



THE FOURTH SESSION  
OF THE  
NINETEENTH DIOCESAN SYNOD

will be held at St John's (Meads) Church St John's  
Road Eastbourne BN20 7ND

(Also with ZOOM access, technology permitting)

On 15 November 2025 at 10:30am

# **AGENDA**

## **OPENING WORSHIP**

## **MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD**

1. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS and welcome to new members
2. WELCOME to new AD of Chichester Dr Tom Carpenter
3. 950 CELEBRATION & LOOKING FORWARD (No paper in pack)

## **MEETING OF THE CHICHESTER DIOCESAN FUND AND BOARD OF FINANCE (INCORPORATED)**

4. ASSETS COMMITTEE REPORT (page 1 of the supporting papers)  
Mr Kevin Edgley to move "That this Synod takes note of this report."
5. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2026 (see separate booklet) Mr Stephen Hoyles (Chair) to move "That the budget of the DBF for 2026 be received".

## **MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD**

6. DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT (pages 2-6 of the supporting papers)
7. COMPARING WITH OTHER DIOCESES (to follow)
8. ORDER OF ST RICHARD (Sara Stonor) (No paper)
9. DIOCESAN GROWTH STRATEGY UPDATE (pages 7-8 of the supporting papers)

10. LAY MINISTRY (No paper)
11. NET ZERO CARBON (pages 9-28 of the supporting papers)
12. REPORT FROM THE GENERAL SYNOD – (pages 29-31 of the Supporting Papers) Catherine Butcher to move *“That this report be received”*.
13. REPORT ON THE BISHOP’S COUNCIL – (page 32 of the Supporting Papers) Revd Canon Mark Gilbert to move *“That this report be received”*.
14. ELECTIONS TO DEANERY SYNODS (page 33 of the Supporting Papers)  
Mr Stephen Hoyles to move *“That pursuant to Rules 19(2) and 19(3)(a) of the Church Representation Rules, the numbers of parochial representatives of the laity to be elected from parishes of the Diocese to Deanery Synods shall be calculated by reference to the numbers of names on the rolls of the parishes in 2022 as notified under Rule 10 in accordance with the table on page 33 of the supporting papers”*.
15. QUESTIONS UNDER SO69  
Under Standing Order 69 all questions received by 8 November 2025 will be tabled on an order paper available on the day of the Synod.

***THE MEETING WILL FINISH NO LATER THAN 1.30pm***

## **NOTES:**

**ADMISSION:** Registration begins from 9.50am.

**SPEECHES:** Speeches to Synod from the floor will be limited to five minutes. A bell will be sounded after four minutes and again after five minutes.

**NB** The length of speeches may be limited still further at the discretion of the chair.

**RECORDING:** The meeting may be recorded on a dictaphone and on Zoom for the purpose of completing the minutes. Some of the recording may be shown on the website and once the minutes are approved the rest of the recording will be deleted (or deleted entirely if not shown on the website).

**PROXIES** Members have the right to appoint a proxy for the meeting of the Diocesan Board of Finance under article 25 of the Board's articles of association but not for the meeting of the Diocesan Synod.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

**1. Speaking:** when invited to speak will all Members please give their name and deanery.

**2. Coffee and tea** will be served at the back of the church from 9.50am to 10.20am and again after Synod finishes. Bottled water will not be provided but you are welcome to bring your own. There will be no designated break for refreshments except as above.

**3. Toilets:** can be found at the back of the church on the left side when facing away from the altar. Continue through the door for the accessible toilets.

**4. Disability:** Any member with a disability, or who requires assistance to vacate the premises in the event of a fire, is invited to contact the Secretary by Friday 31 October 2025 to make any special arrangements necessary.

**5. Visual impairment:** Any member with visual impairment who requires large print versions of any of the agenda or associated papers please contact the Secretary by Friday 31 October 2025.

## **NEXT DIOCESAN SYNOD**

There will be a meeting of Diocesan Synod on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 10:30am.

In accordance with Standing Order 26, 35 days' notice is required for any new business for the agenda. The latest date that such items should be in the hands of the Secretary is 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

**John Preston, Diocesan Secretary**  
**Diocesan Church House, 211 New Church Road Hove BN3 4ED**