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**SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF ADELAIDE**

**OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED**

**MINUTES OF**

**THIRD SESSION OF THE FORTY-THIRD TRIENNIAL SYNOD**

**(164th Annual Session)**

**Friday 19 – Sunday 21 October 2018**

The 164th Session opened with the Synod worship in St Augustine’s in the Parish of Unley at 7:00pm on Friday 19 October 2018. The Preacher was The Right Rev’d Dr Tim Harris, Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Adelaide.

On Saturday, 20th October 2018, following Morning Prayer led by The Rev’d Stuart Langshaw in Memorial Hall, St Peter's College, the Archbishop, The Most Rev’d Geoffrey Smith, opened the Third Session of the Forty-Third Triennial Synod by delivering an Address to the Diocese that highlighted the Vision 2022, Flourishing Anglican Communities, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and Marriage Equality.

Following the Archbishop’s Address, which was circulated to the members, the Synod convened for the dispatch of business.

The President, 102 members of the clergy and 152 lay representatives were present.

1. The President welcomed members, in particular Mr Philip Adams (the new Chancellor) and Mrs Amanda Harfield, the recently appointed Secretary of Synod, to the Third Annual Session of the Forty-Third Triennial Synod. The Archbishop thanked The Rev’d Stuart Langshaw, Archdeacon Mee Ping Lau, Archdeacon Andrew Mintern and The Rev’d Mark Petersen for the co-ordination of worship on Friday night and the Synod worship services. The President made introductory remarks regarding general procedure for Synod.
2. **PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

Leave was granted by Synod for Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod, to move the following motion in an amended form.

**MOTION AS AMENDED**

That this Synod welcomes:

* The Observers from the Diocese of Willochra (The Rev’d David Thompson and Mrs Rosemary O’Leary) and the Diocese of The Murray (The Rev’d Simon Waters and Dr Ted Sandercock);
* Sudanese Missional Congregations;
* The Pastor and Observers from the Dinka Sudanese Anglican (Episcopal) Missional Congregation at Playford;
* The Pastor and Observers from The Lakes Province of Sudan (Episcopal) Missional Congregation at St Luke’s Whitmore Square;
* The Pastor and Observers from the Sudanese Anglican (Episcopal) Congregation at Church of the Holy Redeemer, Ingle Farm;
* The Observers from the Congregation of St Barnabas’ Croydon;
* The Observers from MarThoma Church, Adelaide;
* Ms Susan Arnold, Diocesan Finance Manager;
* Mr Blaine Fitzgerald, Head Anglican Funds South Australia (AFSA)
* Mrs Theodora Ekonomopoulos, Professional Standards Director;
* Members of the Property Finance and Resource Committee (PFRC) who are not members of Synod;
* Ministry Unit Members who are not members of Synod;
* Members of the Diocesan Risk & Audit Committee who are not members of Synod;
* Directors of the Board of AnglicareSA Ltd who are not members of Synod;
* ABM SA Reconciliation, Advocacy & Education Missioner, Mr Brad Chapman;
* Cathedral Chapter Canons who are not members of Synod;
* Ordinands;
* Mrs Briony Franklin, Pulteney Grammar School
* Mrs Frances Zubreckyj, Indigenous Co-ordinator and Mrs Stephanie Cabot, St Peter’s College;
* Ms Monica Williams, Association of Independent Schools of South Australia;and
* Mr Tim Browning, Headmaster, St Peter’s College; and

accords them a seat on the floor of Synod with the right to speak but not to vote or move or second motions.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by The Venerable David Bassett**

**CARRIED**

1. **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as to allow for the timetable of Synod to be as outlined on the revised Order of Business Paper as circulated noting several orders of the day.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by The Venerable David Bassett**

**CARRIED**

1. **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

That this Synod suspend so much of Standing Orders as is necessary to allow for the use of electronic voting, in accordance to the memorandum circulated to members of Synod, at this Session of Synod as and when the President shall determine.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by The Venerable David Bassett**

