

THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MURRAY
of the Anglican Church of Australia Incorporated

MINUTES OF THE SECOND ANNUAL SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH TRIENNIAL SYNOD

**HELD AT THE BRIDGEPORT HOTEL, 2 BRIDGE STREET, MURRAY BRIDGE
ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 3rd AND 4th JUNE 2022**

COMMENCEMENT

The Synod assembled in the Murray Room, 1st Floor, Bridgeport Hotel, 2 Bridge Street, Murray Bridge at 1:00 pm for the Synod Eucharist and Bishop's Charge.

The Right Reverend Keith Dalby welcomed Synod members to the Bridgeport Hotel, and his second annual Synod as President. Housekeeping matters were addressed.

The President presided with 19 clerical and 44 lay members of Synod in attendance.

MEMBERSHIP

The following appointments were announced: The Reverend David Patterson and Ms Lynn Fisher as the Assistant Secretaries, Mr Jeffrey McHugh and Mrs Donna Jones appointed as Scrutineers, The Reverend Andrew Forder appointed as Timekeeper and Mr Mark Taylor appointed as Synod Reporter.

The Registrar noted that the roll had been marked in the traditional way. All attending had been asked to observe any COVID regulations in place at the time.

The Register of Members and the Minutes of Diocesan Council were made available for sighting.

The following members were excused from attendance at this Session of Synod:

Mr David Glover	Lower Limestone Coast
The Reverend Lyndon Sulzberger	Lower Limestone Coast
Mr Michael Bleby	Lower Limestone Coast
Ms Jill Fiebiger	Lower Limestone Coast
The Reverend Chris Talbot	South Coast
The Reverend Jonathan Jackson	South Coast
Mr Andrew Jeffery	South Coast
Mrs Bronwyn Telfer	Southern Suburbs
Mr Rick Telfer	Southern Suburbs
Mrs Daphne Dack	The Riverland
Mrs Margaret Cale	Western Fleurieu

The Bishop's Summons was issued to the following lay substitutionary members of Synod:

Mrs Victoria Plummer	South Coast
Mrs Glenda Cockley	Southern Suburbs
Mr Rick Telfer	Southern Suburbs
Mr Brian Landseer	Strathalbyn
Mrs Janet Grosse	The Riverland

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

PETITIONS

Nil

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

That the Legislative Review Committee prepare an ordinance to be brought to the next session of Synod to consider enabling the ordination of women to the priesthood.

Mover: The Venerable P Sandeman

Seconder: The Reverend M Holt

PASSED

REPORTS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

The following reports were circulated with the Synod papers:

The Report of Anglicare SA submitted by The Reverend Margaret Holt, Diocesan Representative on the Board.

The Report of Anglicare SA submitted by Mr Grant Reubenicht, Acting CEO.

The Annual Report of the Professional Standards Committee.

The Murray Anglican Report submitted by Mark Taylor, Editor.

The Report of Mothers' Union, Diocese of The Murray submitted by Mrs Jocelyn Williamson, President.

The Report of Investigator College submitted by Mr John Robinson, Principal.

The Report of Woodcroft College submitted by Mrs Shannon Warren, Head of College.

Parish Reports.

Parish Statistics.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

The President of Synod delivered his Charge to Synod during the Synod Eucharist.

The Reverend Peter Sandeman was licensed as Archdeacon for Social Justice in the Diocese of The Murray at the conclusion of the Bishop's Charge.

OBSERVERS

The President welcomed the observers from both the Diocese of Adelaide and the Diocese of Willochra and those in the Gallery.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYNOD

SESSIONAL ORDERS

That during this Session, the Synod sits on:

Friday, 3 rd June	1:00pm	to	3:30pm
	4:00pm	to	6:00pm

Saturday, 4th June

9:00am to 10:30am

11:00am to 12:30pm

1:30pm to 3:00pm

Mover: Mrs DM Jones

Seconder: Mr MH McFarlane

PASSED

OBSERVERS TO THE SYNOD

That this Synod warmly welcomes the Professional Standards Director, Ms Paula Davies and the observers from the Diocese of Adelaide Ms Ann Nadge and from the Diocese of Willochra, The Reverend Anne Ford and Mr Michael Ford – and allows them to be seated in the Synod and on the invitation of the Bishop they may be invited to speak, but not propose or second motions or vote.

Mover: Mrs DM Jones

Seconder: Mr MH McFarlane

PASSED

SYNOD LEGISLATION

1. That Synod resolves itself into the Synod in Committee to consider further the text of the Diocesan Council Ordinance 2021 passed in principle in May 2021.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane

Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the changes from the 2021 Synod

2.2 reflected the amendment passed in 2021

6.5 reflected voting rules at meetings

10 reflected Diocesan Council appointments

PASSED

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane

Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the Diocesan Council Ordinance 2021 pass as an ordinance of Synod.

PASSED

2. That the Election of Representatives to General Synod Ordinance 2022 be approved in principle.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane

Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the motion.

PASSED

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane

Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the Election of Representatives to General Synod Ordinance 2022 pass as an ordinance of Synod.

