



Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Mission in England (AMiE)

Amended 18th June 2022

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Preface

The Anglican Mission in England (AMiE) is committed to proclaiming Christ faithfully to the nations.

We are immensely grateful for our recognition by Gafcon in its communiqué after the Nairobi conference in 2013, for the renewed affirmation in the *Letter to the Churches* that emerged from its 2018 conference in Jerusalem, and our recognition as an Extra-Provincial Convocation in 2020. We praise God for the faithful, visionary and costly leadership of those within the Gafcon movement. We treasure the doctrinal unity, the joint commitment to mission and the cultural diversity represented by the Gafcon family. We aim to learn from and contribute to this gospel movement.

Our desire is to share the gospel of the triune God in our Churches and in all the world. God's gospel is the life-transforming message of salvation from sin and all its consequences through the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is both a declaration and a summons: announcing what has been done for us in Christ and calling us to repentance, faith and submission to his Lordship. It involves the restoration and reaffirmation of God's original creative purposes. It is addressed to men, women and children and it is our only hope in the light of the final judgment and the reality of hell. God's gospel concerns his Son (Romans 1:1–3). Jesus Christ is the centre of the gospel message, and all that he has done through his perfect life, atoning death, triumphant resurrection, and glorious ascension. The uniqueness of Jesus Christ lies at the heart of the eternity-changing message: "there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). The gospel confronts us in the midst of our confusion and sin but it does not leave us there. It includes a summons to repentance and a call to believe in the gospel (Mark 1:15), which results in a grace-filled life. The ascended Christ gave his Spirit to empower his disciples to take this gospel to the world.

We have received the gospel through the faithful witness of previous generations. Yet there are still billions of people who are without Christ and without hope. Jesus taught his disciples: "this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations" (Matthew 24:14). We repent for the times and seasons when we have only preached to ourselves and not embraced the difficult task of reaching beyond our own cultural groups in obedience to God's call to be a light to the nations (Acts 13:47). Our desire is not simply to exist for ourselves and for now. We are passionate about the future. We aim to be a haven for orthodox Anglicans and a home where rescued sinners can know and love their Saviour. The task before us is both glorious and enormous. But, with the help of God, AMiE will play its part in proclaiming Christ faithfully to the nations.

Section 1: Constitution

This Constitution is intended to provide an ecclesial summary of AMiE's theology and praxis. Its governing documents as a matter of charity and company law are its Articles of Association and any resolution passed by Synod, including the Canons.

Article 1: The Identity of the Anglican Mission in England

- 1.1 The Anglican Mission in England 'AMiE' is a Diocese recognised by the Gafcon Primates' Council.
- 1.2 AMiE is a founding member of the Anglican Network in Europe (ANiE).
- 1.3 Under God, ANiE intends to develop and mature its structures and membership to enable ANiE to become a Gafcon sponsored Province.

Article 2: The Mission of the Anglican Mission in England

- 2.1 AMiE is a fellowship of faithful Anglican Churches committed to gospel mission by planting Churches, strengthening Churches and partnering with other gospel-centred Christians for the salvation of many and the glory of God.

Article 3: The Scope of the Anglican Mission in England

- 3.1 The primary focus of the Anglican Mission in England is mission activity within England. This does not preclude provision of oversight and support elsewhere if circumstances require.

Article 4: The Doctrinal Basis of the Anglican Mission in England

- 4.1 AMiE receives and accepts as its Doctrinal Basis the Canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God, containing all things necessary for salvation, and the final authority and unchangeable standard for Christian faith and life.
- 4.2 It also accepts as faithful expression of this doctrine:
 - 4.2.1 The Christian faith as declared in the creeds known as the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed and the Athanasian Creed;
 - 4.2.2 Such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to the Holy Scriptures;
 - 4.2.3 The *Book of Common Prayer* as set forth by the Church of England in 1662, together with the *Form and Manner of Making Ordaining and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests and Deacons*, and *The Articles of Religion agreed in 1562*.
 - 4.2.4 The *Jerusalem Statement and Declaration* of 2008.
- 4.3 AMiE affirms the equality of men and women as created image bearers of God and that the ministry of men and women is equally valid, valuable and necessary in God's eyes. AMiE also affirms that Scripture teaches that there are proper differences in roles and responsibilities in marriage and Christian ministry. We want men and women to flourish in

the Church, use their spiritual gifts, exercise leadership and have training for discipleship and ministry of the highest quality. While rejoicing in the ministry of women, we resolve as we seek to follow Scripture that only godly and gifted male candidates will be ordained Presbyters and consecrated Bishops in AMiE, in order to protect and nourish the entire body of Christ.

Article 5: The Membership of the Anglican Mission in England

- 5.1 Membership of AMiE consists of the Founding Churches listed in a schedule to this Constitution and Churches who become members by process provided by Canon.

Article 6: The Governance of the Anglican Mission in England

- 6.1 The Synod of the Diocese is the governing body of the Anglican Mission in England.
- 6.2 Membership of the Synod consists of:
- 6.2.1 The Diocesan Bishop;
 - 6.2.2 Any Assistant Bishop;
 - 6.2.3 The Senior Minister of each Member Church holding the licence of the Diocesan Bishop;
 - 6.2.4 At least one lay representative from each Member Church;
 - 6.2.5 Other licenced clergy members as may be provided by Canon;
 - 6.2.6 Other lay members as may be provided by Canon;
 - 6.2.7 The Chancellor of the Diocese is an ex-officio member of the Synod with a right to speak but not to vote;
 - 6.2.8 The Registrar of the Diocese is an ex-officio member of the Synod with a right to speak but not to vote;
 - 6.2.9 All lay members of Synod must agree to be bound by the Constitution and Canons of AMiE.
- 6.3 The Diocesan Bishop must convene a Synod to meet at least once every calendar year and may summon members to a special meeting pursuant to Article 6.5.
- 6.4 The Diocesan Bishop must promptly convene a special meeting of the Synod, to meet as soon as reasonably practicable, upon receipt of a request to do so, signed by not less than one half of the members of the House of Clergy and one half of the members of the House of Laity to deal with business set out in the request.
- 6.5 The Diocesan Bishop may convene a special meeting of the Synod for urgent business, giving at least fourteen business days' notice. The business is to be set out in the summons to the special meeting.
- 6.6 The terms of office and the duties of the Registrar of the Diocese and the Chancellor of the Diocese will be defined by Canon.

Article 7: The Powers of Synod

- 7.1** Subject to this Constitution, the Synod has plenary power to make Canons and pass resolutions relating to the order and good government of the Anglican Mission in England.
- 7.2** Notwithstanding Article 7.1, the Synod has no power to make any Canon, or pass any resolution which in whole or in part contradicts or varies the Doctrinal Basis, or the effect of which is to diminish what the Doctrinal Basis states or implies.
- 7.3** Without derogating from the plenary powers of the Synod in Article 7.1, the Synod may by Canon:
- 7.3.1** Change the name of Anglican Mission in England;
 - 7.3.2** Change the designation of AMiE from Convocation to Diocese;
 - 7.3.3** Join or leave an Anglican Province;
 - 7.3.4** Extend the geographical scope of AMiE's mission if it is convinced, after consultation with other appropriate parties, as agreed by Standing Committee, that this will be helpful and fruitful for gospel ministry in other places.
- 7.4** The Synod may:
- 7.4.1** Make statements about Christian faith and conduct;
 - 7.4.2** Publicly or otherwise express its view about any matter affecting Christians around the world;
 - 7.4.3** Receive reports about the mission and ministry of Member Churches and the common life of the Diocese.

Article 8: Synod Meetings

- 8.1** The summons of the Diocesan Bishop convening a meeting of the Synod must be sent to all Synod members not less than six months before the date of that meeting. A detailed Agenda paper must be sent to all Synod members not less than two months before the date of the meeting. In the case of a special meeting pursuant to Articles 6.4 and 6.5 at least fourteen days' notice must be given.
- 8.2** The quorum at any meeting of the Synod is half the total number of members in each House who have been called to attend that meeting.
- 8.3** The Diocesan Bishop will chair meetings of the Synod. If the Diocesan Bishop is absent then the senior Assistant Bishop, by date of consecration, will chair, or if there be no Assistant Bishop then the senior clergy member of the Standing Committee, by date of ordination, will chair.
- 8.4** Synod must by Canon or resolution, make rules, known as Standing Orders, for the conduct of Synod business.

- 8.5** The members of Synod are to vote collectively on all matters unless five members request that a vote should be taken by Houses. In that case each House is to vote separately. The motion is passed if both Houses vote in favour of the motion.
- 8.6** The Diocesan Bishop may speak on any matter before the Synod. The Diocesan Bishop does not have a deliberative or casting vote on any matter before the Synod.
- 8.7** No Canon will take effect unless the Diocesan Bishop has given his assent in writing to the Canon within 10 days of the close of the Synod meeting which passed the Canon. In the event that assent is not given, the Diocesan Bishop must provide to the Standing Committee, within the same period, his reasons for not doing so.

