

**OXFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD**  
**Unipart Conference Centre, Cowley**  
**Saturday 11 March 2023 from 1015 to 1530**

*Tea and coffee will be available from 0945*

## AGENDA

Item	Time	Item	Mins
1.	10.15	<b>Welcome and Opening Worship</b>	20
2.	10.35	<b>Notices</b>  <b>Approval of Minutes</b> of meeting held on 12 November 2022 <i>Previously circulated</i>	5
3.	10.40	<b>Presidential Address</b> and any responses  The Rt. Revd Dr Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford	25
4.	11.05	<b>Questions under S.O(70)</b> A written response will be available if questions are received.	5
5.	11.10	<b>Report from General Synod and opportunity for other comments</b> <i>Verbal</i>  The Revd Canon Toby Wright and the Revd Joy Mawdesley will report back on the February General Synod, after which there will be time for brief comments and questions.	30
	11.40	<b>Coffee Break</b>	20
6.	12.00	<b>Environment</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Paper ODS 23.01</i></span>  There will be a presentation from the Rt Revd Olivia Graham, Bishop of Reading and Hannah Mann, Environment Action Programme Manager. This will be followed by a group discussion.  The Bishop of Reading to move:  <i>That this Synod</i>  <i>1. Supports the milestones outlined within the national Routemap to Net Zero Carbon and seeks to meet those as far as possible within the context of the Oxford Diocese;</i>	60

		<p>2. <i>Endorses the proposed Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Action Plan as a positive direction of travel and asks Bishop's Council to oversee its implementation (and review as necessary in light of experience) reporting back to Synod regularly</i></p> <p>3. <i>Calls on parishes, and on others associated with the Diocese, to continue their positive work and form their own plans consistent with the Diocesan intention.</i></p>	
	<b>13.00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	60
7.	<b>13.50</b>	<p><b>Reading Deanery Synod Motion</b> <i>Paper ODS 23.02 and 23.02A</i></p> <p>Mr Mark Burton to move on behalf of Reading Deanery Synod:</p> <p><i>"That this Synod;</i></p> <p><i>a) propose that all reasonable steps are taken to influence HM Government to amend planning regulations so that there is a presumption of permission for the installation of solar panels on the roofs of churches, where appropriate, and the installation of heat pumps, and other renewable technologies, even if the churches are listed buildings; and facilitate the installation of renewable technologies in other buildings as part of a programme of measures to increase energy efficiency; and</i></p> <p><i>b) pass a motion to support this proposal and refer this motion to General Synod."</i></p>	25
8.	<b>14.15</b>	<p><b>Wantage Deanery Synod Motion</b> <i>Paper ODS 23.03 and 23.03A</i></p> <p>The Reverend Benji Tyler to move on behalf of Wantage Deanery Synod:</p> <p><i>That this Synod, embracing the principles of the Sustainable Church Flowers movement, which encourages a living into the Fifth Mark of Mission by promoting the use of local, seasonal and fully biodegradable/compostable flowers and foliage without floral foam,</i></p> <p><i>1.) encourages a sustainable approach to church flowers throughout the diocese</i></p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p><i>2.) strongly discourages the use of all floral foam in churches and churchyards across the diocese.</i></p>	15
9.	<b>14.30</b>	<p><b>New Congregations</b> <i>Paper ODS 23.04</i></p> <p>There will be a presentation followed by a table discussion and then Question and Answer session.</p>	40

10.	15.15	<b>Financial Year End Outturn Verbal</b>  Sir Hector Sants, Chair of the Board of Finance, will give a verbal update on the financial out-turn for the year ended 31st December 2022.	5
11.	15.20	<b>Reflection</b> The Rev Deiniol Heywood  <b>Closing Blessing</b> (Bishop of Oxford)	10
	15.30	<b>Finish</b>	-

## Notes

Any apologies for absence should be made in advance of the meeting to the Diocesan Secretary via Sam Adams, the Clerk of the Synod at Church House. Email: [synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org)

The Synod will be held in person at **Unipart Conference Centre on Saturday 11 March 2023.**

Address: Unipart House, Garsington Road, Cowley, Oxford OX4 2PG.

If using sat nav, please use OX4 6LN.

Please arrive at 9.30am for a prompt 10.15am start. The Synod will finish at 3.30pm. Lunch (which will include vegetarian options) and refreshments will be provided. If you have any dietary requirements please advise Sam Adams [synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org).

Please park in the visitors car park to the left of the entrance and make your way to the building on the left.

The attention of members is drawn to the fact that under the Synod's Standing Orders:

- a) the period of notice for new business has expired, save for urgent or other especially important business included by direction of the President;
- b) notice of motions arising out of the business on the agenda and of amendments to motions must be received by the Secretary of the Synod (the Diocesan Secretary) **by Friday 3 March 2023**
- c) notice of questions under Standing Order 70 must be received by the Secretary of the Synod **by Friday 3 March 2023**

Email: [diosec@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:diosec@oxford.anglican.org) copied to [synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org). Please ensure any amendments raised or questions have been acknowledged as received safely.

Being mindful that this is a formal gathering of the Synod and Standing Orders apply, when wishing to speak, members are asked to raise their hand. Please give your name and number if known, or Deanery or relevant position. The Chair will invite members to speak in order and determine length of speech.

Only Synod members are permitted to speak except by permission of the Chair. Members are asked to keep contributions brief to maximise the number of people who can speak.