



St Albans Diocesan Synod

Saturday 16 June 2018

All Saints Academy
Dunstable

President: The Lord Bishop of St Albans

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

A meeting of the Diocesan Synod will be held at **All Saints Academy, Houghton Road, Dunstable LU5 5AB** on **Saturday, 16 June 2018**. There is parking within the grounds, but members are encouraged to share cars where possible.

The Session will commence at 09.30 am and is expected to finish not later than 12.40 pm.

Please bring with you this Agenda and supporting papers.

Members will be requested to sign an attendance sheet on arrival. Anyone wishing to attend who is not a member must contact Ruth Carl (01727 818131 diosecpa@stalbans.anglican.org) in advance so their name can be added to the list of attendees.

If you wish to move any amendment to the specified resolutions, at least 7 days' notice must be given. Any amendment must, therefore, reach the Secretary to the Synod at Holywell Lodge, 41 Holywell Hill, St Albans on or before **FRIDAY 8 June** and it will be circulated among members at the opening of the Synod. If such notice is not given, an amendment may then only be moved under the provisions of Standing Orders 21, 22 and 42 - 48. Copies of Standing Orders have already been circulated to all members. Spare copies will be available at Synod.

Holywell Lodge
41 Holywell Hill
ST ALBANS
AL1 1HE

Telephone : 01727 854532
Fax : 01727 844469
e-mail : spope@stalbans.anglican.org

Susan Pope
Diocesan Secretary

25 May 2018

Please refer to the **Diocesan Synod** webpage
<http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/diocesan-synod/>
for .pdf copies of Synod Agendas and accompanying paperwork,
dates of future Synods and other information.

AGENDA

9.30 am

1. PRAYERS

To be led by the Reverend Steve Wood (Assistant Rural Dean Luton Deanery), the Reverend David Kesterton (Vicar, Luton All Saints with St Peter) and Canon Peter Adams (Luton Deanery).

2. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 3.** To confirm the **MINUTES** of the last meeting held on 10 March 2018 (enclosed).

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS & BUSINESS ITEMS

5. PROCLAMATION OF AMENDING CANONS NOS. 36 and 37

- (i) The Diocesan Secretary will proclaim Amending Canon No. 36, which amends Canon B8, a Notice of which will be displayed in the Hall.
- (ii) The Diocesan Secretary will proclaim Amending Canon No. 37, which amends Canon B38, a Notice of which will be displayed in the Hall.

Details are available on the Diocesan Synod webpage.

10.00 am

6. ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2017

With the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Chairs (or representatives) of the Diocesan Board of Education, the Verulam House Fund Trust and the Board of Patronage will present their reports for 2017 and deal with questions.

The published Annual Report for the Diocese, including the activities of Boards and Committees will be available on the Diocesan website shortly before the meeting and circulated at the meeting.

There will be an opportunity for members to ask questions.

The following Motion will then be moved from the Chair:

"That the Annual Report of the Diocese for 2017 be now received."

[The Reports of the Boards and Committees from which this is drawn can be found on the Diocesan website at: <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/16-june-2018/>. Some copies will also be available for reference at Synod.]

7. REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE FOR 2017

Canon David Nye, Chairman of the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance, will present the Report and Accounts of the Diocesan Board of Finance for 2017 and give an update on the current financial position. Canon Nye will then move:

"That the Report and Accounts of the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance for the year 2017, as laid on the table, be now received."

A copy of the abridged Report and Accounts for 2017 is enclosed.

[N.B. The enclosed financial information is an abridgement of the full financial statements of the Board for the year ended 31 December 2017. This has been provided to give background information to the presentation of the Accounts to Synod by the Chairman of the DBF. The full financial statements including the Diocesan Pastoral Account are available either on paper or electronically upon request to the Diocesan Office (please contact Ruth Carl: diosecpa@stalbans.anglican.org). The full financial statements have been audited by Buzzacott LLP and their audit opinion on those accounts is unqualified. The full accounts were approved

by the Diocesan Board of Finance on Monday 14 May 2018 and have been filed with Companies House and the Charity Commission in accordance with the required deadlines.]

8. QUESTIONS

Questions should have been submitted by 18 May 2018, unless the President has given special dispensation to accept shorter notice.

Three questions have been received as set out in the enclosed paper **DS/18/03**.

The answers to the Questions will be tabled at Synod in a Second Notice Paper.

11.00 - 11.20 am (approx.) COFFEE

9. DIOCESAN MISSION AND PASTORAL COMMITTEE – PROPOSED CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION

On behalf of the Bishop's Council, the Bishop of Bedford will introduce this item and then move:

- "i) That from 1 January 2019, the functions of the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee shall be carried out by the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee and via the meetings of Rural Deans as set out in **DS/18/04**.*
- ii) That from 1 January 2019, the members of the Committee should be members of the Bishop's Council as set out in **DS/18/04**.*
- iii) As a consequence of this, Standing Order 103 shall be amended, as set out in enclosed paper **DS/18/04**".*

A paper **DS/18/04** is enclosed.

10. ST ALBANS DEANERY SYNOD MOTION

With the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mr Simon Baynes (St Albans Deanery and General Synod member) will give a presentation and then move:

"That this Synod call on the General Synod to debate a motion in the following form:

That this Synod:

- (i) Recognise the disruption caused to a parish and its mission during a vacancy;*
- (ii) Request the Archbishops' Council to review within 12 months the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 with a view to ensuring that:
 - a) The process for filling a vacancy in a benefice is begun as soon as practicable after the bishop becomes aware that the benefice is to become vacant;*
 - b) All concerned in the process of filling vacancies, including patrons, bishops, and parochial church councils, co-operate so that vacancies are filled as soon as reasonably practicable".**

A paper **(DS/18/05)** is enclosed.

11. PRESENTATION ON ADVERTISING AND GAMBLING

The Archdeacon of St Albans will give a presentation and then move:

"That this Synod call on the General Synod to debate a motion in the following form:

That this Synod, noting the greatly increased levels of gambling advertising and research showing significant levels of gambling by children:

- (a) call on Her Majesty's Government to reduce the quantity and pervasiveness of gambling advertising and introduce a*

mandatory levy on gambling firms to fund independently commissioned research, education, and treatment programs;

(b) encourage churches to be an open place for people who have problems with gambling to seek support; and

(c) ask churches to support initiatives which educate children and young people about risks related to gambling”.

Paper **(DS/18/06)** is enclosed.

Synod should finish no later than 12.40 pm.