Article 9: The Diocesan Bishop

- 9.1** In furtherance of the Office and responsibilities of a Bishop set forth in the Ordinal, the Diocesan Bishop in partnership with the Synod will prayerfully seek to direct the mission priorities of AMiE to hold out the gospel for the salvation of many and the glory of God.
- 9.2** The appointment of the Diocesan Bishop and his terms and conditions of office will be determined by Canon.
- 9.3** The Diocesan Bishop may revoke any licence issued by him or his predecessors as provided by Canon.
- 9.4** The Synod must by Canon provide a procedure for the appointment of one or more Assistant Bishops.
- 9.5** The Synod must by Canon provide a process by which, in extraordinary circumstances and by Special Majority, the Diocesan Bishop can be removed from office.
- 9.6** If the office of Diocesan Bishop becomes vacant by reason of retirement, resignation, incapacity, death or a process under the Church Discipline Canon, then the Diocese will be administered by the senior Assistant Bishop, by date of consecration, or if there be no Assistant Bishop then the senior clergy member of the Standing Committee, by date of ordination, will be Administrator until the office of Diocesan Bishop is filled.
- 9.7** Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9.2, on the adoption of this Constitution, the Right Reverend Andrew John Lines will become the first Diocesan Bishop of the Anglican Mission in England.

Article 10: Standing Committee of Synod

- 10.1** There is to be a Standing Committee of the Synod to conduct the business of the Synod between its meetings.
- 10.2** The size, composition, powers and procedures, of the Standing Committee must be determined by Canon.
- 10.3** The Diocesan Bishop will chair meetings of the Standing Committee. If the Diocesan Bishop is absent the senior Assistant Bishop, by date of consecration, will chair, or if there be no Assistant Bishop then the senior clergy member of the Standing Committee, by date of ordination, will chair.

- 10.4 The Standing Committee must present a report to the annual Synod on the financial affairs of AMiE and a budget for the next financial period, for adoption or amendment.
- 10.5 The Standing Committee must give a full report of its activities to each annual Synod.
- 10.6 The members of Standing Committee will become the Trustees of AMiE.

Article 11: Discipline

- 11.1 The Synod must by Canon provide for the appointment of a Clergy Discipline Tribunal to hear and determine charges or complaints regarding standards of doctrine or conduct against any person holding the licence of the Diocesan Bishop. The Canon will specify the nature of the charges or complaints which can be initiated in the Clergy Discipline Tribunal and specify what the Clergy Discipline Tribunal can recommend to the Diocesan Bishop, if a charge or complaint is sustained.
- 11.2 The Synod may by Canon create a body to hear and determine appeals from the Clergy Discipline Tribunal to be called the Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal.
- 11.3 The Synod must by Canon provide for the appointment of an Episcopal Discipline Tribunal to hear and determine any charge or complaint regarding standards of doctrine or conduct against the Diocesan Bishop and Assistant Bishops. The Synod by Canon must provide for the appointment of Episcopal Discipline Tribunal members, the nature of the charges or complaints which can be initiated in the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal and specify what the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal can recommend to the Standing Committee if a charge or complaint is sustained.
- 11.4 The Synod may by Canon or resolution establish standards of behaviour and conduct in addition to or extension of the standards of behaviour and conduct required from clergy in the Ordinal.

Article 12: Local Church Organisation

- 12.1 The fundamental unit of mission and ministry is the local Church.
- 12.2 The Synod must by Canon define what it means for a person to be a member of a Member Church and clarify what leadership is required.
- 12.3 The Synod must by Canon establish a process for the appointment of clergy to a local Church.

Article 13: Ownership of Property

- 13.1 The Synod has no claim on real or personal property owned by a Member Church. Synod declares that such property is not subject to any equitable or trust interest in favour of AMiE.
- 13.2 Synod may acquire real and personal property in the name of AMiE for the purposes of AMiE.

Article 14: Amending the Constitution

- 14.1** Article 4.1, Article 4.2.1, Article 4.2.2, Article 4.2.3, Article 4.2.4, Article 4.3 and Article 14:1 of this Constitution cannot be amended.
- 14.2** Subject to Article 14.1, this Constitution may be amended by the Synod by Canon, the text or substance of which has been notified to Synod members at least two months before the meeting at which the amendment is moved. The vote for any such amendment is taken by Houses and its passage requires a two-thirds majority of the members in each House who are summoned to the meeting.

Article 15: Winding Up

- 15.1** The Synod by Canon, may resolve to instruct the Standing Committee to wind up AMiE on a specified date, notice having been given to the Synod members at least two months before the meeting at which the Canon is to be considered. The vote for any such Canon is to be taken by Houses and its passage requires a seventy-five percent majority of the members in each House who are summoned to the meeting. Any such Canon passed requires the assent of the Diocesan Bishop at the time of the vote in order for the Canon to be enacted. If the office of Diocesan Bishop is vacant then assent for this Canon may be provided by an Assistant Bishop or a senior clergy member of the Standing Committee.
- 15.2** The Synod may prescribe any matter which in its opinion is necessarily incidental to or consequential upon the winding up.
- 15.3** The Standing Committee must, after authorising the discharge of any debts and providing for any liabilities, distribute assets of AMiE among those organisations which in the opinion of the Standing Committee have purposes consistent with, or similar to, the purposes of AMiE.

Article 16: Interpretation

- 16.1** Unless the context otherwise requires, words or phrases used in this Constitution have the following meanings:

Articles of Religion means the Thirty-Nine Articles as finalised in 1571. The year 1562 (referenced in Article 4.2.3) is the date printed in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) preface to the Articles of Religion and refers to the Convocation held in London in that year.

Assistant Bishop means a Bishop serving within the Diocese under the leadership and direction of the Diocesan Bishop.

Book of Common Prayer means the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England 1662.

Convocation means Diocese in formation.

House of Clergy means all ordained members of the Synod excluding the Diocesan Bishop.

House of Laity means all lay members of the Synod.

Member Church means a congregation which has signed the Fellowship Agreement as determined by Canon, and where clergy hold the licence of the Diocesan Bishop.

Ordinal means the orders of service for the Form and Manner of Making Ordaining and Consecrating of Bishops Priests and Deacons published with the Book of Common Prayer 1662.

Special Majority for the purposes of Article 9.5 means a majority of 75 % of the members of the Synod. In the case of voting by Houses that majority needs to be obtained in each House.

Synod means the governing body of the Anglican Mission in England, and consists of lay and clergy representatives from Member Churches.

Schedule of Founding Churches

1. Anchor Church Lymington and Pennington
2. Becontree Church
3. Christ Church Central Sheffield
4. Christ Church Newland
5. Christ Church Riverside
6. Christ Church Salisbury
7. Christ Church South Cambs
8. Christ Church Stockport
9. Christ Church Walkley
10. Christ Church Wyre Forest
11. Cornerstone Church Grays
12. Grace Church Sydenham
13. St James's Church Ryde
14. Trinity Church Bristol
15. Trinity Church Lancaster
16. Trinity Church Scarborough

Section 2: Canons

Canon 1: Membership of the AMiE Diocese

C1.1: Introduction

1. This Canon provides the mechanism for a Church to join the Anglican Mission in England.
2. It is the desire of the Anglican Mission in England that like-minded Churches are encouraged to join with AMiE for the evangelisation of the nation.
3. Provision is made by this Canon for additional membership of Synod by lay representatives of Member Churches.
4. Provision is made by this Canon for additional membership of the Synod by clergy holding the licence of the Diocesan Bishop.

C1.2: Membership of the Diocese

1. The membership of the Anglican Mission in England consists of the Founding Churches together with Churches who have joined AMiE after the adoption of the Constitution.
2. The Diocesan Bishop with the Standing Committee may invite a Church to join the Anglican Mission in England.
3. Any Church may apply to join the Anglican Mission in England.
4. Any Church invited to join or applying to join must enter into a Fellowship Agreement on the terms determined from time to time by Synod.
5. Each Fellowship Agreement must include these terms:
 - a. Each Member Church must agree to abide by the Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Mission in England;
 - b. Save for a vacancy, each Member Church must have an ordained Senior Minister who is licensed by the Diocesan Bishop;
 - c. Save for a vacancy, each Member Church must have a Senior Minister who is remunerated by the Member Church unless the Standing Committee authorises a variation in a particular case;
 - d. All clergy who minister in a Member Church must hold a current licence issued by the Diocesan Bishop;
 - e. Each Member Church will maintain an Electoral Roll. Entry on the Electoral Roll will require at least a declaration of assent to the Apostles' Creed.
 - f. Contributions will be made towards the expenses of the Anglican Mission in England as determined from time to time by Synod;
 - g. The Senior Minister is called to Synod;
 - h. Each Member Church will elect at least one lay representative to Synod who is able to give assent to the Doctrinal Basis of AMiE and be bound by AMiE's Constitution and Canons;
 - i. Each Member Church commits to Safeguarding requirements as adopted from time to time by Synod;

