair will invite members to speak in order and determine length of speech. During the meeting the 'chat' function will not be available to communicate with 'everyone' during debate. All questions and comments should be directed through the Chair for the relevant items using the 'raise hand' function as above. Only Synod members are permitted to speak except by permission of the Chair. Members will be kept on mute except when invited to speak and are asked to keep contributions brief to maximise the number of people who can speak.	