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Proposer: Ven. Martin Lloyd-Williams
Seconded: Ven. Angela Martin

SUMMARY: I have been a dedicated and passionate member of General Synod for the past five years and I bring continuing experience as a representative of the Diocese of Chichester. For the last two years I was the convener of the Chichester representatives. I am a member of Together for the Church of England and a keen advocate for the importance of the parish as a focus for mission and align myself with Save the Parish.

My personal spirituality draws on a range of traditions from the complete spectrum of Anglican practice. My intention is 'to preach the gospel at all times and when necessary use words' (attributed to St. Francis).

I am a community focused priest with strategic vision and understanding, passionate about mission and doing ministry creatively. I am grateful to God that the church I serve in Brighton is growing, diverse and multi-age with a passion for social welfare.

BIOGRAPHY

I have been in this diocese since 1999, initially as a non-stipendiary minister and then as vicar of St. Luke's Prestonville in Brighton since 2010. Before this I was a TV producer, creating identities for TV channels such as BBC2, SKY, and ITV and working with international broadcasters such as Al Jazeera, TV4 Sweden and RTL Germany. Prior to this I was an actor prompted by my involvement in drama while training for ministry at St. John's Nottingham. I am married and have three adult children.

DIOCESAN INVOLVEMENT

I have been actively involved in diocesan affairs since moving to Hove in 1999. In 2009 I conducted a communications review for the diocese in my capacity as a media consultant. This led to me advising on diocesan communications including reshaping the magazine into its current 'Faith in Sussex' format. I have run training on fresh expressions and mission for Lay Readers and Spiritual Directors as well as providing workshops and being a keynote speaker nationally on creative liturgy and alternative worship. In 2014 I worked with then Director of Mission, Richard Jackson to collate results from a Deanery consultation and present this to senior staff followed by co-writing the Diocesan strategy which resulted in the mission statement 'To Know, Love and Follow Jesus'.

GENERAL SYNOD RECORD 2021 - 2026

I have attended every session in person over the last quinquennium and been present for every debate. I voted for an increase in clergy stipends and pensions and actively participated in a variety of debates. Contributions to Synod include:

- Moving a friendly amendment to a motion from Oxford Diocese 'Responding to the Climate Emergency' in discussion with the Bishop of Reading.
- Working with GMH colleagues on Synod to write and move an amendment to the Triennium Funding Plans for 2027-2029 to restore the Racial Justice budget to an appropriate level.
- Joining the LLF working group in September 2024 and contributing to these discussions until the process was halted earlier this year.
- Member of a communications task group in relation to the Spire reparative justice project from September 2024, work which is still ongoing.
- Elected to the Mission and Public Affairs Council in October 2025 which works with the Faith in Public Life team to explore all aspects of social and political welfare in order to inform the Lords Spiritual and engage with Parliament.

Common Good

I am Diocesan lead for Modern Slavery as a member of the Council for the Promotion of the Common Good. In this role I founded an ecumenical partnership to create a network of Modern Slavery Ambassadors to raise awareness of this issue. I am currently working with the Diocesan Racial Justice Co-ordinator on a variety of projects and I represent Chichester on the South Eastern Dioceses Social Action/Social Justice Network.

Since 2010 I have been Chair of St. Luke's Advice Service providing benefit and debt advice in Brighton & Hove. As vicar of St. Luke's Prestonville I have established a partnership with the Real Junk Food Project to provide lunches for anyone in need, serving hundreds of folk every week. I have facilitated the development of a number of initiatives for those in recovery including the world's first recovery orchestra.

CREATIVE MINISTRY & MISSION

Having a creative background has greatly informed my ministry and I seek to bring this to every aspect of my work as a priest and a member of General Synod

I established **Beyond** in 2008 as an initiative to connect Christian spirituality with the artistic culture of Brighton & Hove. I created the world's first **Beach Hut Advent Calendar** on Hove seafront which ran from 2008-2019 reminding people of the Christian origin of advent and the true meaning of Christmas. This involved hundreds of participants and thousands of attendees and in 2014 I received a **Point of Light award from the Prime Minister** for my contribution to the community. I was involved in content creation for the **Greenbelt** arts, faith and justice festival from 2009 running the Sunday morning communion service for 15,000 people twice and heading up the worship programming team from 2011-2014.

I am an author and my book writing credits include:

- Contributed a chapter to '**Transforming Christian Thought in the Visual Arts**'.
- '**Church Beyond Walls**' about the creative projects run by Beyond
- '**Real Life Rev**' a behind the scenes description of clergy life in an urban Brighton parish.
- Contributed a chapter to '**Project Kindness**' about doing justice in hostile times

ISSUE POSITIONING

I am resistant to being boxed into positions on various issues but I understand that in an election it is helpful to know the opinion of the candidates on pertinent topics. So here is an outline of my stance on some of the issues of the moment. I also want to make it clear that whilst I hold these opinions, I would not wish to impose these on others and I believe that the great strength of the church is our unity in Christ which allows us to still love each other when we disagree.

- **The Bible** – My evangelical roots have given me a strong focus on the centrality of the Bible and I seek to use my critical faculties in my exegesis and interpretation of scripture.
- **Relationships** – I wish to support anyone who wants to commit to a long-term relationship with their partner. This includes our LGBTQI+ brothers and sisters and I hope that we will be able to fully affirm their relationships in church in bespoke services soon. I have regularly taken part in the annual Brighton Pride parade and believe it is an important act of witness.
- **Equality** – I am passionate about equality at all levels and roles in the church and I encourage the ministry of all regardless of disability, neurodiversity, social class, ethnicity or sexuality.
- **Safeguarding** - I believe church safeguarding should be managed externally to the church.
- **Politics** – I support any politicians who show a concern for the environment and have a focus on the social welfare of those least well off in society.

If I am elected to General Synod I will seek to represent the views of my colleagues in this diocese whilst my voting will be in accordance with the principles outlined above. I always respond to any emails or letters sent to me about General Synod and take all correspondence seriously. I hope you have enough information here to convince you to give me your first preference vote and I am very happy to respond to any questions you may have using the contact details above.