**CARRIED**

1. The President announced the appointment of the Synod Minutes Secretary (Mrs Susan Wilkins), Scrutineers (Ms Susan Arnold, Mr Daniel Harris, The Rev’d Darren Russ, Mr Leon Varghese, Mrs Kris Coventry, Mrs Anna Halman, Mrs Nicole Crocker and Mrs Tracey Jolly) and Timekeepers (The Rev’d Stuart Langshaw & The Rev’d Janet Phillips).
2. The President tabled the Register of Members of the Synod.
3. The President tabled the names of those Members to whom he had granted leave from attendance and tabled the Register of Alternate Lay Members of Synod.
4. The Secretary of Synod, Mrs Amanda Harfield, was invited by the President to address matters regarding Work Health & Safety, Housekeeping and general Synod procedures.
5. The President tabled the “Reports and Accounts for Synod 2018”, containing the following Annual and Special Reports and Accounts, previously distributed with the Notice Paper.

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| **Members of Synod** | Clergy Representatives |
|  | Lay Representatives |
| **Diocesan Reports** | Secretary of Synod Report (including Anglican Cemeteries and Archives) |
|  | Diocesan Council Report to Synod |
|  | Diocesan Risk and Audit Committee |
|  | Property Finance & Resource Committee |
|  | Education and Formation Ministry Unit |
|  | Church in Society Ministry Unit |
|  | Professional Standards |
|  | The Guardian |
|  | Anglican Funds – South Australia |
|  | St Barnabas College |
|  | Financial Operations |
|  | The Companion Diocese of Bor |
| **Parish Ministry** | St Peter’s Cathedral |
|  | Adelaide Area Deanery |
|  | Eastern Area Deanery |
|  | Gawler Area Deanery |
|  | South Eastern Area Deanery |
|  | South Western Area Deanery |
|  | Western Suburbs Area Deanery |
| **Anglican Societies** | Anglican Cursillo Movement |
|  | Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion SA |
|  | Girls’ Friendly Society in SA Inc |
|  | Mothers’ Union Australia – Diocese of Adelaide |
| **Anglican Entities** | AnglicareSA Ltd |
|  | AnglicareSA Housing Association |
|  | Leigh Trust |
| **Anglican Schools** | Schools Liaison Officer’s Message |
|  | Schools’ Chaplaincy |
|  | Pulteney Grammar School |
|  | St John’s School |
|  | St Peter’s College |
|  | St Peter’s Girls |
|  | Trinity College |
| **Partner Organisations** | Anglican Board of Mission |
|  | Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students |
|  | South Australian Council of Churches Inc |
|  | Bush Church Aid Society |
|  | Schools Ministry Group |
|  | Church Missionary Society SA/NT |
|  | City Bible Forum |
|  | Converge International |
|  | SparkLit |

1. Two questions were received prior to Synod and answers to these questions were provided in the Supplementary Paper circulated to members.

**Question 1: Assessment Ordinance**

**Submitted by: The Rev’d David Covington-Groth**

**Parish Priest of Mitcham**

In accordance with the Assessment Ordinance (C6 point 3.7) “The secretary of Synod shall provide to Diocesan Council a summary of assessable income, assessment, total instalments already paid and resulting balance with respect to each parish”, has this information been provided to Diocesan Council?  If not why not?  Can this information also be provided to the Members of Synod through its inclusion in synod papers or handed out at synod? If not why not?

**RESPONSE –** already circulated but read by The Most Rev’d Geoffrey Smith.

The information has been provided to Diocesan Council. Diocesan Council has authorised distribution of the 2017 Summary to Synod. A copy of the Summary is **attached to the minutes of Synod**.

**QUESTION 2: Assessment**

**Submitted by The Rev’d Stephen Bloor**

**Parish Priest in the Parishes of Salisbury and Parafield Gardens**

Is the Secretary of Synod aware of any parishes that are not declaring their full assessable income or encouraging their congregations to give money in ways that avoid paying assessment? If so, what action is been taken to address this issue?"