- j. Each Member Church commits to professional standards as adopted from time to time by Synod;
 - k. A Member Church may leave AMiE, or the Standing Committee by resolution, and with the concurrence of the Diocesan Bishop, may terminate the membership of a Member Church according to the processes outlined in C1.2.10, C1.2.11, C1.2.12 and C1.2.13.
6. In addition to the lay representative called to Synod by Article 6.2.4 of the Constitution, where a Member Church has between seventy-five and one hundred and fifty on the Electoral Roll is entitled to elect one further lay representative. Where the Member Church has more than one hundred and fifty on the Electoral Roll a third lay representative may be elected.
 7. In addition to the clergy called to Synod by Article 6.2.3 of the Constitution, the Diocesan Bishop may call to Synod other clergy holding his licence but that the number of such called under this provision should not exceed one quarter of the number of Ministers to Synod.
 8. Where the Diocesan Bishop calls to Synod additional clergy pursuant to the preceding section, then the Standing Committee may nominate the same number of additional laity for calling to Synod. Any additional laity must be members of their church's Electoral Roll.
 9. A Member Church wishing to leave AMiE to join another Diocese of the Anglican Network in Europe, may do so freely with the consent of the receiving Diocese and the consent of the AMiE Diocesan Bishop and Standing Committee. They must notify the Diocesan Bishop and Standing Committee of their desire to transfer Diocese. This notification must be signed by the Senior Minister (if not vacant), the trustees, and at least two lay members, including the Bishop's Local Contact (see C 2.2.2). If the AMiE Diocesan Bishop or Standing Committee will not grant permission for this transfer, then the process outlined in C1.2.11 is to be followed.
 10. A Member Church wishing to leave AMiE, except under the condition of C1.2.9 may do so at any point by the following procedure:
 - a. The Church must first notify the Diocesan Bishop and Standing Committee of their intention to leave, stating: (1) the desire to leave the Diocese, (2) the reason for their desire to leave. This notification must be signed by the Senior Minister (if not vacant), and the trustees.
 - b. If a member of the clergy licenced to the congregation is under discipline as outlined in Canon 10.5 the Standing Committee will not consider this request until the discipline process has concluded.
 - c. On receipt of such a notification the Diocesan Bishop and Standing Committee are to engage in a period of reflection and reconciliation which will last a minimum of two months (excluding the period which may be necessary under C1.2.10b) and a maximum of six months. During this time the Diocesan Bishop and representatives from the Standing Committee will meet with Church representative (at minimum the signatories of the letter in C1.2.10a) to understand and explore whether there is a means by which the Church may remain in the Diocese. The issues raised in the notification in C1.2.10a must be addressed and an attempt at resolution be made, if possible.
 - d. At any point during the period of reflection and reconciliation, the Church may withdraw its request to leave the Diocese. This is to be done by notification to the Standing Committee signed by those who submitted the original request as per C1.2.10a. On such notification the process will cease with the Church remaining a full member of the Diocese, the Standing Committee must be informed accordingly.

- e. If after a minimum reflection and reconciliation period of two months, the Church maintains its desire to leave the Diocese, then the Diocesan Bishop and the Standing Committee will allow it to do so without hindrance or penalty. A notice must be read at the next public service of the congregation to inform the Church that they have left AMiE.
11. The Standing Committee by resolution, and with concurrence of Diocesan Bishop, may terminate the membership of a Member Church by the following procedure:
- a. The Standing Committee must first notify the congregation of areas of concern urging immediate rectification, and, if necessary, repentance and reconciliation. This notification must be sent to the Senior Minister (if not vacant) and the trustees.
 - b. If a member of the clergy licensed to the congregation is under discipline as outlined in Canon 10.5 the Diocesan Bishop and the Standing Committee may not issue this request until the discipline process has concluded.
 - c. The Diocesan Bishop and Standing Committee are to engage in a period of reflection and reconciliation which will last a minimum of two months and maximum of six months. During this time the Diocesan Bishop and representatives from the Standing Committee will meet with Church representatives, including the Senior Minister (if not vacant), the trustees, and the Bishop's Local Contact to understand and explore whether there is a means by which the Church may remain in the Diocese. The issues raised in the notification in C1.2.11a. must be addressed and an attempt at resolution must be made.
 - d. At any point during the period of reflection and reconciliation, the Diocesan Bishop, with consent of the Standing Committee may withdraw their concern, satisfied that the concerns are resolved, at which point the process will cease with the Church remaining a full member of the Diocese.
 - e. If after a minimum reflection and reconciliation period of two months, the issues raised by the Diocesan Bishop and the Standing Committee have not been satisfactorily resolved, the membership of the AMiE Church will be terminated. The Diocesan Bishop, on behalf of the Standing Committee, will write to the Church, the Senior Minister (if not vacant) and the trustees informing them on their termination. A notice must be read at the next public service of the congregation to inform the Church of the termination, except where an appeal has been lodged.
 - f. Before the expiration of 20 days from the date of the receipt of the letter the Church may lodge an application for leave to appeal to the Panel of Enquiry. The Panel of Enquiry must promptly determine if leave will be granted. If leave is granted then the Panel of Enquiry must determine whether the appeal will be limited to certain issues or a hearing de novo.
12. Synod and the Anglican Network in Europe Standing Committee must be informed of any Church which has left the Diocese since the previous meeting of Synod.

Canon 2: Member Church Organisation Requirements

C2.1: Introduction

1. While the New Testament does not mandate one particular mode of Church government, there is a general pattern of particular, authorised, and acknowledged offices of ministerial leadership and the active participation of the people of God in the governance of the Church. (Acts 1:12-26; Acts 6; Acts 13; Acts 15; Acts 14:23; 1 Timothy 3, 1 Timothy 4:14; 1 Timothy 5:22 and Titus 1:5-9).
2. It is the desire of the Anglican Mission in England that each Member Church has the organisational flexibility needed to implement contextually appropriate leadership structures.
3. This Canon identifies the essential leadership structures required in every Member Church.

C2.2: Legal Status

1. Each Member Church must be a corporate legal entity or belong to a legal entity that enables it to employ staff and enter into contracts and own, manage and dispose of property.
2. A Member Church must designate one lay Trustee, Director or similar lay member (such as a church warden) as the Bishop's Local Contact.

C2.3: Internal Church Leadership

1. The spiritual leadership of appointed and licenced clergy is assisted by the participation of other members of the congregation.
2. In each Member Church there should be a team of godly and gifted men and women drawn from its Electoral Roll who partner with the Senior Minister in the work of gospel ministry. This team will provide advice, feedback and encouragement to the Senior Minister in the initiation, conduct and development of gospel work, including such matters as are vital to the spiritual and administrative welfare of the Church. The Standing Committee may give a Member Church an exemption from this requirement for contextual reasons.
3. Each Member Church must hold an annual meeting of its Electoral Roll. At this meeting the Senior Minister must present a ministry report and a finance update must be given. Those on the Electoral Roll must also be given ample opportunity for questions and comments.

C2.4: Electoral Roll

1. Every Church must maintain an Electoral Roll.
2. The Electoral Roll will be the constituency which votes for lay representatives to the Diocesan Synod and for other election purposes where required. A lay representative must be a member of the Electoral Roll. Lay representatives will serve a three-year term and are eligible for re-election.
3. A person is entitled to have his or her name on the Electoral Roll if he or she:
 - a. Is baptised; and
 - b. Is aged 16 or over; and

- c. Has made the declaration of Faith required by the Member Church. This will be at least a declaration of assent to the Apostles' Creed; and
- d. Has completed the Membership Process determined by the Member Church.

C2.5: Safeguarding

1. In line with the Fellowship Agreement, each Member Church must have in place and maintain a safeguarding regime that is in agreement with the safeguarding requirements adopted by Synod.
2. Failure to maintain a Safeguarding regime and to provide details to the Registrar when requested in line with the 'Safeguarding Requirements & Serious Incident Reporting in AMiE Churches' guidance document or in the 'Annual Return', are grounds for the Standing Committee to resolve to suspend the membership of the Member Church in AMiE.

Canon 3: Licensing for Ministry in the Diocese

C3.1: Introduction

1. Authorisation and recognition of ordained Christian ministry in Member Churches of the Anglican Mission in England is by licence granted by the Diocesan Bishop.
2. Particular lay ministry appointments may also be by licence granted by the Diocesan Bishop.
3. This Canon specifies which leaders in Member Churches will require a licence from the Diocesan Bishop.

C3.2: Licensing and Ministry

1. Ordained clergy must be licensed by the Diocesan Bishop before they can minister in a Member Church of the Diocese. A licence is not required for an occasional visiting preacher or for such a person to participate in leading worship.
2. Lay ministry in a Member Church, conducted under the auspices of the Senior Minister, does not require a licence from the Diocesan Bishop. The Diocesan Bishop may license a particular lay ministry by reason of its strategic importance to the mission of the Member Church or to the Diocese.
3. The Senior Minister of a Member Church, whether ordained or lay, must hold the licence of the Diocesan Bishop.
4. The Senior Minister of a Member Church is responsible for the preaching and the administration of the sacraments in his Church. The Senior Minister, may from time to time, delegate the administration of the sacraments to another licensed Presbyterian and the preaching to another suitable person. Only a licensed Presbyterian may administer the Lord's Supper.

