

## DIOCESAN SYNOD

Saturday 15 October 2016

### Anglican Communion Covenant Referral to Diocesan Synods

In January 2011, Bishop's Council asked that a full debate on the motion referred from General Synod '*That this Synod approve the draft Act of Synod adopting the Anglican Communion Covenant*' be held at the March 2012 meeting of the Diocesan Synod. The purpose of the debate was to 'take note' of the referral from General Synod and to have an opportunity to hear the issues before Synod was invited to refer the matter to Deanery Synods for further consideration.

The background to the debate was set out and explained in **(GS Misc 971)** [www.churchofengland.org/media/1161076/gsmisc971.pdf](http://www.churchofengland.org/media/1161076/gsmisc971.pdf) and **(GS Misc 966)** [www.churchofengland.org/media/1161753/gsmisc966.pdf](http://www.churchofengland.org/media/1161753/gsmisc966.pdf).

The motion was defeated and the following motion was debated and carried overwhelmingly with 9 abstentions:

*'That this Synod:*

- a) *rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason;*
- b) *thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and*
- c) *call on the House of Bishops:*
  - i) *to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);*
  - ii) *to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and*
  - iii) *to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference. '*

**This motion is now out of date, and, in order to withdraw it from the list of Diocesan Synod motions to be debated by General Synod, the Bishop's Council recommends that Diocesan Synod rescinds this motion.**