**RESPONSE –** already circulated but read by The Most Rev’d Geoffrey Smith.

The Secretary of Synod is not aware of any parishes that are not declaring their full assessable income.

The Secretary is aware of practices in the Diocese from time to time to encourage congregations to give in ways that will not be subject to assessment.

With the support and oversight of Diocesan Council, discussions and negotiations occur with the parishes concerned.

**QUESTION 3: Assessment**

The Rev’d Stephen Bloor asked a further question at Synod, namely:

In light of the definition of “Assessable income” outlined in the Assessments Ordinance 1985 (pg 24) and given the number of clergy and staff that some parishes have, would the Secretary of Synod reconsider her answer to the question? ​

**RESPONSE –** The Secretary of Synod indicated that she would not reconsider her answer.

**QUESTION 4:**

The Rev’d Stephen Bloor read the following question at Synod:

Can the Archbishop lawfully authorise a Form of Blessing within the Diocese of Adelaide alongside, or in addition to, a wedding conducted by a civil celebrant given Part 1 of the Constitution of Anglican Church of Australia that enshrine the Book of Common Prayer, the thirty-nine Articles and the Ordinal as our standard of theology and worship?”

The Archbishop provided a response at Item 10 on Sunday 21 October 2018:

Section 4 of the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia says that:

This church being derived from the Church of England, retains and approves the doctrine and principles of the of the Church of England embodied in the Book of Common Prayer together with the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests and Deacons and in the Articles of Religion sometimes called the Thirty-nine articles, but has plenary authority at its own discretion to make statements as to the faith ritual ceremonial or discipline of this Church and to order its forms of worship and rules of discipline and to alter or revise such statements, forms and rules, provided that all such statements, forms rules or alteration or revision thereof are consistent with the Fundamental Declarations contained herein and are made as prescribed by this Constitution. Provided and it is hereby further declared, that the above-named Book of Common Prayer, together with the Thirty-nine articles, be regarded as the authorised standard of worship and doctrine in this Church, and no alteration in or permitted variations from the services or Articles therein contained shall contravene any principal of doctrine or worship laid down in such standard.

The Anglican church of Australia has the power to alter its authorised forms of service so long as those alterations are consistent with the Fundamental Declarations and do not contravene any principal of doctrine or worship laid down in the Book of Common Prayer or the Thirty-nine articles.

Section 4 of the Constitution provides that a bishop of a Diocese may, at his [or her] discretion, permit deviations from the existing order of service, not contravening any principle of doctrine and worship (of the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-nine articles), as shall be submitted to him [or her] by the incumbent and churchwardens of a parish. The Australian Prayer Book Canon 1977 and the Prayer Book for Australia Canon 1995 allow deviations from these authorised services to be authorised in the manner set out in section 4 of the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.

Note that this permission is in response to a request from the incumbent and churchwardens of a parish where the incumbent and churchwardens have followed the process set out in section 4 of the Constitution, and this permission concerns a deviation from the authorised service, not an entirely new service. Furthermore, the deviation must not contravene any principle of doctrine and worship of the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-nine articles.

Section 4(c) of the Canon Concerning Services 1992 provides that a service may be authorised for use in a Diocese which has been approved for use, on the recommendation of the Liturgy Commission with the concurrence of the Doctrine Commission, by a decision of at least two-thirds of the Diocesan bishops including all the Metropolitans and approved for use within the diocese by the Diocesan Council of that Diocese.

The Book of Common Prayer and the other prayer books authorised by the Anglican Church of Australia (A Prayer Book for Australia and An Australian Prayer Book) contain Pastoral Services for the ‘Solemnization of Matrimony’ (also named as ‘A Service of Marriage’). In accordance with section 5 of the Canon Concerning Services 1992, they could be readily adapted for use in blessing a marriage conducted by a civil celebrant (especially the ‘Prayers of the People’). The adaptation would need to be such that it did not contravene any principle of doctrine and worship of the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-nine articles.