C3.3: Clergy Appointments

1. A delegate of the Diocesan Bishop must be a member of the Interviewing Committee for staff appointments that require the candidate to be ordained and licensed.
2. If the Diocesan Bishop's delegate advises against the appointment, the Diocesan Bishop may still agree to the appointment on the request of the Senior Minister if there are special circumstances.

C3.4: Interim Suspension

1. If a Licensed Minister:
 - a. Becomes bankrupt; or
 - b. Becomes divorced; or
 - c. Is charged or convicted of an offence carrying a custodial sentence; or
 - d. Has engaged in conduct which is unbecoming of a Minister of Religion; or
 - e. Is the subject of proceedings under any discipline Canon of the Synod;

and the Diocesan Bishop has invited the Minister to show cause, the Diocesan Bishop may, by notice in writing to the Minister, suspend the licence of the Minister.

Canon 4: Public Worship

C4.1: Introduction

1. The purpose of this Canon is to provide a framework for public worship in AMiE Churches.
2. Public worship in AMiE Churches stands in continuity with the patterns of worship and doctrine found in the *Book of Common Prayer 1662*. The Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-Nine Articles are the standard of worship and doctrine in AMiE.

C4.2: Church Services: Content and Responsibilities

1. The Senior Minister and leadership team of each Member Church must bring to the knowledge of the people of the suburb, town or locality in which that Church is situated, the times and days on which public worship is to be held in that Church.
2. Public worship must be held in every Member Church at least once a week, normally on Sundays, or another day when the principal service is held.
3. The following forms of service for public worship are authorised:
 - a. The forms of service contained in the Book of Common Prayer 1662;
 - b. Such additional forms as may have been authorised by Synod;
 - c. Forms of service considered suitable by the Senior Minister provided that all forms of service used must be reverent and edifying and must not be contrary to or a departure from the doctrine of the Anglican Mission in England as set out in the Constitution.

The form of service should contain these elements:

 - i. Praise and thanksgiving,
 - ii. Confession of sin,
 - iii. Petition,
 - iv. Reading from Holy Scripture,
 - v. Exposition from Holy Scripture, and
 - vi. The regular inclusion of an historic creed, a psalm, and a second Scripture reading.
 - d. A service designed for a special occasion may omit some of the elements in 3(c).
4. Any question concerning the observance of the provisions of section 3(c) may be determined by the Diocesan Bishop.
5. A sermon must be preached at least once a week in the main building used by the Member Church for services (unless this is impractical due to health and safety reasons in which case an online service is permissible should another venue not be available). The preacher must endeavour to expound the Scriptures, to the glory of God and to the edification of the people.
6. The sacrament of Holy Baptism shall normally be administered at public worship.
7. Each Member Church shall provide for the administration of the sacrament of Lord's Supper at least once a month at public worship.
8. A service of confirmation shall normally form part of public worship.
9. It is not mandatory for clergy to robe when leading or assisting in public worship.

10. When an AMiE Deacon or Presbyter is asked or chooses to robe then the clerical dress must be cassock, surplice, preaching scarf and, if appropriate, academic hood.
11. When an AMiE Bishop is asked or chooses to robe then the clerical dress must be Anglican convocation robes.

C4.3: Marriage

1. The doctrine of Christian marriage in its Anglican expression is found in the Form of Solemnization of Matrimony, Book of Common Prayer 1662.
2. The Anglican Mission in England affirms, according to the Scriptures, that marriage is a union permanent and lifelong, for better for worse, till death them do part, of one man with one woman, to the exclusion of all others on either side, for the procreation and nurture of children, for the hallowing and right direction of the natural instincts and affections, and for the mutual society, help and comfort which the one ought to have of the other, both in prosperity and adversity (Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:1-9; Ephesians 5:22-33 and Revelation 21:1-4).
3. It shall be the duty of the Senior Minister, when application is made to him for matrimony to be solemnized in the Member Church of which he is the Senior Minister, to explain to the two persons who desire to be married the Christian doctrine of marriage and the need of God's grace in order that they may discharge aright their obligations as married persons.
4. Ministers must comply with civil law as to the formation of marriage and with any AMiE rules as to the solemnisation of marriage.
5. The parties to a marriage must satisfy the civil and any AMiE requirements for a valid marriage, otherwise the Minister should refuse solemnisation.
6. It shall be the duty of the Minister to inquire whether there be any impediment to the solemnization of the marriage.
7. A marriage must be witnessed by at least two persons and recorded in registers or other books provided and maintained in the Member Church for this purpose.
8. The form of marriage service belongs to the Minister who conducts the service in consultation with the parties concerned.

C4.4: Records

1. Each Member Church must provide a secure register so that a record can be kept of all baptisms, confirmations, marriages and funerals.

Canon 5: Ordained Christian Ministry - Deacons, Presbyters and Bishops

C5.1: Introduction

1. We believe in the priesthood of all believers: that is, without the necessity of an earthly mediator, all believers can offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:5). All believers are called to proclaim the excellencies of God who called us out of darkness into light.
2. God has given apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for ministry and building up the Church (Ephesians 4:11-12).
3. In the Anglican Mission in England, for public preaching and administering the sacraments in the congregation, our Churches are committed to identifying, training and authorising Ministers to send into the Lord's vineyard (Article XXIII of the *39 Articles of Religion*).
4. We hold that from the earliest time there have been these orders in Christ's Church: Deacons, Presbyters and Bishops.
5. The provisions of this Canon are an amplification, extension, application or restatement of the responsibilities, duties and promises of each order of Deacon, Presbyter or Bishop as set out in the Ordinal.

C5.2: Concerning Requirements for the Office of Deacon

1. In accordance with Holy Scripture, a Deacon must be worthy of respect, sincere, not a drunkard, not pursuing any form of dishonest gain, manage their family well, and one who holds to the truths of Scripture with a clear conscience. They must first be tested, and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as Deacons (1 Timothy 3:8-13).
2. No person shall be ordained Deacon unless they have attained twenty-three (23) years of age.
3. Unless the Diocesan Bishop has sufficient reason to reduce the requirement, a Deacon shall not be ordained Presbyter for at least one year, so that the Deacon's behaviour in the office of Deacon can be tested before admission to the order of Presbyter.

C5.3: Concerning Requirements for the Office of Presbyter

1. In addition to the qualifications for a Deacon and in accordance with Holy Scripture, a Presbyter must be above reproach, not self-pleasing but self-controlled, upright, holy, disciplined, temperate, hospitable, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money, not a recent convert, one who loves what is good and one who has a good reputation with those outside the Church.
2. A Presbyter must be able to preach and teach, holding firmly to the Gospel and Holy Scripture as it has been taught, in order to encourage others by sound doctrine and to refute those who oppose it (1 Timothy 3:1-13; 5:17; Titus 1:6-9).
3. No person shall be ordained Presbyter unless they have attained twenty-four (24) years of age.
4. No person shall be ordained both Deacon and Presbyter upon one and the same day.

C5.4: Concerning Requirements for the Office of Bishop and his Duties

1. His personal walk with Christ should be manifest in his Christian character, his prayerfulness, his faithful obedience to the word of God, his loving care for both the lost and the redeemed, his courageous determination to proclaim the truth and to refute error, and possessing a keen sense of his accountability to the Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 5:4).
2. A Bishop must be a guardian of 'the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints' (Jude 3).
3. A Bishop must exercise pastoral concern and insight as he provides advice and direction for gospel ministry and in the selection and authorisation of appropriate men and women for Christian ministry.
4. No person shall be consecrated Bishop unless they have attained thirty (30) years of age.

C5.5: Concerning Ordination

1. No person may be made a Deacon, ordained a Presbyter or consecrated a Bishop until that person is properly examined and admitted according to the Ordinal or such other ordination service which is consistent with the doctrine of the Ordinal and approved by Synod.
2. The Anglican Mission in England acknowledges and affirms the fundamental equality and mutual dependence of men and women as image bearers of God and recognises, in Scripture, proper differences in roles and responsibilities in Christian ministry.
3. For the good order of the Church and in obedience to Scripture, the Anglican Mission in England resolves that only godly and gifted men should be ordained as Presbyters or consecrated as Bishops.

