

The meeting opened with worship.

1. APOLOGIES AND NOTICES

Apologies received House of Clergy 20, House of Laity 15.

2. LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH

Revd Dr Casey Strine, Theology Adviser to the House of Bishops & Secretary to Theology, Dr Nick Shepherd former LLF Programme Director and Everarda Slabbekoorn LLF Programme Manager, joined Synod as part of the Church of England's consultation process on LLF/PLF.

3. FINANCIAL UPDATE

TR briefed Synod on the key figures from the financial proposals document:

- The Church Commissioners recommended 10.7% stipend increase and 3.5% staff salaries increase in line with inflation
- "Cliff Edge" funding of £9million over 9 years
- £250k from property sales in 2026
- Cost cutting and income initiatives amounting to £92k
- Flat 1.25% increase in parish share of £99k
- Lowest Income Community funding will increase to £1.1million

It is hoped to deliver a balanced budget next before the 2030 target.

TR reported that budget holder meetings are taking place with NO and the Finance & Assets Committee will be meeting in October to focus purely on budgets.

NO noted that we are seeing success in the collection of parish share, emphasising that effective communication plays a key role in this. We have received more parish share contributions compared to the same time last year.

+Rose closed the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting closed at 12:44