In summary, a Diocesan bishop cannot authorise services. Services are authorised by the General Synod, or according to section 4c of the Canon Concerning Services 1992.

A Bishop may permit a deviation from an authorised service according to the process set out in Section 4 of the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.

The following Petition was tabled at Synod by The Rev’d Stephen Clark:

Petition of Adelaide Clergy & Lay Synod Representatives to the Diocese of Adelaide:

We the undersigned request that the Diocesan Leadership Team, in consultation with the clergy and laity of the Diocese, investigate the possibility and desirability of a process leading to Diocesan provision for the blessing of same sex marriage at civil ceremonies or following a civil ceremony.

Leave was granted to obtain further signatories to the petition during the course of Synod.

1. **APPOINTMENT TO CHAIR OF COMMITTEES**

**MOTION**

That Mr Grant Chapman be appointed Chair of Committees for this session of Synod.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Acting Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by The Venerable David Bassett**

**CARRIED**

1. **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT FOR HIS ADDRESS**

**MOTION**

That a Vote of Thanks be accorded to the President for his Address to the Synod.

**Moved by The Venerable Andrew Mintern**

**Seconded by Ms Sandy Mitchell**

**CARRIED**

1. **MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MOTIONS ARISING FROM PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

13.1 **KIDS OFF NAURU**

**MOTION**

This Synod supports the call by The Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce for the Australian government to bring to an end the suffering of the children and families seeking asylum who are currently detained on Nauru by bringing them to Australia for processing as soon as possible.

**Moved by The Rev’d Peter Sandeman**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Andrea McDougall**

**AMENDMENT**

Add after “possible” – “and asks the Archbishop to convey this to the Federal Government”

**Moved by Mr Shane Martin**

**Seconded by Mr Thomas Bassett**

Accepted by the Mover and Seconder to be incorporated into the Motion.

**MOTION AS AMENDED**

This Synod supports the call by The Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce for the Australian government to bring to an end the suffering of the children and families seeking asylum who are currently detained on Nauru by bringing them to Australia for processing as soon as possible and asks the Archbishop to convey this to the Federal Government.

**Moved by The Rev’d Peter Sandeman**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Andrea McDougall**

**CARRIED**

1. The President called over the Notice Paper. Standing Orders provided for Synod to move into conference to discuss the matters referred to at Items 22 and 26. Motion 19 was regarded formally to be put forthwith without speech, amendment or debate.
2. Leave was granted by Synod for Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod to present a report in the order of 20 minutes.

**FINANCE**

16. **FINANCE**

Leave was granted by Synod for Ms Susan Arnold, Finance Manager to present the Financial Statements for the Diocese of Adelaide with Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod.

16.1 **MOTION**

That Synod receives the Financial Statement for the 12 months ended 30 June 2018 and the Synod Operations Financial Report for the year ended 2018 as dispatched with the Notice Paper.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by Mr Kevin Stracey**

**CARRIED**

16.2 **MOTION**

That Synod adopts the Synod Operations budget for the Year 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 as dispatched with the Notice Paper.

Moved by **Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by Mr Kevin Stracey**

**CARRIED**

16.3 **ASSESSMENT**

**MOTION**

That Synod adopts the estimate of Diocesan Expenses for the year 2019 and the rate of assessment of 16.00% of assessable income for the year 2019 and encourages Diocesan Council to continue to investigate the feasibility of reducing the rate of assessment.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by Mr Kevin Stracey**

**MOTIONS**

17. **SYNODAL ASSESSMENT DEDUCTION POLICY**

**MOTION**

That this Synod requests that Diocesan Council review the Diocesan Assessment Deduction Policy and in particular with a view to increasing the “Maintenance of Property” deductibility  (section 3 dot point 1) from its current amount of $15,000 to $30,000.

**Moved by Ms Elizabeth Ferguson**

**Seconded by The Hon David Wotton AM**

**CARRIED**

18. **SYNODAL ASSESSMENT**

Leave was granted by Synod for the mover to show on the screen an extract from Holy Trinity’s website.