PASSED

3. That the Election of Lay Members of Synod Ordinance 2022 be approved in principle.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Second: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the motion and commended the ordinance.

PASSED

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Second: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the Election of Lay Members of Synod Ordinance 2022 pass as an ordinance of Synod.

PASSED

4. That the Home Mission and Ministry Training Fund Ordinance 2022 be approved in principle.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Second: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the motion and commended the ordinance.

PASSED

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Second: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the Home Mission and Ministry Training Fund Ordinance 2022 pass as an ordinance of Synod.

PASSED

5. That the Professional Standards Ordinance 2016 Amendment Ordinance 2022 be approved in principle.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Second: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the ordinance and commended and moved that the ordinance be approved and passed.

The Reverend W Corker posed the question – ‘what is the understanding of the Diocese of Adelaide and Archbishop of Adelaide of this ordinance’?

Bishop Keith stated that he thought Adelaide not likely to make changes.

There is no longer a National approach to the Faithfulness in Service.

Professional Standards Director, Ms P Davies, also spoke to this motion.

Mover: Dr R Tong moved a procedural motion
Second: The Venerable P Sandeman

That this matter be postponed to the next sitting of Synod.

1 dissenting vote

PASSED

6. That the Clergy Service Ordinance Amendment Ordinance 2022 be approved in principle.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Second: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the motion and commended the ordinance.

PASSED

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the Clergy Service Ordinance Amendment Ordinance 2022 pass as an ordinance of Synod.

PASSED

7. The Parochial Administration Ordinance Amendment Ordinance 2022

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

Mr M McFarlane spoke to the motion and commended the ordinance.

PASSED

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the Parochial Administration Ordinance Amendment Ordinance 2022 pass as an Ordinance of Synod.

PASSED

It was suggested that a booklet be compiled outlining any changes to the ordinance and be provided to parishes.

Bishop Keith gave a vote of thanks to the four members of the Legislation Review Committee for their work on the ordinances.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIRECTOR, MS PAULA DAVIES

Director for the Province of South Australia

“Sunlight is the best disinfectant”

Professional standards sit in the space inhabited by the church. The shadow represents the ‘disowned’ parts Professional Standards Office involvement – fear, loathing and contempt, curiosity, avoidance, sometimes a bit of desperation, gratitude.

What are professional standards – and what are they not?

Not limited to child sex abuse, or indeed all forms of sexual abuse, intended to encompass serious offences.

Very limited definition of serious offences.

Stay alert at all times.

If unsure, say something, do something.

Don’t be a bystander.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- 1 That the Report of the Synod Auditor, and the Synod Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021, as tabled, be received and adopted.

Mover: Mr JM McHugh
Seconder: Mrs DM Jones

PASSED

Mr J McHugh spoke to the reports. Deficit of \$450,000.

DRAFT BUDGET OF SYNOD EXPENSES AND RATE OF ASSESSMENT

- 1 That the draft budget of Synod Expenses for the year 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 presented by the Diocesan Council, be received and adopted.

Mover: Mr JM McHugh
Seconder: Mrs DM Jones

PASSED

- 2 That to meet the estimated Synod expenses, the minimum rate of Assessment from 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2024 be 16% on all assessable income.

Mover: Mr JM McHugh
Seconder: Mrs DM Jones

PASSED

Bishop Keith moved a vote of thanks to Mr JM McHugh and Mrs DM Jones for their expertise, skills, and commitment to the finances of the Diocese.

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Mrs D Jones spoke to the report, highlighting several points which included Anglican Investment Funds. The Very Reverend D Price moved a vote of appreciation to Mrs D Jones for her diligence, commitment, and dedication to her role. This vote of appreciation was acknowledged with applause from the floor. Mrs D Jones recommended that the Report of the Diocesan Council be received.

Mover: Mrs DM Jones
Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

PASSED

REPORT OF ANGLICAN COMMUNITY CARE INC.

Mr R Fisher spoke to his report, highlighting some of the following issues.
The tenor of inclusivity is very encouraging.

Reconciliation Week – Rick acknowledged the Ngarrindjeri people and their connection to country and language – and elders, past, present, and emerging.

Reconciliation Action Plan launch – it is a plan in action. 33% of ac.care clients are Aboriginal.

Recently held a development weekend for the board – with the outcome being a new direction for ac.care.

Mover: Mr RA Fisher
Seconder: Mr P Evans

That the ac.care report be received.

PASSED

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane
Seconder: Mr BE McMillan

That the report of the Legislation Review Committee be received.

PASSED

Mover: The Very Reverend DA Price
Seconder: Mr P Hartley

That Synod adjourn until 9:00am Saturday morning.

PASSED

Saturday, 4th June 2022

**Synod opened with prayer at 9:00 am
and Acknowledgment to Country**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, PROFESSIONAL SUPERVISION, MINISTRY REVIEWS

This document comes from the Safe Ministry Commission of the General Synod and ties in with the provisions placed in the Clergy Service Ordinance last year. Synod, rather than Diocesan Council, is being asked to authorise its use alongside the Ordinance. This is in part to create greater awareness. Mr M McFarlane spoke to the report.

