



**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD
and
BOARD OF FINANCE**

**Notice of a meeting
to be held on:**

Saturday 14 March 2020

0915 am

**Green Park Conference Centre,
100 Longwater Avenue, Green Park, Reading RG2 6GP**

**For travel information visit:
<https://www.greenpark.co.uk/getting-around/>**

**Please ensure you read the notes at the
back of the agenda**

AGENDA

Paper No.

0915	1	<p>WELCOME AND OPENING WORSHIP</p> <p>The Synod will begin with worship led by Berkshire Archdeaconry with invited guests, Reading Area Green Christians (<i>further information at back of agenda</i>).</p>	
0935	2	<p>NOTICES</p>	
0940	3	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 16th November 2020 (<i>previously circulated</i>)</p>	
	4	<p>QUESTIONS</p> <p>The deadline for questions under Standing Order 70 to be received is: Friday 6 March 2020.</p>	
0945	5	<p>PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS</p> <p>The Rt Revd Colin Fletcher, Acting Bishop of Oxford</p>	
1000	6	<p>CLIMATE CHANGE</p> <p>Presentation by the Bishop of Reading, as Chair of the Environment Task Group.</p> <p><u>Motion passed by Reading, Witney and Bracknell deanery synods</u></p> <p>The motion to be moved, on behalf of the Deanery Synods of Bracknell, Reading and Witney:</p> <p>“That this Synod, affirming the fifth mark of mission (“to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth”), concerned by the scientific evidence that climate change is proceeding at a rapid rate and by the impact of climate events:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) urges the Oxford Diocesan Synod and the General Synod of the Church of England to declare a Climate Emergency;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) urges the Diocese of Oxford, the General Synod and all Anglican leaders to speak out about climate change and its impacts;</p>	<p><i>ODS 20.01 (a) & (b)</i></p>

	<p>c) urges the Diocese of Oxford, the General Synod and the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England to work to achieve year-on-year reductions consonant with a target of reaching 70% cuts by 2030 and net zero by 2035, or as soon thereafter as is possible;</p> <p>d) urges the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England and the Church Commissioners to prioritise investment in renewable energy, and that appropriate committees prioritise creation care in their administrative processes;</p> <p>e) urges Anglican leaders 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>f) urges Anglican leaders and all Christians to seek to support 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 has caused the crisis;</p> <p>g) commends all Christians to consider their individual responsibilities and how they may change and engage in actions that care for creation;</p> <p>h) commits to pray earnestly and regularly about the climate crisis: for all peoples to value God’s earth and its creatures and for urgent action by individuals, communities and nations to act to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.”</p> <p>Proposed amendments to the motion may be submitted by any member of Synod and should reach the Synod Secretary by no later than Friday 6th March 2020. Email: diosec@oxford.anglican.org</p>	
1100	<p>COFFEE</p> <p><i>During the break there will be a meeting for the House of Clergy to elect a new Chair, who will succeed the Revd Canon Sue Booy on 1st April 2020.</i></p>	

1130	7	<p>MUTUAL SUPPORT <i>(Background Paper)</i></p> <p>The Synod will hear perspectives from representatives of two northern dioceses, each sharing experiences of financial and resourcing challenges.</p> <p>The Ven Malcolm Chamberlain, Archdeacon of Sheffield (<i>The Diocese of Sheffield</i>), and Canon Shane Waddle, Diocesan Secretary (<i>Diocese of Newcastle</i>).</p> <p>Following this there will be an opportunity for questions and response.</p>	ODS 20.02
1230	8	<p>ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEAN AND CANONS OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, OXFORD FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2019 <i>(Paper to note)</i></p> <p>The Very Revd Prof. Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, on behalf of the Dean and Canons will speak to the Report and Financial Review provided, illustrating the life and work of the Cathedral in the year ended 31 July 2019, and its future plans. There will be a brief opportunity for questions.</p>	ODS 20.03
1245	9	<p>SAFEGUARDING</p> <p>Mr Peter Hay, Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Panel, will give an update on safeguarding, particularly the Past Cases Review exercise that has just begun.</p>	ODS 20.04
1300	10	<p>FINANCIAL YEAR END RESULTS OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE</p> <p>The Revd John Tattersall, Chair of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance will give a verbal update on the financial out-turn for the Year ended 31st December 2019.</p>	<i>(Verbal)</i>
1305	11	<p>REFLECTION</p> <p>The Revd Canon Sue Booy will give a personal reflection of her time as Chair of the House of Clergy and also a brief synopsis of some of the highlights of the work of the General Synod, which members may find helpful in advance of the 2020 elections.</p> <p>The 'Business Done' at the February 2020 Group of Sessions is summarised at: Link</p>	
1315	12	<p>CLOSING PRAYERS</p> <p>Closing prayers will be led by the Bishop of Reading.</p>	
		<i>The meeting is scheduled to finish at 1.20pm</i>	