**MOTION**

This Synod notes the definitions of 'assessable income', 'church body', 'parish income', and 'remuneration' in respect of parishes and the determination of assessment contained in section 18 of The Assessments Ordinance 1985. This Synod recognises that any parish that deliberately does not include all parish income and assessable income in relation to all church bodies is infringing the Ordinance and acting against the spirit of cooperation at the heart of our Anglican community and its mission. This Synod calls on all parishes to adhere to the requirements of The Assessments Ordinance 1985.

**Moved by The Rev’d Warren Huffa**

**Seconded by The Rev’d David Covington-Groth**

**CARRIED**

19. **AUSTRALIAN DIACONAL CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION**

**MOTION**

That Synod:

* thanks The Reverend Canon Rosalind Brown for her outstanding stewardship and contribution;
* acknowledges The Reverend Dr Cathy Thomson for her inspired and relevant Bible Study sessions; and
* recognises the significant contribution of the Deacons in the Diocese of Adelaide as well as the contributions of the Australian Anglican Diaconal Association.

**Moved by The Reverend Peter Sandeman**

**Seconded by The Reverend Hilary Reddrop**

**CARRIED**

20. **MARRIAGE EQUALITY**

**MOTION**

That this Synod recognise and record that:

1. There are Anglican clergy and laity in this diocese, people in good standing with our Church, who sincerely believe the celebration and blessing of same sex marriages is neither incompatible with the teaching of Holy Scripture or with the will of God.
2. This belief has been arrived at through prayerful reflection and conversation, is informed and supported by much biblical and theological scholarship and takes into account the pastoral and cultural context of our time in history.
3. Anglicans in faithful, committed same-sex relationships have sought and are seeking blessing from the Church to which they belong. They, their families and friends and the above-mentioned clergy and laity, and many in the wider public, are deeply saddened that they are being denied the support and blessing of their Church.

In light of these realities, we ask that the leadership of this diocese pastorally and publicly acknowledge that the Anglican Church is divided on this issue and that prayerful people of good conscience on both sides of the debate are seeking to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their ministry and the life of the Anglican Church.

We also respectfully request that this Synod relay the outcome of this motion to all bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia and to General Synod.

**Moved by The Rev’d Stephen Daughtry**

**Seconded by Ms Meriel Wilson**

**AMENDMENT 1**

Insert after (a) new point (b): “There are also Anglican clergy and laity in this diocese, people in good standing with our Church, who sincerely believe the celebration and blessing of same sex marriages is incompatible with the teaching of Holy Scripture and outside the will of God.”

**Moved by The Rev’d Dr Simon Hill**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Ben Woodd**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION AS AMENDED**

That this Synod recognise and record that:

1. There are Anglican clergy and laity in this diocese, people in good standing with our Church, who sincerely believe the celebration and blessing of same sex marriages is neither incompatible with the teaching of Holy Scripture or with the will of God.
2. There are also Anglican clergy and laity in this diocese, people in good standing with our Church, who sincerely believe the celebration and blessing of same sex marriages is incompatible with the teaching of Holy Scripture and outside the will of God.
3. This belief has been arrived at through prayerful reflection and conversation, is informed and supported by much biblical and theological scholarship and takes into account the pastoral and cultural context of our time in history.
4. Anglicans in faithful, committed same-sex relationships have sought and are seeking blessing from the Church to which they belong. They, their families and friends and the above-mentioned clergy and laity, and many in the wider public, are deeply saddened that they are being denied the support and blessing of their Church.

In light of these realities, we ask that the leadership of this diocese pastorally and publicly acknowledge that the Anglican Church is divided on this issue and that prayerful people of good conscience on both sides of the debate are seeking to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their ministry and the life of the Anglican Church.

We also respectfully request that this Synod relay the outcome of this motion to all bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia and to General Synod.

