



THE SIXTH SESSION
OF THE
NINETEENTH DIOCESAN SYNOD

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

Zoom link available upon request

On Saturday 14th November 2026 at 10:30am

AGENDA

10:30am HOUSE OF CLERGY: ELECTION OF CHAIR

10:35am OPENING WORSHIP

MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD

1. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS and welcome to new members

2. STORRINGTON DEANERY SYNOD MOTION

A representative of the Deanery will move that *“This Synod, noting that the imposition by the Government of 20% VAT on repairs to churches is a burden for volunteers who are already responsible for the entire funding of parish church projects and noting that museums pay 0% VAT on repairs, calls for churches and museums to be treated on the same basis.”*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHICHESTER DIOCESAN FUND AND BOARD OF FINANCE (INCORPORATED)

3. ASSETS COMMITTEE REPORT Mr Kevin Edgley to move "That this Synod takes note of this report."

4. PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2027 (see separate booklet)
Mr Stephen Hoyles (Chair) to move “That the budget of the DBF for 2027 be received”.

MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD

5. SUSTAINING PARISH MINISTRY

Following a presentation by John Preston, the Synod will discuss around tables what can be done to sustain levels of parish ministry.

6. SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

i. DBS Checks

ii. Redress Scheme

Following a presentation from Colin Perkins, Director of Safeguarding, members will have the chance to engage in discussion.

7. DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Lesley Hurst, Director of Education will present the report.

8. NET ZERO CARBON

Gareth Martin, Net Zero Carbon Officer, will present the report.

9. REPORTS ON THE BISHOP'S COUNCIL – written report

Sara Stonor to move that *"That this report be received"*.

10. REPORT FROM THE GENERAL SYNOD - written report

Mary Nagel to move *"That this report be received"*.

11. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 69

All questions received by the end of Friday 6th November 2026 will be tabled on an order paper available on the day of the Synod.

12. VACANCY IN SEE REPORT – FOR INFORMATION

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 for the purpose of completing the minutes.

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 indicating a desire to speak please hold up your card (issued at registration). Before speaking will all members please give their name and deanery.

2. Coffee and tea will be served from 9.50am to 10.20am. 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 30th October 2026 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 30th October 2026.

FUTURE DIOCESAN SYNOD MEETINGS

There will be a meeting of Diocesan Synod on Saturday 5th June 2027 at 10:30am. The other date for 2027 is Saturday 13th November.

In accordance with Standing Order 26, 35 days' notice is required for any new business for the next agenda. The latest date that such items should be in the hands of the Secretary is Friday 30th April 2027.

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