C5.6: Concerning Ordination and Marriage

1. Marriage is a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman, whereby the two become one flesh, is an ordinance of Creation, affirmed as such by our Lord (Matthew 19:1-9). It is also commended by the Apostle Paul as a sign of the mystical union between Christ and his Church (Ephesians 5:22-32). As wholesome examples and patterns to the entire flock of Christ, all married persons to be admitted to Holy Orders shall remain married to their spouse for life, and in accordance with the vows they exchanged in Holy Matrimony. Subject to the exceptions below, no person shall be admitted into Holy Orders who is divorced and while the divorced spouse still lives has remarried, or whose spouse has been previously married and divorced and whose divorced spouse still lives.
2. Any person who is refused ordination because of the provisions of the previous section of this Canon may request the Diocesan Bishop for a pastoral exception based on the particular circumstances. Pastoral exceptions may be made by the Diocesan Bishop, after consultation with the clergy members of the Standing Committee.
3. Any member of the clergy holding a licence in the Anglican Mission in England who is divorced and remarries (or who marries a person divorced), where the divorced third party still lives, and who does so without benefit of the removal of the impediments contained in this Canon may be deprived of the exercise of their Orders and their licence may also be revoked.
4. Where a member of the clergy holding a licence in the Anglican Mission in England holds themselves out as having entered into, or gives the appearance to a reasonable person of

having entered into, such a marriage or marriage-like relationship with someone who is not their legal spouse of the opposite sex, the marriage or marriage-like relationship shall be inferred to exist and that person shall automatically be deprived of the exercise of their holy orders and their licence shall also thereupon be revoked.

5. Any member of the clergy holding a licence in the Anglican Mission in England who marries according to civil law, or who holds themselves out as having entered, or gives the appearance to a reasonable person of having entered, into a marriage-like relationship with a person of the same sex shall automatically be deprived of the exercise of their holy orders and their licence shall also thereupon be revoked.
6. No person can be considered for consecration as a Bishop if that person has been divorced.
7. If the Diocesan Bishop or any Assistant Bishop becomes divorced while in office then that office is vacated upon resolution of the Standing Committee.

C5.7: Declaration of Assent to Doctrine and Formularies

1. Each Deacon, Presbyter or Bishop shall at their ordination, publicly and openly, in the presence of the ordaining Bishop and the congregation make this Declaration of Assent:

I, A B, do solemnly make the following declaration: I assent to the Faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordinal.

2. The Declaration of Assent is to be made by every Deacon, Presbyter or Bishop who is to be instituted, installed, admitted or licensed to any office in the Anglican Mission in England.

C5.8: Oath of Canonical Obedience

1. Every Deacon, Presbyter or Assistant Bishop shall make this Oath of Canonical Obedience at their ordination.

I, A B, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Diocesan Bishop of the Anglican Mission in England and his successors in all things lawful and honest: So help me God!

C5.9: Assent to Constitution and Canons

1. Every Deacon, Presbyter or Assistant Bishop on receiving their licence to minister in Anglican Mission in England is to declare in writing:

I, A B, do solemnly and sincerely declare my assent to be bound by the Constitution of the Anglican Mission in England and the Canons of the Synod as may be made from time to time which have force in this Diocese.

Canon 6: The Diocesan Bishop and Assistant Bishops

C6.1: Introduction

1. In furtherance of the Canon on ordained Christian Ministry, this Canon provides for the appointment of the Diocesan Bishop for the Anglican Mission in England.
2. In furtherance of the Canon on ordained Christian Ministry, this Canon provides for the appointment of Assistant Bishops in the Anglican Mission in England to assist in collegiate episcopal leadership in the Diocese.

C6.2: Role of the Diocesan Bishop

1. The Diocesan Bishop will:
 - a. Be a guardian of 'the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints' (Jude 3). Through public proclamation and defence of the apostolic gospel, by his personal example and in all his pastoral and administrative activity, he is to do all in his power to ensure that the teaching of Scripture shapes and directs the life, ministry and mission of the Diocese;
 - b. Order the ministry of the Diocese in the selection and authorisation of men and women of godly character, theological clarity, pastoral sensitivity, and demonstrably in possession of the gifts and skills appropriate for ministries within and beyond the Diocese;
 - c. Exercise pastoral concern and insight in providing advice and direction for gospel ministry;
 - d. Represent the Diocese, in various national and international bodies, to the government, and generally to the community;
 - e. Administer the Diocese in line with its mission.

C6.3: Appointment of the Diocesan Bishop

1. Within twenty-eight days of a vacancy arising in the Office of Diocesan Bishop, the Registrar will invite nominations for the Office of Diocesan Bishop from members of the Synod. Nominations must be in writing by at least two members of Synod.
2. There will be constituted a Bishop Selection Committee to consider all nominations.
3. The Bishop Selection Committee will consist of:
 - a. Three Presbyters elected by Synod;
 - b. Three lay members of Synod elected by Synod;
 - c. The Minister administering the Diocese while the Office of Diocesan Bishop is vacant, who will be Chair; and
 - d. The Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Network in Europe.
 - e. If any member of the Bishop Selection Committee is nominated then that person will cease to be a member of the Bishop Selection Committee and will be replaced by the next reserve on the Synod election list.
4. The Bishop Selection Committee may order its business as it sees fit. While its deliberations are confidential, the Committee will provide to the Synod a summary of its proceedings when it brings a nomination for consideration by Synod.

5. The Chair of the Bishop Selection Committee will recommend to Synod one name for appointment as Diocesan Bishop.
6. No recommendation can be made:
 - a. Unless it is supported by two of the three elected clergy members and two of the three elected lay members;
 - b. The nominee is canonically fit; and
 - c. There are no Safeguarding issues.
7. At a duly convened meeting of Synod, members will be asked to resolve:
 - a. *We are not aware of any reason why the recommended candidate [N] should not serve as Diocesan Bishop.*
 - b. *We support the appointment of the recommended candidate [N] as Diocesan Bishop.*

Each question is to be put separately to the House of Clergy and the House of Laity. A two thirds majority is required in both Houses for the motion to pass.

8. If the Bishop-Elect is not in episcopal orders then the Minister administering the Diocese will arrange for the Bishop-Elect to be consecrated. The Registrar will provide the Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Network in Europe (ANiE) with a certificate of election to enable the Presiding Bishop to certify the canonical fitness of the Bishop-Elect.
9. The chief consecrator will be the Presiding Bishop of Anglican Network in Europe assisted by at least two other Anglican Bishops. If the Presiding Bishop is not able to be the chief consecrator then the Minister administering the Diocese, in consultation with the Bishop-Elect, will invite another Anglican Bishop to be chief consecrator.
10. At the consecration of the Bishop-Elect or at the installation of the Bishop-Elect if that person is in episcopal orders, the Bishop-Elect will make his assent to the Doctrine and Formularies of AMiE and his assent to the Constitution and Canons of AMiE, in the form set out in Canon 5: Ordained Christian Ministry.
11. The Secretary of the Gafcon Primates' Council should be notified of each election of a Diocesan Bishop.

C6.4: Review of the Diocesan Bishop

1. Within the next three months after the elapse of each five years in office, the Standing Committee will arrange for the Diocesan Bishop to be reviewed and appraised against the indicia stated in the Diocesan Bishop Canon to provide encouragement and focus on the needs of the Diocese for the next five-year period of ministry.
2. The Standing Committee must ensure the constitution of a Review Panel, comprising a person appointed by the Diocesan Bishop, a Senior Minister and a lay person both appointed by the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee may fill casual vacancies on the Panel. The Review Panel must meet with the Diocesan Bishop on at least two occasions. The Review Panel must provide a written report to the Standing Committee within three months of the first meeting of the Panel or such later date as determined by the Standing Committee.

C6.5: Assistant Bishops

1. The Diocesan Bishop may with the agreement of the Standing Committee propose a name to the Bishop Selection Committee for appointment as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese. The Bishop Selection Committee will carry out its function as if considering a nomination for Diocesan Bishop.
2. The Diocesan Bishop may with the agreement of the Standing Committee assign to the Assistant Bishop from time to time specific ministries, with or without a term and subject to periodic review as agreed between the Diocesan Bishop, the Assistant Bishop and the Standing Committee.
3. No provision in this canon precludes an Assistant Bishop from being appointed as Senior Minister in a Member Church or continuing as a Senior Minister in a Member Church.
4. The Secretary of the Gafcon Primates' Council should be notified of each appointment of an Assistant Bishop.

C6.6: Definition

1. In this Canon 'canonical fitness' means, as regards a person, that:
 - a. The person has attained at least thirty (30) years of age;
 - b. The person has been baptised; and
 - c. The person is in Presbyters' orders.

Canon 7: Standing Committee of Synod

C7.1: Introduction

1. Article 10 of the Constitution requires that the size, composition, powers and procedures, of the Standing Committee be determined by Canon.

C7.2: Duties and powers of Standing Committee

1. The Standing Committee:
 - a. Shall be a council of advice to the Diocesan Bishop in any matter in which he may desire their advice;
 - b. Will present strategic objectives and policies to the Synod for their agreement and decision;
 - c. Conduct the business of the Synod between its meetings;
 - d. Shall consider and report upon any matter which Synod may refer to them, and shall carry out or assist in carrying out the resolutions from time to time passed by the Synod;
 - e. Will make arrangements for and prepare the business for sessions of the Synod;
 - f. Will present a report to each Synod on the financial affairs of AMiE and a budget for the next financial period for adoption or amendment;
 - g. May deliberate and confer upon all matters affecting the interest of AMiE;
 - h. May by resolution delegate to a sub-committee any item of business for detailed consideration and report;
 - i. Will meet at least four times in each calendar year.