**AMENDMENT 2**

Delete: “neither incompatible” (in part (a))

Insert: “compatible”

**Moved by Moved by the Rev’d Stephen Daughtry**

**Seconded by Ms Meriel Wilson**

**CARRIED**

**AMENDMENT 3**

Delete: “people in good standing with our Church” in (a) and (b)

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Mark Hawkes**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Cameron Munro**

**CARRIED**

**AMENDMENT 4**

Delete: “the Anglican Church is divided”

Insert: “there is division in the Anglican Church”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Mark Hawkes**

**Seconded by The Rev’d David Brown**

**CARRIED**

**AMENDMENT 5**

Insert: (new point) “There are also Anglican Clergy and laity in this Diocese who believe that the blessing of same-sex unions communicates that there is no need for repentance in such circumstances and thereby places at risk the salvation of those in same sex unions.”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Mike Russell**

**Seconded by Mr Dennis Dewell**

**LOST**

**AMENDMENT 6**

Insert: (new point) “There are also Anglican clergy and laity who have chosen to be celibate in obedience to the doctrine of Christ and the teaching of our church on marriage and sexuality. These individuals may feel that their choice would no longer be respected or supported by the Anglican Church.”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Cameron Munro**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Ben Cosford**

**LOST**

**AMENDMENT 7**

Delete: all words after “issue”; “and that prayerful people of good conscience on both sides of the debate are seeking to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their ministry and the life of the Anglican Church.” and

“We also respectfully request that this Synod relay the outcome of this motion to all bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia and to General Synod.”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Stephen Bloor**

**Seconded by Mr David Purton**

**LOST**

**AMENDMENT 8**

Delete: “that they are being denied the support and blessing of their Church.”

Insert: “they cannot as yet receive the liturgical recognition of their relationship in the Anglican Church of Australia.”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Stuart Langshaw**

**Seconded by Mrs Margaret Nelson**

**CARRIED**

**AMENDMENT 9**

Insert: after division “within the Anglican Church.”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Canon Ruth Mathieson**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Sophie Relf-Christopher**

**WITHDRAWN BY LEAVE**

**AMENDMENT 10**

Current Wording: “~~In light of these realities,~~ ~~w~~We ask that the leadership of this diocese pastorally and publicly acknowledge that ~~there is division in~~ the Anglican Church~~on this issue~~ ~~and that~~ **consists of** prayerful people of good conscience on both sides of the debate are seeking to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their ministry and the life of the Anglican Church.”

Delete: “In light of these realities”

Delete: “there is division in”

Delete: “on this issue and that”

Insert: “consists of.”

Delete: “both” (agreed by both mover and seconder)

Insert: “all” (agreed by both mover and seconder)

New wording:

We ask that the leadership of this diocese pastorally and publicly acknowledge that the Anglican Church consists of prayerful people of good conscience on all sides of the debate seeking to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their ministry and the life of the Anglican Church.

**Moved by Moved by The Venerable David Bassett**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Peter Sandeman**

**CARRIED**

**AMENDMENT 11**

Delete: “above-mentioned clergy”

Insert: “many clergy”

**Moved by Moved by The Rev’d Associate Professor Matthew Anstey**

**Seconded by The Rev’d Paula Bullock**

**WITHDRAWN BY LEAVE**

**MOTION AS AMENDED**

That this Synod recognise and record that:

1. There are Anglican clergy and laity in this diocese, who sincerely believe the celebration and blessing of same sex marriages is compatible with the teaching of Holy Scripture and with the will of God.
2. There are also Anglican clergy and laity in this Diocese, who sincerely believe the celebration and blessing of same sex marriages is incompatible with the teaching of Holy Scripture and outside the will of God.
3. All maintain that these beliefs have been arrived at through prayerful reflection and conversation, are informed and supported by much biblical and theological scholarship and take into account the pastoral and cultural context of our time in history.
4. Anglicans in faithful, committed same-sex relationships have sought and are seeking blessing from the Church to which they belong. They, their families and friends and the clergy and laity referred to in (a) above, and many in the wider public, are deeply saddened that they cannot as yet receive the liturgical recognition of their relationship in the Anglican Church of Australia.

