

O X F O R D D I O C E S A N S Y N O D

Oxford Diocesan Committee for Interfaith Concerns ('ODCIC'): Revised Constitution for Approval

The Synod is asked, in the context of the background and issues set out in paper ODS 15.4, to approve the revised constitution set out below.

Martin Gorick
Chair, ODCIC

February 2015

Constitution of the Committee for Interfaith Relations in the Diocese of Oxford

1. NAME

The Committee shall be known as the Committee for Interfaith Relations, in this Constitution referred to as "the Committee".

2. AIMS

- a) To support, resource and enable individuals, churches and clergy in 'Presence & Engagement' parishes.
- b) To keep members of the Diocese aware of other faith communities, and to enable and encourage constructive engagement with them.
- c) To be a forum in which interfaith concerns, as they affect the Diocese, can be explored.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) The Committee shall have up to fifteen members (excepting any executive officer appointed under paragraph 4a)), namely:-
 - i) A Chair appointed by the Bishop of Oxford, after consultation with the Committee, who if not a member of the Committee, shall thereby become a member ex-officio.
 - ii) One person nominated by each of the following bodies:-
The Bishop's Council and Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod
The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education
The Board of Mission

For the avoidance of doubt, nominees of the above bodies need not be members of the bodies concerned.

- iii) Up to five people invited to represent Presence & Engagement parishes and local interfaith groups.
 - iv) Up to two people nominated by the Bishop of Oxford.
 - v) Up to two people co-opted by the Committee.
 - vi) Two people elected by the Diocesan Synod.
- b) The members shall serve for three years from 1 January following triennial elections to the Diocesan Synod.
 - c) Five members shall constitute a quorum.

4. OFFICERS

- a) The Chair may appoint an executive officer, who shall thereby become a member of the Committee ex-officio.
- b) The Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance shall act as Treasurer of the Committee, or nominate someone to do so.

5. FUNCTIONING

- a) The Committee shall meet not fewer than three times in each year.
- b) Meetings shall be convened by the Chair.
- c) On the written request of five members a meeting shall be convened within 21 days.
- d) The Committee shall report to the Diocesan Synod.

6. FINANCE

The Committee produces a draft budget for approval by the Diocesan Synod.

Authorisation of payments will be made by the Chair.