C7.3: Membership

1. The Standing Committee will consist of:
 - a. The Diocesan Bishop;
 - b. The Assistant Bishops;
 - c. Three clergy elected by the Synod;
 - d. Lay members of the Synod, elected by the Synod, the number being the same as the clergy members of the Standing Committee but excluding the Diocesan Bishop;
 - e. The Standing Committee may co-opt up to three additional members who have the right to speak and propose but not to vote. These people must be members of AMiE Churches, be able assent to the Doctrinal Basis of AMiE and to work within the boundaries of AMiE's Constitution and Canons.
2. The Chancellor and Registrar are members ex-officio of the Standing Committee without a right to vote.

C7.4: Term of Office

1. The elected members of Standing Committee serve three-year terms and are eligible for re-election.
2. A casual vacancy in the office of an Elected Member occurs on:
 - a. Resignation in writing addressed to the Registrar;
 - b. Death;

- c. Insolvency;
 - d. Loss of membership of the Synod;
 - e. Incapacity to act or absence from 3 consecutive meetings of the Standing Committee without leave.
3. A casual vacancy arising under section 4 may be filled by the Standing Committee electing a replacement member from the members of Synod to complete the term of the member whose vacancy is being filled.

C7.5: Trustees of the Anglican Mission in England

1. The voting members of the Standing Committee are the Trustees of the Anglican Mission in England.

Canon 8: Standing Orders for the Conduct of Synod

C8.1: Introduction

1. The purpose of these Standing Orders is to facilitate the orderly conduct of the business of the Synod by ensuring adequate notice of business to be transacted and providing rules for debate.

C8.2: Convening Synod

1. The process for convening Synod is as follows:
 - a. The Diocesan Bishop convenes meetings of the Synod by written summons to all members of Synod giving no less than six calendar months' notice of the meeting date;
 - b. The Standing Committee of the Synod makes all necessary arrangements regarding time and place; arrangements regarding time and place, whether 'in person' or 'online', duration and the order of business;
 - c. A detailed Agenda paper must be sent to all members of Synod no less than two calendar months before the meeting date;
 - d. In the case of a Special Meeting of Synod fourteen days' notice must be given for the meeting to include the agenda;
 - e. After the Diocesan Bishop has issued the summons to Synod, and as far as practicable, the Standing Committee must then promptly send to members all reports and notice of motions to be considered at the Synod.

C8.3: Delegation of the Chair

1. The Diocesan Bishop will chair meetings of the Synod. If the Diocesan Bishop is absent then one of the Assistant Bishops will chair or if there be no Assistant Bishop then the senior clergy member of the Standing Committee, by date of ordination, will chair.
2. The Diocesan Bishop may invite another member of Synod to chair the consideration of an item of business.

C8.4: General Rules

1. A member may only address the Synod when called by the Diocesan Bishop to do so.
2. A member who wishes to be called by the Diocesan Bishop to address the Synod is to indicate either by standing or raising a hand in his or her place, or if directed by the Diocesan Bishop, to stand near a microphone. The Diocesan Bishop is to call from among those standing the member who may address the Synod.
3. The Diocesan Bishop may take part in debate.
4. If the Diocesan Bishop stands, all other members are to sit and remain seated until the Diocesan Bishop sits down.
5. Any member may speak to a question about procedure. A question about procedure is to be decided by the Diocesan Bishop whose decision is final unless immediately altered as a result of a motion without notice passed by the Synod.
6. The Diocesan Bishop is to confine each speaker to the subject matter being debated. A member may not interrupt a speaker, except with the permission of the Diocesan Bishop, or as a result of a motion without notice passed by the Synod.

7. A speaker may not make a remark which reflects adversely on the personality of any member or imputes an improper or questionable motive to any member. If a speaker makes such a remark, the Diocesan Bishop is to,
 - a. Ask the speaker to withdraw the remarks and apologise and,
 - b. Warn the speaker against making such remarks in future.

If, having been asked, the speaker refuses to withdraw the remark and apologise, the member may be suspended from the Synod as a result of a motion with or without notice passed by the Synod, for the time specified in the motion.

8. A member may not act in a disorderly way. If a member acts in a disorderly way, he or she may be suspended from the Synod as a result of a motion with or without notice passed by the Synod, for the time specified in the motion.

C8.5: Resolutions

1. The main way in which the Synod expresses a view on a matter is by passing a resolution. Any Synod member who wishes to move a motion at Synod should send the text of the resolution to the Standing Committee, signed by the mover and seconder, so as to reach the Standing Committee no later than six weeks before the start of Synod. This may be done by hard copy or electronically, and copied to the Registrar. A notice of motion may be accompanied by a succinct statement of reasons to be printed in the business paper, using the template provided. A motion which reaches the Standing Committee later is not invalid but must be tabled as soon as practicable after the start of Synod. Motions of which no notice has been given require the Synod to give leave for them to be considered.
2. Motions intended to facilitate the consideration of business are known as 'procedural motions'. Rule 8.5.1 does not apply to procedural motions and those other motions for which notice is not required.
3. Rule 8.5.1 does not apply to motions to amend a motion.
4. No motion, or motion to amend a motion, is to be considered unless it is seconded.
5. The proposer of the motion (referred to in these rules as the "mover") moves a motion (referred to in these rules as the "principal motion"). Usually, the mover will have given notice of the principal motion as required by this Canon,
6. When called by the Diocesan Bishop, the mover will speak in support of the principal motion and the seconder may also speak in support of the motion.
7. If any member wishes to speak against the principal motion, or move a proposed amendment, debate will proceed. Any amendments should include the full text of the amended motion, and be available to the Synod secretariat for effective communication to Synod members.
8. After debate has concluded, the Diocesan Bishop is to ask the Synod to vote on any amendments. After any amendments have been agreed to or rejected, the Diocesan Bishop is to ask the Synod to vote on the principal motion, as amended by any amendments which have been agreed.
9. If no member wishes to speak against the principal motion or move an amendment, the Diocesan Bishop is to ask the Synod to vote on the principal motion.

10. If the principal motion, with or without amendments, is passed, it becomes a resolution of the Synod.
11. A motion may be withdrawn at any time by its mover with the permission of the Synod.

C8.6: Canons

1. This clause applies whenever a draft Canon is proposed for consideration by the Synod.
 - a. The text of the proposed Canon together with an explanatory statement must be sent to the Standing Committee at least six weeks before the scheduled date of the Synod meeting, using the template provided. If amending an existing Canon, it must include both the original text of the Canon, as well as the proposed revision;
 - b. The Standing Committee must include in the business paper for the Synod the text of the proposed Canon together with the explanatory statement;
 - c. When the item of business for the consideration of the proposed Canon is reached, the proposer of the draft Canon moves, *“That [the name of the proposed Canon] be approved in principle.”*;
 - d. When the mover and seconder of the motion have spoken, the Diocesan Bishop asks the Synod, *“Does any member have a question about the proposed Canon?”*;
 - e. When in the opinion of the Diocesan Bishop sufficient time has been given for questions, the Diocesan Bishop will allow debate on the motion to proceed;
 - f. Upon a proposed Canon being approved in principle, the Diocesan Bishop is to immediately ask the Synod a question to the effect, *“Does any member wish to move an amendment to the text of the proposed Canon?”*;
 - g. If a member indicates to the Diocesan Bishop that the member wishes to move an amendment to the text of the proposed Canon, the Synod will then move to debate any amendments. Amendments must include a clear text of the proposed revised Canon, and be available to the Registrar for onward communication to Synod members;
 - h. If no member indicates to the Diocesan Bishop that the member wishes to move an amendment, the proposer of the draft Canon moves, *“That [name of Canon] pass as a Canon of Synod.”*;
 - i. The original copy of the Canon passed by the Synod and certified by the Registrar on the original copy that it was passed by the Synod, is promptly given to the Diocesan Bishop for assent;
 - j. The Canon comes into force on the date assent is given unless the Canon specified another commencement date.

C8.7: Voting

1. A vote on a motion is taken by the Diocesan Bishop asking members present who are in favour of the motion to say *“Aye”* and then to ask those members who are against the motion to say *“No”*. Voting may also take place by a show of hands at the option of the Diocesan Bishop or if requested by a member.
2. A motion is passed only if a majority of the persons present and voting vote in favour of the motion.
3. If requested by at least five members, voting on a motion is to be conducted by ballot.
4. The members of the Synod are to vote collectively unless five members request that the vote be taken by Houses.

5. If a vote is required to be taken by Houses, each House is to vote separately in accordance with the procedural directions of the Diocesan Bishop of the Synod. The motion is passed only if a majority of persons present and voting in each House vote in favour of the motion.

With the leave of the Diocesan Bishop, and without interrupting a member who is speaking, a member may move that any motion before Synod be at once voted on, and that procedural motion must be put and carried or defeated without debate. If such a procedural motion is carried, the substantive motion must be voted on forthwith.