We ask that the leadership of this diocese pastorally and publicly acknowledge that the Anglican Church consists of prayerful people of good conscience on all sides of the debate seeking to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit in their ministry and the life of the Anglican Church.

We also respectfully request that this Synod relay the outcome of this motion to all bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia and to General Synod.

**Moved by The Rev’d Stephen Daughtry**

**Seconded by Ms Meriel Wilson**

**CARRIED**

21. **SAME-SEX CIVIL MARRIAGE BLESSING**

**MOTION**

That this Synod, encouraged by the resolution passed recently by the Synod of the Diocese of Wangaratta:

a) acknowledges the widespread national and local support for the recent changes to Australian marriage laws, to include same-sex couples;

b) commends the pastoral value of the Archbishop authorising a Form of Blessing for optional use within the Diocese of Adelaide alongside, or in addition to, a wedding conducted by a civil celebrant;

c) requests that the Diocesan Leadership, in consultation with the clergy and laity of the Diocese, investigate the possibility and desirability of a process leading to Diocesan provision for the blessing of civil marriages.

**Moved by the Rev’d Stephan Clark**

**Seconded by the Rev’d Tracey Gracey**

**MOTION**

That the Synod do now pass to consideration of the next business.

**Moved by The Venerable David Bassett**

**Seconded by Ms Sandy Mitchell**

**CARRIED**

21.1 **MOTION FROM SUPPLEMENTARY NOTICE PAPER**

This Synod notes:

That on 7 September 2017 the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia passed two motions on same-sex marriage

*“The General Synod –   
a) notes with regret that the Scottish Episcopal Church has amended their Canon on Marriage to change the definition that marriage is between a man and a woman by adding a new section that allows clergy to solemnise marriage between same-sex couples as well as couples of the opposite sex;*

*b) notes with regret that this step is contrary to the doctrine of our Church and the teaching of Christ that, in marriage, “a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh” (Matt 19:6), and*

*c) expresses our support for those Anglicans who have left or will need to leave the Scottish Episcopal Church because of its redefinition of marriage and those who struggle and remain; and*

*d) prays that the Scottish Episcopal Church will return to the doctrine of Christ in this matter and that impaired relationships will be restored.”*

And

*“The General Synod –  
(i) recognises that the doctrine of our church, in line with traditional Christian teaching, is that marriage is an exclusive and lifelong union of a man and a woman, and further,  
(ii) recognises that this has been the subject of several General Synod resolutions over the past fifteen years, and also  
(iii) recognises that the nature of marriage is the subject of ongoing conversation within the church and wider community and that we need to listen to each other with care and respect, and  
(iv) acknowledges the experiences and genuine concerns of LGBTIQ+ people within the church and the community, and therefore   
(v) asks the Doctrine Commission to facilitate a respectful conversation in our church by means of a collection of essays on marriage and same-sex relationships that explores Scriptural and theological issues relating to:*

*a. The doctrine of marriage expressed in the formularies of the Anglican Church of Australia  
b. Our current Australian context, exploring the relationship between the State’s definition of marriage and the church’s doctrine of marriage  
c. Key Old Testament and New Testament texts on sex, marriage and friendship  
d. Scripture and hermeneutics   
e. A theology of blessing  
f. A theology of desire  
g. Godly disagreement on this issue  
h. The case for and against same-sex marriage and/or the blessing of same-sex unions.”*

2. That the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia is that the definition of marriage is between a man and a woman and only between a man and a woman.

3. That any Diocese that seeks to endorse the blessing of marriages between same-sex couples will be acting contrary to the recently confirmed doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia as expressed in the Bishops’ Resolution of March 2018 (see Bishops’ Resolution in the Explanatory Memorandum).

4. That the Archbishop of Adelaide wrote in his Pastoral Letter to Clergy (part 2) in December 2017:  
"All of us who are licensed (or hold a PTO) have assented to the doctrine of the Book of Common Prayer and have undertaken to use only authorised liturgy in public worship. The Book of Common Prayer and our other authorised marriage liturgies do not allow for marriage between a same sex couple therefore we are unable to bless the civil marriage of a same sex couple in any way that looks like a wedding service or purports to bless the marriage."