Please observe the notes that follow

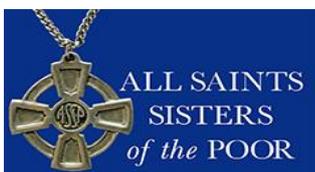
NOTES

1	<p>The attention of members is drawn to the fact that under the Synod's Standing Orders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">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 (the Diocesan Secretary) by Friday 6 March 2020.c) notice of questions under Standing Order 70 must be received by the Secretary of the Synod by Friday 6 March 2020.d) speeches shall not exceed 5 minutes or, in the case of a member introducing a report or motion, 10 minutes.
2	<p>The meeting will start at 09.15 am and is anticipated to finish by 1.20pm.</p>
3	<p>Parking is available near the venue. There is a large multi-storey car park. Information on travel to/from the venue can be found at the following link: https://www.greenpark.co.uk/getting-around/</p>
4	<p>On arrival, members are asked to confirm their attendance by signing in at the desk.</p>
5	<p>Any apologies for absence should be made in advance of the meeting to the Clerk of the Synod, Caroline Todd, at Diocesan Church House. Email: synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org</p>
6	<p>When speaking, members are asked to come to the microphone, and to give their name and Synod number. This can be found on your badge.</p>
7	<p>Photography, filming and audio recording We aim to demonstrate our governance processes in action and want to encourage people to stand for deanery and diocesan synod. Photography and/or filming may take place during this meeting. Still and video images captured by Diocesan staff today may be used in online and print materials by the Diocese of Oxford. <i>For any questions or concerns relating to the use of your image, please email</i> communications@oxford.anglican.org or speak to the Clerk to the Synod, Caroline Todd on the day.</p>

8	<p>The date of the next meeting of the Synod will be Saturday 13 June 2020. This will be held at Milton Hill House, Abingdon</p> <p>Last date for new business for agenda is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday 9th May 2020 <p>New business should be sent to the Synod Secretary at diosec@oxford.anglican.org</p>
9	<p>We want to send a message of positive encouragement for as many people to car share where possible. If you might be willing to do this, please contact people in your deaneries direct. If you don't have contact details, you can do this direct from the website as shown below:</p>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>Contact your Diocesan Synod member</p> <p>Choose Member to contact</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; width: 150px;"> Select Recipient </div> <p>Useful links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out about Diocesan Synod • Roles and responsibilities • Standing Orders </div> </div> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"><i>Synod members ask questions about the Common Vision strategy – November 2018</i></p>	

Continuing Praying Presence

The Synod will be joined by members of the order of All Saints Sisters of the Poor, who will provide a continuing praying presence during our meeting. We would encourage you to make contact with Sister Jane during the meeting should you wish to do so.



Founded in London in 1851, we are an Anglican religious community of women in Oxford. We have an active ministry upheld and enriched by prayer. Our aim is to be channels of God's love, in whatever way we believe the Holy Spirit is leading us.

Reading Area Green Christians

We are an ecumenical group who formed in the summer of 2019 to support and encourage all those active in Creation Care in their churches, as well as to arrange occasional Reading-wide events. We are linked to Churches Together in Reading and to Green Christian. There are currently 37 people on the email circulation list and active members include people from Tilehurst, Wargrave and Woodley as well as more central Reading churches.

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On 13 November 2019 we organised an event in conjunction with the Diocese of Oxford at St Laurence’s Church, which we called Christians Together on Climate. This was designed to help church-goers to equip their congregations to respond to the climate emergency across different aspects of church life. The event included stalls from local community environment groups and talks about EcoChurch, the diocese’s energy audits and the school climate strike. These were followed by workshops on worship, campaigning, energy efficiency and engaging with the wider community. Sixty people attended and more details can be found at <http://greeningstjohns.blogspot.com/p/christians-together-on-climate.html>.

We are now planning a Service of Lament to be held at Reading Minster later in the year and we will be encouraging our churches to respond to the borough council’s consultation on its climate change strategy which should be available in the next few days. Anyone who would like to know more or join the email list can contact Joanna Laynesmith at j.laynesmith@gmail.com.

Diocesan Synod – Future meeting dates	
2020	
Saturday 13 th June	Milton Hill House Abingdon
Saturday 14 th November	Venue to be confirmed
2021	
Saturday 20 th March	Venue tbc
Saturday 19 th June	Venue tbc
Saturday 13 th November	First meeting of new triennium following elections