C8.8: Putting a Motion to the Vote

1. If, during the time for debate on a motion, no further member indicates a wish to speak to the motion, the Diocesan Bishop may declare that the debate has ended, subject to the mover of the motion exercising or declining to exercise a right of reply.
2. If the Diocesan Bishop thinks that sufficient time has been allowed for debate on a motion but there remains one or more members indicating a wish to speak to the motion, the Diocesan Bishop is to ask the Synod a question to the effect

“Does the Synod consider that the motion has been sufficiently debated and should now be voted on?”

If the majority of the members present answer “Aye”, the debate on the motion will be regarded as having ended, subject to the mover of the motion exercising or declining to exercise a right of reply. If the majority of members present answer “No” the Diocesan Bishop is to allow the debate to continue. Rule 8.8.1 and rule 8.8.2 apply until debate has ended.

C8.9: Not Voting for a Motion

1. If it is desired to avoid or postpone a vote on a motion, a member may with the leave of the Diocesan Bishop move without notice the procedural motion, *“That the motion not be voted on.”*
2. The Diocesan Bishop is to immediately put the procedural motion without debate and without any right of reply.
3. If the procedural motion is carried, debate on the principal motion ceases and it is not put to the vote.

C8.10: Speeches

1. The Diocesan Bishop must determine the order in which speakers speak.
2. The Diocesan Bishop must confine each speaker to the subject matter of the debate.
3. No member may interrupt a speaker, except to raise a point of order, which must be raised through the Diocesan Bishop.
4. The following time limits for speeches apply:
 - a. For a motion that a proposed Canon be approved in principle: the mover may speak for up to 10 minutes, and up to 5 minutes in reply;
 - b. Other members may speak for up to 5 minutes;
 - c. For other motions: the mover may speak for up to 8 minutes, and up to 5 minutes in reply;
 - d. Other members may speak for up to 5 minutes;

- e. For procedural motions and for motions to amend a motion, a member may speak for up to 5 minutes;
5. A member, not being the speaker at the time, may, without making a speech, move a procedural motion for the speaker to continue for a nominated number of minutes.
 6. There is no right of reply if the motion is,
 - a. A procedural motion, or
 - b. A motion for an amendment.
 7. After the mover has exercised or declined to exercise their right of reply, the motion is to be voted on.

C8.11: Number of Speeches

1. No member may speak more than once on the same motion except when invited to give an explanation, or when exercising a right of reply.
2. A member who formally seconds a motion is not regarded as having spoken to the motion.

C8.12: Quorum

1. A quorum is required at all times when Synod is in session. Pursuant to the Constitution, the quorum is half the total number of members in each House who have been summoned to the Synod.

C8.13: Non-Members of Synod

1. So far as may be practicable, Synod should provide for a public area, clearly separated from voting members of the Synod who wish to observe the proceedings of Synod.
2. Synod may, by resolution, designate named persons as 'Observers', who, on the invitation of the Diocesan Bishop may be invited to speak but not vote.
3. Synod may, by resolution, determine that part or all of its proceedings be held in closed session, and observers and members of the public must then leave the room where the Synod is meeting.

C8.14: Order of Business for Synod

1. The order of business of Synod must include the following:
 - a. The Diocesan Bishop, or a person appointed, is to read from the Bible and apply it, lead in prayer, invite testimonies and lead Synod in sung worship;
 - b. The Diocesan Bishop is to table a list of the members of the Synod;
 - c. All members of Synod will declare their assent to the Doctrinal Basis of AMiE;
 - d. The Diocesan Bishop will present his Charge to the Synod;
 - e. The Diocesan Bishop is to table a list of the results of uncontested elections and declare the persons concerned elected;
 - f. The Synod is to consider motions for the election of individuals as detailed in Section 15;
 - g. The minute book of the Standing Committee is to be tabled;

- h. The Diocesan Bishop is to allow members to present petitions;
 - i. The Diocesan Bishop is to allow members to give notice of a question concerning the business of the Synod;
 - j. The Diocesan Bishop is to invite members to give notice of other motions;
 - k. The Diocesan Bishop is to allow members to move procedural motions;
 - l. The Synod is to consider motions amend Canons to be moved at the request of the Synod or the Standing Committee in the order in which they appear on the business paper;
 - m. The Synod is to consider motions to be moved at the request of the Synod or the Standing Committee in the order in which they appear on the business paper;
 - n. The Synod is to consider other motions received by the Standing Committee from members in the order in which they were received, except that changes to existing Canons, or proposals for new Canons will normally be considered before other motions.
2. The Synod may determine, as a result of a procedural motion passed by the Synod:
- a. To vary the order in which motions are considered; or
 - b. To fix a time for when a motion is to be considered.

C8.15: Elections

1. At the first session of the Synod and at subsequent meetings, the Synod will conduct elections for vacancies in the membership of the following bodies:
 - a. The members of the Standing Committee;
 - b. The members of the Bishop Selection Committee;
 - c. The members of the Clergy Discipline Tribunal;
 - d. Any other committee or tribunal provided for by any Canon.
2. The Diocesan Bishop will call for nominations for all positions to be filled by the Synod by election. The deadline for all nominations is the end of morning break on the first day of the Synod. All vacancies will be notified to members of Synod with the business papers, and nominations to fill those vacancies invited.
3. Nominations must be in writing signed by the nominator and seconder, one of whom certifies the acceptance to the nomination by the person nominated.
4. Where there are more nominations than positions to be filled, the Synod, by ballot, will determine the question.
5. Where an alternate or reserve is required, the Synod shall vote by ballot even if there are the same number of nominations as positions to be filled. The alternative shall be the person who receives the fewest votes amongst those elected.
6. Where there are fewer nominations than positions to be filled, the Standing Committee may appoint persons to fill those positions as it sees fit providing that any such appointee fulfils any criteria specified in the constitution or Canons. Such appointments are subject to ratification at the next Synod.
7. Where the Standing Committee acts in accordance with rule 8.15.6, the term of office will end at the date it would have ended if the appointment had been made on the first day of the previous Synod session.

C8.16: Petitions and Questions

1. Petitions must be in writing, using the template provided and conclude with the signatures of the petitioners. No petition is to be expressed in language which, in the opinion of the Diocesan Bishop, is disrespectful or offensive. On the presentation of a petition, the only motion the Synod is to consider is a motion to the effect 'That Synod receives the petition.'
2. A question may be asked by submitting the full text of the question to the Standing Committee, using the template provided no later than 14 days prior to the first day of the session.
3. The full text of each question submitted is to be sent to all members no later than 7 days prior to the first day of the session.
4. If a member asking a question indicates in writing that they do not require the answer to their question to be read orally to the Synod, the President need not read the answer orally (but may do so at his discretion).
5. A question is to relate to a matter connected with the business of:
 - a. The Synod, or;
 - b. Any committee, board or commission of the Synod, or established by or under a Canon, or by resolution of the Synod or the Standing Committee.
6. No question is to contain an assertion, or express an opinion, or offer an argument, or make any inference or imputation, or be expressed in language which, in the opinion of the Diocesan Bishop, is disrespectful or offensive, or seek a legal opinion. Each question and reply is to be recorded in the minutes of the Synod.
7. An answer to a question will be read orally to the Synod by the Diocesan Bishop, at an appropriate time without the question being asked again.
8. If the answer includes statistics or other detailed material, the answer may be supplemented with data projected on a screen or a document which does not need to be read orally.
9. Each question and reply is to be recorded in the minutes of the Synod.

C8.17: Minutes of Proceedings

1. The Standing Committee must keep, or cause to be kept, a full and accurate record of Synod proceedings.
2. The certified minutes of each day's proceedings, certified copies of Canons passed by the Synod and election results all form part of Synod proceedings.

C8.18: Amending Standing Orders

1. These Standing Orders can be amended by a Canon of the Synod.

C8.19: Suspension of Standing Orders

1. Despite these standing orders it is open to the Diocesan Bishop to move from the chair the suspension of these standing orders, whether in whole or designated part, if in the Diocesan Bishop's opinion an emergency or a very unusual situation has arisen which makes it inappropriate to observe normal Synod procedure when discussing it. The Synod must immediately be asked to accept or reject that motion, without debate. If it is accepted,

discussion is to proceed as the Diocesan Bishop permits but in such a manner as to be fair to all members.

C8.20: Application of Standing Orders

1. Any question about the application of these Standing Orders, the form of motions and Canons and the voting on motions and Canons during a session of the Synod is to be decided by the Diocesan Bishop. The Diocesan Bishop's decision on all such questions is final unless immediately altered as a result of a motion without notice agreed to by the Synod.

Canon 9: Officers of the Diocese

C9.1: Introduction

1. This Canon establishes the office of Chancellor of the Diocese and the office of Registrar of the Diocese. Further positions may be established to serve the Diocese as the need arises.

