



The Synod of the Diocese of The Murray of
the Anglican Church of Australia Inc.
ABN 11 456 974 518

MINUTES OF THE THIRD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH TRIENNIAL SYNOD

**HELD AT BRIDGES EVENT CENTRE, 342 BRINKLEY ROAD, GIFFORD HILL
ON SATURDAY 3 JUNE 2023**

COMMENCEMENT

The Synod assembled in the Macquarie and Legends Rooms, Gifford Hill, Murray Bridge at 8:30 am for the Synod Eucharist and Bishop's Charge. Mr Richard Earley welcomed Synod members and addressed housekeeping matters.

The President presided with 15 clerical and 43 lay members of Synod in attendance.

MEMBERSHIP

The following appointments were announced: The Reverend Margaret Holt and Mrs Susan Smith as the Assistant Secretaries, Mr Jeffrey McHugh and Mr Richard Earley appointed as Scrutineers, The Reverend Andrew Forder appointed as Timekeeper and Mr Mark Taylor appointed as Synod Reporter.

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

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

Mrs Jill Fiebiger	Lower Limestone Coast
Mr Graeme Skene	Lower Limestone Coast
The Reverend Peter Simmons	Mount Barker District
The Venerable Neil Fernando	Mount Gambier
Mr John Hender	South Coast
The Reverend Marjorie Keeble	South Coast
Mrs Veronica Hedger	Southern Suburbs
Mrs Bronwyn Telfer	Southern Suburbs
Mr Rick Telfer	Southern Suburbs
The Reverend Rory Westgarth	Southern Suburbs
The Reverend Andrew Klynsmith	Strathalbyn
Mr Geoff Guy	Tatiara
The Reverend Robert Hupfeld	Tatiara
The Reverend Wayne Corker	Upper Limestone Coast
Ms Doreen Rusbrook	Western Fleurieu
The Venerable Adrian Stephens	Diocese
Dr Robert Tong	Diocese

A mandate had been issued to the following substitutionary lay members of Synod:

Mr Dean Burrow	Lower Limestone Coast
Mr John (Fred) Luckhurst Smith	Lower Limestone Coast
Mrs Maxine Keys	Southern Suburbs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The ac.care Acknowledgement of Country video was played.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

PETITIONS

Nil

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

REPORTS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

The following reports were circulated with the Synod papers:

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

The Report of AnglicareSA submitted by Mr Grant Reubenicht, CEO.

The Report of Kooyoora – Professional Standards.

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 Statistics.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

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

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 from: 8:30 am to 10:30 am
 11:00 am to 12:30 pm
 1:15 pm to 3:30 pm

Mover: Mr Richard Earley

Seconder: Mr Murray McFarlane

PASSED

OBSERVERS TO THE SYNOD

That this Synod warmly welcomes the Director of Professional Standards of Kooyoora, Ms Katrina Thomas, and the observers from the Diocese of Adelaide, the Reverend Paula Bullock, from the Diocese of Willochra, the Reverend Anne Ford and Mr Michael Ford, and from AnglicareSA, the Reverend Ben Falcon, and grants them a seat on the floor of Synod with the right to speak, but not to propose or second motions or vote.

Mover: Mr Richard Earley

Seconder: Mr Murray McFarlane

PASSED

GREETINGS FROM THE DIOCESES

Diocese of Adelaide – Reverend Paula Bullock

Diocese of Willochra – The Reverend Anne Ford and Mr Michael Ford.

Brought greetings from Bishop Jeremy and the people of Willochra.

SYNOD LEGISLATION

Synod members were reminded that Constitutional amendments require two Synods, hence having a Special Session of Synod yesterday and the Third Annual Session of the Eighteenth Triennial Synod today.

Mover: Mr Murray McFarlane moved a procedural motion.

Seconder: Mr Brian McMillan

That all the legislation dealt with at the Special Session of Synod on 2 June 2023, bar the Constitution Amendment measure, be removed from the notice paper.

PASSED

A. DIOCESAN LEGISLATION

1. That the Constitution Amendment Measure 2023 be approved in principle.

Mover: Mr Murray McFarlane

Seconder: Mr Brian McMillan

Vote by Houses:

House of Laity: Yes – 43, No – 0

House of Clergy: Yes – 15, No – 0

House of Bishop: Yes – 1, No – 0

PASSED

That the Constitution Amendment Measure 2023 pass as a measure of Synod.

