



St Albans Diocesan Synod

Saturday 15 October 2022

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, 15 October 2022. There is parking within the grounds, but members are encouraged to share cars where possible. **In order to reduce the use of disposable cups, please also bring your own cup for refreshments.**

The Session will commence at 0930 and is expected to finish not later than 1300.

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 (on diosecpa@stalbans.anglican.org or 01727 818131) 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 7 October** 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.

David White
Diocesan Secretary
23 September 2022

Holywell Lodge
41 Holywell Hill
ST ALBANS
AL1 1HE
Telephone : 01727 854532
e-mail : diosecpa@stalbans.anglican.org

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

09:30

AGENDA

1. PRAYERS

To be led by Fr Corniel Quak (St Albans Deanery).

2. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 3.** To confirm the **MINUTES** of the last meeting held on 18 June 2022 (enclosed).

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS & BUSINESS ITEMS

5. FORMULA FOR DEANERY SYNOD ELECTIONS 2023

At the request of the Bishop's Council, the following will be moved from the Chair:

"This Synod agrees to use the following formula for the election of lay representatives from parishes to deanery synods for the elections due in 2023:-

No. of names certified on the parish electoral roll	No. of representatives
<i>Less than 35</i>	1
<i>35 and not more than 99</i>	2
<i>100 and not more than 199</i>	3
<i>200 and not more than 299</i>	4
<i>300 and not more than 449</i>	5
<i>450 and not more than 599</i>	6
<i>600 and over</i>	7

Note: This formula was last revised in 2001 and agreed by Synod for the elections held in each triennium since then.

6. QUESTIONS

Questions should have been submitted by 16 September, unless the President has given special dispensation to accept shorter notice. One question has been received as set out in the enclosed paper (**DS/22/11**).

10:00

7. DIOCESAN NET ZERO CARBON STRATEGY

On behalf of the Bishop's Council, the Chair of the Diocesan Environment Group and, with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Diocesan Secretary and the Diocesan Environment Officer will give a brief presentation.

There will be an opportunity for discussion and questions.

The Chair of the Diocesan Environment Group will propose:

- a) "That this Diocese should reaffirm the requirement for every part of the Diocese to respond with utmost urgency to reduce and offset carbon emissions;
- b) That as part of the Diocese's response to the Net Zero Carbon by 2030 target set by General Synod, the Diocesan Action Plan should be adopted and incorporated into the policies and planning of every section of the Diocese;
- c) That this Diocese will support the use of existing budgets and resources to facilitate the steps included in the Action Plan, and to seek further funding and resources as required to enable all actions designated as 'within scope' of the 2030 target to be completed accordingly;
- d) That this Diocese will establish regular monitoring and reporting on progress towards the Net Zero Carbon target for Diocesan Synod, and provide all information and reports as required by the Church of England for the purposes of tracking progress towards the Net Zero Carbon by 2030 target."

There will be an opportunity for debate before members are asked to vote on the resolution.

A paper Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Action Plan and Initiatives (**DS/22/12**) is enclosed.

8. INVESTMENT POLICY : FOSSIL FUELS

On behalf of the Bishop's Council, and with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Diocesan Secretary will introduce this item. The Chair of the Diocesan Environment Group will then move:

"That this Synod requests the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance to commit to divest from any current investments in fossil fuels and to commit to no future investment of funds in fossil fuel companies.

That this Synod further requests the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance to consider with those companies investing on behalf of the Diocese how to:

- a) engage critically on climate change in respect of the full range of investments;
- b) implement an approach to move the entire diocesan investment portfolio to be zero carbon;
- c) pursue investment in accordance with Diocesan policies on social justice, sustainability, and the environment, for example in affordable homes, renewable energy, or forestry."

There will be an opportunity for debate before members are asked to vote on the motion.

1050 – 1120 (approx.) COFFEE

9. DIOCESAN COMMON FUND BUDGET 2023

On behalf of the Bishop's Council, the Archdeacon of Hertford and, with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance, Diocesan Director of Finance and Deputy Director of Mission and Ministry will give a brief presentation.

Mr Colin Bird, Chairman of the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance, will then move:

"That the estimates of requirements of the Diocesan Common Fund in 2023 in the gross sum of £16,832,575 be

approved, and that the Synod authorises the Diocesan Board of Finance to expend in accordance therewith a sum not exceeding £16,832,575 and that the sum of £14,280,000 be requested as parochial contributions in 2023, to be apportioned in accordance with the approved Parish Shares Scheme."

Papers Diocesan Budget 2023 (**DS/22/13**) and Notes to the 2023 Budget (**DS/22/14**) are enclosed.

10. STIPEND LEVELS FOR 2023

Mr Colin Bird, Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance, will move on behalf of the Board and at the request of the Bishop's Council:

"This Synod, noting the recommendation from the Central Stipends Authority that the stipend for this diocese be increased by 5% from 1 April 2023, resolves that the stipends for incumbents and those of incumbent status in this diocese should rise by £1,413 (5% of £28,267) to £29,680 from 1 April 2023."

12:00

11. REACHING NEW PEOPLE IMPACT REPORT

On behalf of the Bishop's Council, the Archdeacon of St Albans and, with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Director of Mission and Ministry and the RNP Team Leader will give a presentation.

There will be an opportunity for questions.

A paper Reaching New People Impact Report (**DS/22/15**) is enclosed.

Synod should finish no later than 1300.

Dates for 2023 Synods

Saturday 11 March 2023

Saturday 17 June 2023

Saturday 14 October 2023

To be held at a venue to be confirmed.