



DIOCESAN SYNOD

Wednesday 25th June 2025

St Paul's Church, Bursledon

If you have any questions or points of clarification regarding any items on the agenda, please contact cathy.laird@winchester.anglican.org.

Colin Harbidge –Diocesan Secretary

- 6.00pm **1. ARRIVAL & SUPPER**
Members are invited to sit around tables by deanery groups to facilitate discussion for this meeting. We kindly request members adhere to the seating plan.

Chair: The Chair of the WDBF

- 6.20pm **2. AGM OF THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE (WDBF)**
See separate agenda DS25/06 & papers DS25/07-09 (to follow)

Chair : The Chair of the House of Laity

- 6.50pm **3. OPENING WORSHIP AND WELCOME**
John Pawson to lead Synod in a short act of worship.

- 7.00pm **PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**
The Bishop of Winchester to address the Synod.

- 7.15pm **LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH**

Chair to introduce the discussion. This will take the format of some input through speakers or videos and then opportunities for tables to discuss topics raised.

In **July 2024**, General Synod asked the **House of Bishops** to undertake further work on two aspects of the LLF process:

1. The Prayers of Love and Faith, specifically on how to use these in so called 'bespoke' services and what pastoral reassurance might be needed for this.

2. A timetable for consideration of the question on removing restrictions for clergy entering same-sex civil marriages.

Members of Diocesan Synod have been asked to provide feedback to the House of Bishops on:

- Local understanding of the process undertaken so far and what further guidance would be useful.
- A proposal to update the Pastoral Guidance for Prayers of Love and Faith for a bespoke service for Prayers of Love and Faith.
- A draft code of practice to sit alongside the guidance to outline how pastoral reassurance might be provided to those who feel they cannot be cared for in all respects by their diocesan bishop.

Detailed information on the proposals can be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2025-01/gs-2386-living-in-love-and-faith.pdf>

Members are asked to ensure they have read the following two documents prior to the meeting:

[Living in Love and Faith Spring Update](#)
[Update on Theological Work](#)

8.45pm

QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS

Please submit all questions in writing to the Diocesan Secretary (colin.harbidge@winchester.anglican.org) giving at least 7 days notice. Written answers to the questions will be provided on the day.

Item for information

Whilst there is no desire to restrict Synod members asking questions, given the fullness and complexity of this agenda, members are asked to consider if their question is time sensitive or could be submitted at a future meeting.

8.50pm

CLOSE

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- Tuesday 1st July 2025 7 – 8pm – Zoom
- Thursday 20th November 2025 6 – 8.30pm Christchurch, Chineham
- Wednesday 18th March 2026 6 – 8.30pm
- Wednesday 17th June 2026 6 – 8.30pm
- Thursday 26th November 2026 6 – 8.30pm

DEEMED BUSINESS

Members who wish a matter of Deemed Business to be discussed at the meeting should inform the Secretary prior to the meeting. Otherwise each item will be regarded as approved unanimously.

- **2024 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS DS25/08** *(to follow)*

Diocesan Synod are required to formally consider the annual report and accounts. These will have been covered during the AGM.

- **UPDATE FROM BISHOP'S COUNCIL DS25/10** *(to follow)*
- **INSTRUMENT PROCLAIMING AND AFFIRMING THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES REGULATION AS AN ACT OF SYNOD DS25/11**
- **THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES REGULATION 2024 AS AMENDED BY THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 2025 DS25/12**