CHAIR OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY

2024

**Introduction:**

The House of Laity of the Winchester Diocesan Synod is required to elect a new Chair for the next triennium.

Elections will take place at a special meeting of the House of Laity to be held on **Thursday 14th November 2024** prior to the meeting of the Diocesan Synod. The successful candidate will take up office immediately and remain in post for the next 3 years.

Any member of the House of Laity of the Diocesan Synod may stand in the election which will be decided by a simple majority.

Candidates must be nominated and seconded by members of the House of Laity.

**Responsibilities:**

The role of Chair carries a range of responsibilities and duties.

As well as sharing the chairing of Diocesan Synod with the Chair of the House of Clergy and the Diocesan Bishop (3 meetings a year), the successful candidate will become an ex-officio member of the Bishop’s Council (6 meetings a year) and the Business Committee (3 meetings a year). The Chair may also be required to attend or sit on other synodical committees, working parties and events.

The Chair needs to act as a conduit of communication, ensuring concerns, and queries of the Laity are fed in to appropriate discussions, whilst at the same time feeding back policy and strategy decisions to colleagues.

**Skills and Qualities:**

* Ability to consider issues in an objective and strategic manner, weigh local and individual concerns against the wider needs of the Diocese and Church;
* Excellent communication skills and ability to present proposals, lead discussions, and engage in complex and potentially divisive issues;
* A willingness to represent all members of the Laity in equal measure.

**If you are willing to serve the House of Laity as its Chair, please complete this form and return it to Cathy Laird no later than 5pm Monday 4th November 2024.**

**Hustings will take place on Thursday 14th November, followed immediately by an election.**

ELECTIONS FOR THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY 2024

If you would like to stand for election, please complete the form below and return it to Cathy Laird (details below).

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, am willing to stand as Chair of the House of Laity.

Deanery:

Name of Proposer:

(must be laity)

Name of Seconder:

(must be laity)

**Election Address:**

*If you so wish, please use the space below to offer a short election address (no more than 100 words) These will be compiled and distributed to all members.*

Please note – if an election is required, all candidates will be given no more than **3 minutes** to address the House of Laity at the meeting on **Thursday 14th November 2024.**

Please return this nomination form no later than **5pm Monday 4th November 2024** to Cathy Laird

[cathy.laird@winchester.anglican.org](mailto:cathy.laird@winchester.anglican.org)

Cathy Laird, Diocesan Office, Old Alresford Place, Alresford SO24 9DH

**If you wish to return this nomination form by email, you must cc your proposer and seconder in order to confirm their support. Hard copy (by scan or post) is also welcome.**