

## **ANNUAL SYNOD ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS ORDINANCE 2021**

### **Ordinance No. 28 of 2021**

An Ordinance to provide alternative arrangements in the event that an annual synod is unable to be held in 2021.

#### **PREAMBLE**

**Whereas** Article 2 of the Schedule to the Anglican Church of Australia Constitutions Act 1902 requires the Bishop to call a meeting of the synod in each year; and

**Whereas** the outbreak of COVID-19 has required the NSW government to impose health orders from time to time limiting movement, gatherings, the spacing of people at a gathering, and other provisions which affect the ability of the Diocese of Grafton to meet as a synod; and

**Whereas** considering the possibility that a synod during 2021 may not be feasible, the Bishop-in-Council deem it prudent to make alternative arrangements that assist with the continued operation and good governance of the Diocese of Grafton;

**Therefore**, the Bishop-in-Council in pursuance of powers provided in clause 48.2 of the Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008 hereby decrees and enacts as follows:

#### **DECISION**

1. The arrangements under this ordinance are put into effect in the event that the Bishop of Grafton determines that there is no reasonable opportunity to hold a synod of the Diocese of Grafton during 2021.

#### **ARRANGEMENTS**

2. Deliver to each person on the Roll:
  - a. The Reports and Accounts required by the Standing Orders (First Schedule – Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008), by Ordinance or by a resolution of Synod as per Standing Order 14.1;
  - b. A draft Budget for 2022 as per subclause 57.1 (g) (iv) of the Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008; and
  - c. Any other materials that in the view of the Bishop or the Registrar is appropriate to be distributed.
3. Powers shall be given to the Bishop-in-Council to:
  - a. adopt the audited Financial Statements of Bishop-in-Council, The Corporate Trustees and Anglican Funds Grafton Diocese;
  - b. consider for amendment or adoption the draft Diocesan Budget for 2022;
  - c. make appointments to fill Bishop-in-Council vacancies where such appointments are valid until the last day of the first session of the next Synod or become otherwise ineligible to serve as a member of Bishop-in-Council;
  - d. make an appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Corporate Trustees where such an appointment is valid until the last day of the session of synod held in 2026 or become otherwise ineligible to serve as a Corporate Trustee;
  - e. make appointments to fill vacancies in the Board of Enquiry and the Panel of Triers under the Clergy Discipline Ordinance 1966 where such appointments are valid until the last day of the first session of the next Synod or become otherwise ineligible to serve in that capacity.

4. Where any provision of the Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008, Clergy Discipline Ordinance 1966 or other ordinance or regulation of the Diocese is contrary to the provisions of this ordinance, the provisions of this ordinance prevails.
5. Nothing in this ordinance shall prevent the Bishop or the Registrar from taking action beyond that prescribed in this ordinance for purpose of better communication and consultation with the members of the synod and the members of the Diocese of Grafton on matters that would reasonably have been the business of a meeting of synod, if held.

#### DEFINITIONS

6. For the purpose of this ordinance:
  - a. Roll is defined as those persons who by virtue of their position or an election or nomination from a parish or organisation of the Diocese of Grafton would have been summoned to synod by the Bishop, if a synod were to be held at that time;
  - b. Deliver is defined as availability to be accessed in an electronic form, or the sending by email, or where printed copies are produced, the despatch through the postal service.

#### COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION

7. This Ordinance shall come into effect upon receiving the assent of the Bishop.
8. This Ordinance shall remain effective until such time as the Diocese of Grafton meets as a synod in session.
9. Actions taken under the provisions of this Ordinance survive the expiry of this Ordinance.


#### SHORT TITLE

10. This Ordinance may be cited as the Annual Synod Alternative Arrangements Ordinance 2021.

#### ASSENT

We hereby certify that this Ordinance was passed by Bishop-in-Council on the Sixteenth day of September, 2021 and that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as passed.

  
 .....  
 Chair of Committees

  
 .....  
 Registrar

I assent to this Ordinance.

  
 .....  
 Bishop

  
 .....  
 Date