



DIOCESAN SYNOD

Withdrawal of the Diocesan Synod Motion on the Anglican Communion Covenant to the General Synod

Mr Adrian Greenwood (Chair of the House of Laity) to move that:

“this Synod formally withdraws the Diocesan Synod Motion submitted to the General Synod in 2012, ahead of the new quinquennium”

1. In March 2012 the Southwark Diocesan Synod debated a motion to be put to the General Synod as a Diocesan Synod motion. Diocesan Synod Motions (DSMs) are motions passed by diocesan synods that have been referred to the General Synod. Once a DSM has been referred to the General Synod it will not come off the agenda until it is either debated or withdrawn by the proposing diocese.
2. Similar motions were put forward by the dioceses of Bath & Wells, Chelmsford, Lincoln, London, Oxford and St Albans. These motions have now been formally withdrawn as the proposals for the Anglican Communion Covenant are themselves no longer under active consideration.
3. . Given that the motion has been outstanding for over 7 years it has been requested by the Synod Office that it be formally withdrawn in time for the new quinquennium of General Synod.
4. The motion was approved at Diocesan Synod in 2012 was as follows:

... to move on behalf of the Southwark Diocesan Synod:

“That this Synod:

(a) rejoice in the fellowship of the world-wide Anglican Communion, which is rooted in our shared worship and held together by bonds of affection and our common appeal to Scripture, tradition and reason, all as set out in Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the draft Anglican Communion Covenant;

(b) thank the Archbishop of Canterbury for his tireless efforts throughout the Communion to sustain and strengthen unity in difficult times; and

(c) call on the House of Bishops:

(i) to find ways to maintain and reinforce strong links across the world-wide Anglican Communion and to deepen the Church of England's involvement with the existing Communion ministries and networks (especially the continuing Indaba process);

(ii) to publicise and promote this work within the dioceses of the Church of England in order to broaden understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the Anglican Communion; and

(iii) to encourage a wide understanding of, and support for, the next Lambeth Conference.’

5. Synod members will be asked to formally withdraw this motion.

Ruth Martin

Diocesan Secretary