Bishop Keith then addressed Synod regarding the document, addressing the 3 separate areas of the document. The document will be in use from 1st January 2023 throughout the 3 dioceses in South Australia. Initially, it will apply to stipend clergy only.

Clergy will need to complete 10 hours of *Professional Development* every year and keep records of same. Parishes will need to support those people who must undertake this PD. The cost of Personal Development will need to be part of a parish's budget. Personal Development will be 'driven' by the clergy.

Clergy must complete a minimum of 6 hours of individual *Professional Supervision* (or 12 hours of group professional supervision) each calendar year. This process is designed in attaining better ministerial practice. It will be a contract between supervisor and clergy person, with the Bishop aware of the contract, but not of the content of the supervision.

Ministry Reviews – over a three-year cycle: self-review, joint review and facilitated review.

It will be a time for reflection, feedback, and recognition.

Archdeacon P Sandeman – it is a means of supporting clergy better.

The Reverend D Ackland questioned why non-stipend clergy are not included in the overall document?

Bishop Keith would strongly support any non-stipend clergy who wish to undertake the reviews.

Mover: Mr MH McFarlane

Seconder: The Very Reverend DA Price

That the National Policy and Guidelines for Ministry Wellbeing and Development a developed by the Safe Ministry Commission of the General Synod be adopted and run, in conjunction with the Clergy Service Ordinance.

PASSED

GREETINGS FROM THE DIOCESES

Diocese of Adelaide – Ms Ann Nadge

Adelaide Synod was held in October last year – and preparation is underway for this year’s Synod. Ms Nadge also gave an update on the General Synod held recently on the Gold Coast.

Diocese of Willochra – The Reverend Anne Ford

Brought greetings from Bishop John and the people of Willochra. Bishop John is retiring in July.

THE NATIONAL ANGLICAN CHURCH FAMILY VIOLENCE RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT

That this Synod, in acknowledging the findings of the National Anglican Church Family Violence Research Project:

1. Adopts the Ten Commitments for prevention and response to domestic and family violence in the Anglican Church of Australia: and
2. Commits to a process of cultural change, education, training and support in The Diocese of The Murray in accordance with the Ten Commitments.

Mover: The Venerable P Sandeman

Seconder: The Reverend CB Cornwall

Archdeacon P Sandeman spoke to this report, highlighting the 10 commitments.

Domestic and Family Violence is a difficult topic.

Primarily affects women, but also affects men.

Research indicates that family violence is greater amongst the church community as opposed to the general public.

PASSED

HANDLING THE BIBLE COURSE

The Reverend A Forder recommended taking the course back to their respective congregations if they have not already received it.

8 sessions – each session approx. 2 hours.

Bishop Keith thanked Fr Andrew Forder and Fr Cliff Greaves for their work in getting this course up and running.

THREE MINUTE TALKS

Joan Dare – Western Fleurieu: Women becoming deacons

Had 2 books written by The Reverend Kevin Giles. “What the Bible actually teaches about women”

Jan Malpas – Upper Limestone Coast: Reminiscences of 47 years of clerical life in South Australia - Book by The Reverend EK Miller

First went to Gawler, then to Pulteney School, then to St George’s, Magill, then moved to Willunga.

The Reverend Wayne Corker – Upper Limestone Coast: ABM

DOTM ‘punches above its weight’ in relation to ABM.

Made appeal for more support for the work of ABM – and to continue to spread the word of God.

This year is the 80th anniversary

The Reverend Neil Fernando – Mount Gambier: Religious and cultural dialogue

We live in a multi-cultural, multi-national time.

Carols in 9 languages; prayer service for world peace.

NATO – “no action, talk only”

Mr Brian Landseer – Strathalbyn: Reconciliation

Many ways of achieving reconciliation.

BBQ was held at Milang church for Ascension.

Ms Pauline Johnston – Kingston/Robe: Reconciliation Week stories

Reconciliation Week is coming to a close.

She spoke about her early family life in Kingston – walking down the street with her father, he spoke to everyone they passed.

When she questioned her father: 'why do you tip your hat at all the women', he responded: "If we don't show them respect, how can we expect them to respect themselves".

DECLARATION OF ORDINANCES

The Bishop declared that following ordinances are now in force:

Parochial Administration Amendment Ordinance 2022

Clergy Service Ordinance Amendment Ordinance 2022

Election of Representatives to General Synod Ordinance 2022

Diocesan Council Ordinance 2021

Home Mission and Ministry Training Fund Ordinance 2022

Election of Lay Members of Synod 2022

THANK YOU

Bishop Keith thanked the following people for their involvement in Synod:

Mrs Donna Jones, Registrar and the Vicar General, The Very Reverend David Price

Chancellor Robert Tong – for travelling from Sydney to attend

Mr Murray McFarlane

Mr Jeff McHugh

All attendees who travelled to attend Synod

Staff of Bridgeport Hotel

Assistant Secretaries

Timekeeper

Synod concluded with prayer/grace at 12:34pm