5.  That a Diocesan Bishop who endorses a blessing that is contrary to the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia may be placing the Bishop at risk of having a charge brought against them under the Special Tribunal.

And

asks Diocesan Council to consider these matters to help formulate Diocesan policy into the future.

**Moved: The Rev’d Paul Hunt**

**Seconded: The Venerable David Bassett**

Leave was granted by Synod for the Mover to withdraw the motion.

**WITHDRAWN BY LEAVE**

22.

**SYNOD CONFERENCE & PLENARY**

In accordance with the Standing Orders Ordinance (Part VIII – 34), the Synod moved into conference mode to discuss matters relating to Item 22 – Vision 2022.

The Conference was facilitated by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod, who convened a workshop of 30 minutes. Group discussion took place and group feedback was provided.

Synod then resumed.

1. Leave was granted by Synod for Mr Blaine Fitzgerald, Head of Anglican Funds SA (AFSA) to provide a presentation on the activities of AFSA in the order of 10 minutes.
2. Leave was granted by Synod for Ms Ann Nadge, Convenor of Education and Formation Ministry Unit and The Rev’d Dr Joan Riley, member of Church in Society Ministry Unit to provide a Ministry Unit presentation in the order of 10 minutes each.
3. Leave was granted by Synod for Archdeacon Andrew Mintern and Ms Katherine Dellit to provide a presentation in the order of 20 minutes on the recent trip to the United Kingdom by the Archbishop, Archdeacon Mintern and Ms Katherine Dellit.

26.

**SYNOD CONFERENCE & PLENARY**

In accordance with the Standing Orders Ordinance (Part VIII – 34), the Synod moved into conference mode to hear a series of presentations related to Item 26 – Reconciliation Action Plan.

Bishop Tim Harris was the facilitator and presentations were given by Mrs Frances Zubrekyj and Mrs Stephanie Cabot (St Peter’s College), Mrs Briony Franklin (Pulteney Grammar School) and Ms Monica Williams (Association of Independent Schools of South Australia).

Synod then resumed.

1. **MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE/ARISING FROM THE ARCHBISHOP’S ADDRESS**

See Item 13 & 21A

28. **THANKS TO THE SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES**

**MOTION**

That as the triennium draws to a close, that this Synod gives thanks to the Synod Representatives who have loyally represented their Parish at Synod meetings throughout the current triennium and on the various Synod subcommittees.

**Moved by Mrs Amanda Harfield, Secretary of Synod**

**Seconded by The Right Rev’d Dr Tim Harris**

**CARRIED**

29. **VOTE OF THANKS FOR SYNOD ARRANGEMENTS**

**MOTION**

To the Headmaster of St Peter’s College, Mr Tim Browning and his staff, for the use of the Memorial Hall and other school facilities;

To Mr Jason Hall of this School for his management of the school’s facilities, which contributed to the smooth running of this session of Synod;

To Chartwells Catering for their excellent catering at Synod;

To The Rev’d Stuart Langshaw, The Venerable Mei Ping Lau, The Venerable Andrew Mintern and The Rev’d Mark Petersen for the coordination of worship on Friday evening and prayers during the Synod sessions;

To the President, Archbishop Geoff Smith, for his chairing;

To the Chancellor, Mr Phillip Adams, and the Secretary of Synod, Mrs Amanda Harfield for their preparatory work;

To members of Diocesan Council and other committees and working groups for their talents and time applied to Synod business and the Anglicare SA Ltd Annual General meeting; and

To the Diocesan Office Staff for ensuring that our Synod has been possible.

**Moved by The Very Rev’d Frank Nelson**

**Seconded by Ms Katherine Dellit**

**CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION**

32. **SYNOD CLOSE**

Synod closed at 3.30 pm on Sunday, 21 October 2018 with Prayer followed by Afternoon Tea.