



**OXFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD**

**and**

**BOARD OF FINANCE**

**at**

**St Andrew's Church, Hatters Lane,  
High Wycombe HP13 7NH**

**AGENDA**

**Saturday 15 November 2014**

**9.30 am**

***Living Faith – our Purpose***

*To join with God in creating a caring, sustainable and growing  
Christian presence in every part of the diocese of Oxford,  
enabling every Christian and every Christian community to live  
and share the love of God, seen in the life of Jesus Christ.*

## NOTES

1. 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 specially 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 (Diocesan Secretary) by Friday 7 November;
  - c. notice of questions under Standing Order 70 must be received by the Secretary of the Synod by Friday 7 November;
  - d. speeches shall not exceed 5 minutes or, in the case of a member introducing a report or motion, 10 minutes.
2. The meeting will start at 9.30am and is anticipated to finish by 1.15pm.
3. Parking is available nearby, at Highcrest Community School. **We are asked not to park on the grass or on the road by the church.**
4. On arrival, members are asked to confirm their attendance by placing in the box provided either the slip included on the back page of this agenda or a card available from the reception desk.
5. Any apologies for absence should be made to the Secretary of the Synod, Rosemary Pearce, at Diocesan Church House.
6. Items may be taken earlier, but should not be taken later than the times indicated on the agenda.
7. When speaking, members are asked to come to the microphone, and to give their name and Synod number. There is an induction loop in the church.
8. Parish share receipts will be tabled for members' information, but are not on the agenda for discussion.
9. Copies of the 2015 diocesan calendar will be available for collection.
10. St Andrew's Bookshop will be providing a bookstall at the meeting.
11. The dates of the next meetings of the Synod are 21 March, 20 June and 14 November 2015, all starting at 9.30 am at St Andrew's Church, Hatters Lane, High Wycombe HP13 7NH.

**1. OPENING WORSHIP**

The meeting will begin with worship led by members from Wendover deanery.

**2. NOTICES AND WELCOME**

**3. PROCLAMATION OF AMENDING CANON NO. 31**

**4. PROCLAMATION OF ACT OF SYNOD RESCINDING  
EPISCOPAL MINISTRY ACT OF SYNOD 1993**

**5. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 21 June 2014.

**6. QUESTIONS**

The deadline for questions to be received is Friday 7 November 2014.

10.00

**7. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

The Bishop of Dorchester will give a presidential address.

10.20

**8. STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION**

Imam Monawar Hussain will speak on the mainstream Islamic response to the beliefs and practices of Islamic State.

10.45

**9. LIVING FAITH: THE FUTURE**

**ODS 14.12**

Presentation on behalf of the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee.

11.00

**10. AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS**

**ODS 14.13**

Mrs Judith Scott, Chair of the House of Laity, on behalf of the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee, to move:

*“That this Synod approves the amendments to Standing Orders set out in the Appendix to paper ODS 14.13.”*

**11. ELECTED REPRESENTATION ON DIOCESAN  
SYNOD, 2015–18**

**ODS 14.14**

Mrs Judith Scott, Chair of the House of Laity, on behalf of the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee, to move:

*“That the numbers of members to be elected in 2015 by the houses of laity and clergy of each deanery synod to the respective houses of the Diocesan Synod shall be in accordance with the scheme of representation set out in paper ODS 14.14; and*

*that the voting papers to be used in the elections to the Diocesan Synod in 2015 shall be in the form set out in section 7 of Appendix 1 to the Church Representation Rules, i.e. that the elections be conducted by the first-past-the-post system.”*

COFFEE (11.15–11.35)

11.35

**12. PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION: DISINVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES** ODS 14.15  
A & B

Revd Dr Darrell Hannah to propose and Revd Hugh Lee to second:

*“That this Synod:*

- (i) recognising the damage being done to the planet through the burning of fossil fuels;*
- (ii) aware of the huge reserves held by gas, oil and coal extraction industries;*
- (iii) committing itself to taking seriously our Christian responsibility to care for the planet (“the earth is the Lord’s”);*
- (iv) acknowledging the financial responsibilities of the Church’s national investing bodies;*
- (v) noting that a review of recommended ethical investment policy with regard to climate change has been begun by the Church of England Ethical Investment Advisory Group (‘EIAG’)*

*calls on the General Synod of the Church of England to debate a motion in the following form:*

*‘That this Synod:*

- (a) urges the National Investing Bodies to disinvest from all coal companies (except those investing in carbon capture) and tar sand companies at the earliest opportunity,*
- (b) urges the National Investing Bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from oil companies but not before three years from now,*
- (c) urges the National Investing Bodies to examine the possibility of disinvestment from natural gas companies but not before five years from now,*
- (d) calls on parishes and individual Christians to take steps to encourage the government and political parties to act quickly on climate change.’ ”*

12.30

**13. APPROVAL OF 2015 REVENUE BUDGET AND 2016/18 PROJECTIONS, AUTHORISATION OF EXPENDITURE AND DEANERY SHARE APPORTIONMENT** ODS 14.16

The Chair of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance to move:

*“That this Synod –*

- a) approves and adopts the 2015 budget set out below and in the accompanying papers;*
- b) authorises the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Board of Finance to expend in 2015 a sum not exceeding the following net amounts;*

BUDGET HEAD	AMOUNT (£000s)	Note	
<u>Net Revenue Costs</u>			
1	Parish Ministry	14,274	
2	Diocesan Administration and Finance	420	1
3	Mission in the Diocese	2,586	
4	National Church Responsibilities	991	
5	Transfers to Unrestricted Reserves	6	
	<i>Total Net Revenue Costs</i>	<u>18,277</u>	
<u>Funded by</u>			
6	Net Parish Share (see c) below)	18,277	
<u>Capital Costs</u>			
7	General Fund Expenditure	58	
8	Capital Transactions – Houses	-	2
9	Loan Transactions	-	3

c) requests that such expenditure be financed in part by deanery share apportionments for 2015 based on the figure of £18,277,000 being net of allowances for rebates and under-collection (Head 6);

d) notes, in the accompanying papers, the projections of income and expenditure for 2016 to 2018.”

*Notes*

1 Gross Administration and Finance £720,000, less income from investments and trusts £300,000, net £420,000.

2 2015 budget for Capital Transactions – Houses is a net cash inflow so no vote is required.

3 No funds need be voted for loan transactions as these are funded by the CBF.

1.00

**14. REFLECTION**

Mr Mark Johnson will reflect on the morning’s business.

**15. CLOSING PRAYERS**

Closing prayers will be led by the Bishop of Dorchester.

*The meeting is scheduled to end by 1.15pm.*