Mover: Mr Murray McFarlane

Seconder: Mr Brian McMillan

Vote by Houses:

House of Laity: Yes – 43, No – 0

House of Clergy: Yes – 15, No – 0

House of Bishop: Yes – 1, No – 0

PASSED

Leave was given by Synod to allow Mr Murray McFarlane to address Synod. Mr McFarlane thanked all those who gave help and support in producing the legislation.

The President thanked Mr McFarlane for his outstanding work. Synod members acknowledged their thanks to Mr McFarlane with applause.

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

That the Report of the Legislation Review Committee be received.

Mover: Mr Murray McFarlane

Seconder: Mr Brian McMillan

PASSED

REPORT OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY CARE

That the Report of Anglican Community Care be received.

Mover: Mr Rick Fisher

Seconder: Mr David Glover

PASSED

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIRECTOR, KOYOORA – KATRINA THOMAS

Ms Katrina Thomas presented a report on the Professional Standards work of Kooyoora. Kooyoora works to co-create safe organisations.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

That the Report of the Synod Auditor, and the Synod Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022, as tabled, be received and adopted.

Mover: Mr Jeff McHugh

Seconder: Mr Richard Earley

PASSED

DRAFT BUDGET OF SYNOD EXPENSES AND RATE OF ASSESSMENT

1. That the draft budget of Synod Expenses for the year 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 presented by the Diocesan Council, be received and adopted.

AND

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

Mover: Mr Jeff McHugh

Seconder: Mr Richard Earley

PASSED

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Mr Richard Earley acknowledged the resignation of the previous Registrar, Mrs Donna Jones and her wonderful contribution to the Registry office over 39 years. Mr Earley acknowledged the death of Dr Ted Sandercock and his considerable contribution to the Diocese over many years, and also the significant assistance of Mr Jeff McHugh and Assistant Registrar Ms Christine Lubcke during a year of much transition.

That the Report of the Diocesan Council be received.

Mover: Mr Richard Earley

Seconder: Mr Murray McFarlane

PASSED

Leave was given by Synod to allow Mrs Jill Hervé to move a motion.

That this Synod thank Mrs Donna Jones for her many years of service to the Diocese and wish her all the best and God's blessings for the future.

Mover: Mrs Jill Hervé

Seconder: Mr Murray McFarlane

PASSED

The President offered thanks to Mrs Jan Malpas (Naracoorte, Upper Limestone Coast) and acknowledged that this will be her last synod as Synod rep.

MOTIONS SUBMITTED (in order of receipt)

INTEREST PAYABLE ON PAROCHIAL TRUST FUNDS

1. That Clause 6 of the Parochial Trust Funds Regulation, namely:
“To preserve the real value of the Trust, 50% of all interest shall be available to the parish and 50% capitalised”
be suspended until Synod 2024, and
2. That all interest payable according to the declared distribution rate be paid to the parish (or faith community) concerned until Synod 2024.

Mover: Mrs Jill Hervé

Secunder: The Venerable David McDougall

The motion was amended, deleting “paid to” and replacing it with “available to.”

Mover: Mrs Jill Hervé

Secunder: The Venerable David McDougall

PASSED as amended

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PROVINCIAL ANGLICAN CREATION CARE NETWORK

Leave was given by Synod for Reverend Deacon Margaret Holt to address Synod regarding the Provincial Anglican Creation Care Network.

That this Synod recognises the Provincial Anglican Creation Care Network and appoints Reverend Deacon Margaret Holt and Dr Sally Shaw as Diocese of The Murray representatives to the Network.

Mover: Mr Rick Fisher

Secunder: Mrs Ruth Daws

PASSED

TWO MINUTE TALKS

As there was time available, the President invited Synod members to speak on a topic of interest to the Synod.

Reverend Ben Falcon – AnglicareSA.

Mrs Natalie Jones – Mount Barker District: Handling the Bible course

Canon Michael Bleby – Lower Limestone Coast: Beachport faith community meetings after sale of the church building.

Fr Peter Chapman – Western Fleurieu: Chaplain ministry at Noarlunga Hospital.

Mr Mark Taylor – Synod Reporter.

Mr Rick Fisher – Mount Gambier: ac.care.

DECLARATION

The President declared that the amended Constitution is now in force.

The President closed the Annual Session of Synod with prayer at 2:00 pm.