C9.2: The Chancellor of the Diocese

1. The Diocesan Bishop, after consultation with the Standing Committee, may appoint a person to be the Chancellor of the Diocese.
2. The Chancellor is the principal confidential adviser to the Diocesan Bishop in legal and related matters.
3. Subject to the Chancellor's overriding duty to the Diocesan Bishop, the Chancellor may provide advice to the Synod and the Standing Committee.
4. The Chancellor has duties and responsibilities and positions as may be prescribed by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese.
5. No person can be appointed as Chancellor unless they:
 - a. Have been admitted to practice law in one of the United Kingdom jurisdictions and have practised law for at least seven years; or
 - b. Hold or have held judicial office; or
 - c. Are a graduate in law and a teacher of law of at least seven years standing as such holding the position of Senior Lecturer or above in law at a University.
6. The term of office may be as agreed from time to time between the Chancellor and Diocesan Bishop.
7. The Chancellor may be removed from office by the Diocesan Bishop after consultation with the Standing Committee.

C9.3: The Registrar of the Diocese

1. The Diocesan Bishop, after consultation with the Standing Committee, may appoint a person to be the Registrar of the Diocese.
2. The duties of the Registrar will include:
 - a. Maintaining the registry records of the Diocesan Bishop including licensing of Ministers and Fellowship Agreements with Member Churches;
 - b. Conducting Synod elections which are required by Canon;
 - c. Being the initial recipient of complaints made under the Church Discipline Canon;
 - d. Other duties assigned to the Registrar by the Diocesan Bishop or the Standing Committee as may be agreed from time to time.
3. The terms of office, remuneration and secretarial support for the office holder will be as agreed from time to time, between the office holder and the Diocesan Bishop and the Standing Committee.
4. The Registrar may be removed from office by the Diocesan Bishop after consultation with the Standing Committee.

C9.4: Assent to Doctrine and Formularies and Constitution and Canons

1. Every officer of the Diocese at the time of their appointment must declare their assent to the Doctrine and Formularies and to the Constitution and Canons in the forms set out in Canon 5.

Canon 10: Discipline of Clergy and Bishops

C10.1: General Principles

1. Under God and to the best of their abilities, conflicts, complaints, grievances, offences and conduct which brings the gospel of our Lord and Saviour into disrepute should be resolved within a Member Church (1 Corinthians 5:12 and 1 Corinthians 6:1-8).
2. Christian discipline exercised personally (Matthew 18; Galatians 6:1; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15) may lead to repentance and reconciliation (2 Corinthians 2:5-11) or to broken fellowship (Romans 16:17, 2 Timothy 1:15).
3. There will be circumstances where the resources and structures of the Member Church are not sufficient to bring resolution to a conflict with a licensed Minister.
4. The object of the categories and procedures in this Canon is to deal with all relevant persons in a way which is just, fair and proportionate to the nature and seriousness of the conflict.
5. This Canon recognises that there are different categories of behaviour or conduct which require different responses. From time to time Synod may amend the categories and responses.
6. When making or reviewing complaints all those involved (the complainant, Member Church leaders, Registrar and Diocesan Bishop) must be careful not to conflate things under one banner, for example safeguarding. Care must be taken to discern the difference between issues of safeguarding and other breaches of ministerial conduct and then dealt with appropriately in accordance with the AMiE guidelines in place.

C10.2: Professional Standards

1. The Synod may by Canon or resolution establish standards of behaviour and conduct ('professional standards') in addition to or extension of the standards of behaviour and conduct required from clergy in the Ordinal.
2. The Standing Committee will develop and implement a regime of training and accountability for these professional standards for all clergy and Church workers in Member Churches.

C10.3: Grounds for Discipline for all Clergy (including all Bishops)

1. Breach of doctrine - this is conduct which in whole or in part contradicts or seeks to undermine the Doctrinal Basis of AMiE, or the effect of which is to diminish what the Doctrinal Basis of AMiE states or implies.
2. Breach of professional standards as defined by AMiE's code of conduct.
3. Breach of their member church safeguarding policy and/or the subject of a confirmed serious incident.

C10.4: Process for Discipline for all Licensed Clergy (including Assistant Bishops in their role as Senior Ministers)

1. Any five people on the Electoral Roll of a Member Church or any two licensed clergy of the Diocese may bring a complaint against a licenced Minister of a Member Church concerning conduct which is a breach of doctrine and/or a breach of professional standards, and/or a breach of safeguarding Policies.
2. All complaints concerning conduct alleging a breach of doctrine and/or a breach of professional standards, and/or a breach of safeguarding policies against a licensed Minister must be made in writing addressed to the Registrar. This is the "Information" and it must be communicated in a secure format.
3. Within 14 days of receipt of the Information, the Registrar will convene a Panel of Enquiry to determine if there is a case to answer.
4. The Panel of Enquiry will consist of a lawyer appointed by the Standing Committee as chair and two members elected by Synod, one clergy and one member of the laity.
5. If there is a case to answer, then the Information is given to a lawyer appointed by the Standing Committee to make the case to the Clergy Discipline Tribunal.
6. The Clergy Discipline Tribunal will consist of an Assistant Bishop as chair and four members elected by Synod, two being clergy and two being laity.
7. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Clergy Discipline Tribunal must recommend to the Diocesan Bishop one or more of the following:
 - a. That the Information be dismissed;
 - b. Rebuke;
 - c. Suspension from office for a time;
 - d. Prohibition from functioning;
 - e. Removal from office;
 - f. Deposition from orders.

At the same time the Clergy Discipline Tribunal must advise the Minister of the recommendation.

8. Before the expiration of 20 days from the date of the recommendation to the Diocesan Bishop, either party to the Clergy Discipline Tribunal proceedings may lodge an application for leave to appeal to the Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal. The Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal must promptly determine if leave will be granted. If leave is granted then the Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal must determine whether the appeal will be limited to certain issues or a hearing de novo.
9. The Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal will consist of the Chancellor as chair and four members elected by Synod, two being clergy and two being laity.
10. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal must recommend to the Diocesan Bishop that:
 - a. The original recommendation be confirmed; or
 - b. Another recommendation be substituted chosen from the list in section 7 above.

11. After the elapse of the period in which an appeal can be lodged, and within the next 30 days, the Diocesan Bishop must implement the recommendation of the Clergy Discipline Tribunal or the Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal, or advise the Standing Committee with reasons why the recommendation will not be implemented.
12. The Standing Committee will promulgate Rules for the conduct of proceedings by the Panel of Enquiry, the Clergy Discipline Tribunal and the Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal.

C10.5: Process for Discipline for the Diocesan and Assistant Bishops

1. Any complaints made in line with Canon 10.5 concerning the conduct of the Diocesan and Assistant Bishops must be made to the Registrar. Any five members of the AMiE Synod or any two licensed clergy of the Diocese may bring a complaint against the Diocesan or Assistant Bishops concerning conduct which is a breach of doctrine and/or a breach of professional standards, and/or a breach of safeguarding policies.
2. The Registrar must refer all complaints to an Episcopal Complaint Enquiry Panel comprising two clergy and two lay members of Standing Committee elected by the Standing Committee.
3. The Episcopal Complaint Enquiry Panel will determine if there is a case to answer.
4. If there is a case to answer then all the material considered by the Episcopal Complaint Enquiry Panel is given to a lawyer appointed by the Standing Committee to make the case to the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal.
5. The Episcopal Discipline Tribunal will consist of the Chancellor as chair and four members elected by Synod, two being clergy and two being laity.
6. At the conclusion of the hearing the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal must recommend to the Standing Committee one or more of the following:
 - a. That the Information be dismissed;
 - b. Rebuke;
 - c. Suspension from office for a time;
 - d. Prohibition from functioning;
 - e. Removal from office;
 - f. Deposition from orders.

At the same time the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal must advise the Diocesan Bishop and the Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Network in Europe of the recommendation. In cases where the complaint is about the Presiding or Diocesan Bishop, the issue should be referred to the chair of the Gafcon Primates Council.

7. Before the expiration of 20 days from the date of the recommendation either party to the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal proceedings may lodge an application for leave to appeal to the Clergy Discipline Appeal body established by the Anglican Network in Europe.
8. After the elapse of the period in which an appeal can be lodged, and within the next 30 days, the Standing Committee must implement the recommendation of the Appeal body established by the Anglican Network in Europe or advise the Synod with reasons why the recommendation will not be implemented.

9. The decision of the Standing Committee must be communicated to the Gafcon Primates' Council promptly.
10. Before commencing duty under this Canon, each member of the Panel of Enquiry, Clergy Discipline Tribunal, Clergy Discipline Appeal Tribunal, Episcopal Complaint Enquiry Panel and the Episcopal Discipline Tribunal must make these affirmations:

I, A B, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will, to the utmost of my understanding, in all things deal uprightly and justly in my office.

I, A B, do solemnly make the following declaration: I assent to the Faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordinal.

I, A B, affirm my assent to be bound by the Constitution of the Anglican Mission in England and the Canons of the Synod as may be made from time to time which have force in this Diocese.