

Diocesan Synod Elections 2018 - How About You?



Why should I stand for Synod?

- To represent your part of the diocese
- To influence Christian mission and strategy
- To ensure good fiscal management
- To make a difference on issues of social injustice, poverty and the environment

The Salisbury Diocesan Synod is the representative, governing body of the Diocese of Salisbury. It is also the Diocesan Board of Finance of the diocese. Bishops, clergy and lay people meet together to discuss issues affecting the Church and our diocese.

We would like the members of all our parishes to consider whether they might stand for election.

Diocesan Synod usually meets three times a year for a full day on a Saturday in spring and autumn and for an evening in June.

Am I eligible?

You do not have to be a Deanery Synod member, but you must be:

- Over sixteen
- Registered on the Church Electoral Roll of any parish in the Deanery
- A communicant member (ie you have taken communion at least three times in the last year)

A clergy candidate must be a member of the Deanery Synod.

Someone already elected to the General Synod is automatically ex-officio a member of the Diocesan Synod and does not therefore need to be separately elected.

If you would like to make a positive contribution to the future of your diocese and the Church of England, please put your name forward for election.

Also, if you know someone with the enthusiasm to make a difference in this rôle, please encourage them to stand for election.

What is the procedure?

You need to complete a Nomination Form which is available either by downloading it from the diocesan web site or obtaining it from a Deanery Synod member.

You need to find two members of your Deanery Synod to propose and second your nomination and to return your form to the deanery Presiding Officer by your deanery's closing date for nominations – which may be slightly different for each deanery.

If you are not sure who is a Deanery Synod member, your parish Priest or PCC Secretary will be able to tell you. They should also be able to help you access the wider network of synod members in your deanery.

Deanery Presiding Officers then arrange the ballot and Deanery Synod members vote to elect from those people nominated from within their deanery.

Elected – what next?

The members of the new Diocesan Synod will, from amongst themselves, elect a number of those who will form the **Bishop's Council**.

The Bishop's Council is the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod. It is where informed discussion and consideration can take place as it seeks to advise the Bishop and make decisions of a financial nature. It is also the Board of Finance Executive.

The Bishop's Council is the Mission and Pastoral Committee for the Diocese and assists the Bishop, after consultation, in decisions regarding pastoral re-organisation, creation of new benefices/parishes, Bishop's Mission Orders, etc.

There is a variety of working groups focusing on specific areas and you may have skills and experience to offer in these.

Members are encouraged to foster good communications between the parishes, deaneries and the Diocesan Synod.

More information

Nomination forms can be downloaded from www.salisbury.anglican.org/whos-who/synods/diocesan-synod, or can be obtained from your Deanery Synod representatives, or from fiona.torrance@salisbury.anglican.org, or via 01722 411922.

Elections Timetable

1 May – Nomination Papers available

27 May – Nomination Papers returned to Presiding Officers by this date – check with a Deanery Synod member for the exact date in your deanery.

21 June – Elections completed by this date

Meetings in 2018 – 2019

3 November 2018

16 February, 19 June, 2 November 2019

It's that easy...