

Coventry Diocesan Synod - 5 November 2011

Debate and Vote on the Legislation for the Ordination and Consecration of Women to the Episcopate

After an extensive and high-quality debate, the Chair put the motion:

“That this Synod approve the proposals embodied in the draft Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure and in draft Amending Canon No. 30”

This motion was carried: 71 votes in favour, 6 votes against, 5 abstentions.

The vote by houses was:

	For	Against	Abstain
Bishops	2	0	0
Clergy	35	2	4
Laity	34	4	1

Debate and Vote on some ‘Following Motions’

After a further extensive debate, Revd Canon Martin Saxby put the motion:

“This Synod:

- Desires that all faithful Anglicans remain and thrive together in the Church of England;*
- And supports efforts being made by the Diocese to achieve reconciliation; and therefore,*
- Calls upon the House of Bishops to ensure that sufficient provision is made within the Code of Practice for those who cannot in conscience agree with the Measure.”*

Each part of the above motion was voted on separately, and **all three parts were carried** by a substantial majority.

Revd Canon Martin Saxby then put the motion:

“This Synod calls upon the House of Bishops to bring forward amendments to the draft Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure to ensure that those unable on theological grounds to accept the ministry of women bishops are able to receive episcopal oversight from the bishop with authority (i.e. ordinary jurisdiction) conferred by the Measure rather than by delegation from a Diocesan Bishop.”

This motion was rejected: 17 votes in favour, 58 votes against, 3 abstentions.

Graeme Pringle
Diocesan Communication Officer