An Ordinary Meeting of the Governing Body of the Church in Wales was held in the Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 April 2015.

The President, the Archbishop of Wales, was in the Chair for the start of the meeting.

15/01 Prayers and Bible Study

The Venerable Dr Peter Pike, Archdeacon of Montgomery, led a Bible Study and Prayers.

15/02 President’s Mandate

In accordance with Regulation 16.2 of Chapter II of the Constitution, the Lay Secretary certified the due execution of the President’s Mandate.

15/03 Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Governing Body held on 17 and 18 September 2014 were confirmed and signed.

15/04 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

15/05 Representatives of Cytûn and Other Churches

The President welcomed those attending the meeting to represent Cytûn and other Churches:

The Methodist Church: The Reverend Dr Stephen Wigley
The Presbyterian Church of Wales: The Reverend Dr Elwyn Richards
The United Reformed Church: The Reverend Sally Thomas

15/06 Consent for non-members to speak

Noting that a number of non-Governing Body members would be involved in presentations, the Governing Body gave its consent for non-members to speak during the meeting.
15/07  **The President’s Address**

The President addressed the Governing Body.

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Mr Paul Bennett was appointed as the Assessor for the day.

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The President vacated the Chair which was taken by Dr Gill Todd.

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15/08  **Report of the Standing Committee**

His Honour Philip Price QC, Chair of the Standing Committee, presented the Report of the Standing Committee and proposed the following recommendations which were seconded by the Venerable Robert Williams, Archdeacon of Gower:

**Nominated Membership of the Standing Committee**

That, in accordance with Section 34.2.3 of the Regulations relating to Chapter II of the Constitution, the Governing Body appoint the Reverend Canon Steven Kirk and His Honour Judge Andrew Keyser QC as members of the Standing Committee for the triennium to 31 December 2017.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

**Panel of Governing Body Chairs**

That Mr Clive Myers be appointed to the Panel of Governing Body Chairs for a period of six years.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

**Panel of Governing Body Assessors**

That Mr Sandy Blair CBE, DL, continue on the Panel of Governing Body Assessors for a further six-year term.

The resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority.

**Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church – June 2015**

That Mrs Lis Perkins be invited to attend the Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church from 11-13 June 2015 as the Church in Wales’s representative.

The resolution was passed *nemine contradicente*. 
General Synod of the Church of England – July 2015

That the Reverend Dr Mark Clavier, Acting Principal of St Michael’s College, Llandaff be invited to attend the General Synod of the Church of England in York from 10-14 July 2015 as the Church in Wales’s representative.

The resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority.

Approval of the Report

That the Report of the Standing Committee be approved.

The resolution was passed nemine contradicentre.

15/09 2020 Vision

The Bishop of Bangor, its Deputy Chair, introduced a Report from the Implementation Group that included a film about the Conference The Time is Now, which took place in November 2014 in Llandudno. Mr Nigel King, Chair of the Conference Design Team, gave an oral report about the Conference.

There was a discussion of matters raised.

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Dr Gill Todd vacated the Chair which was taken by the Reverend Canon Steven Kirk.

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15/10 Youth and Children’s Matters

The Right Reverend David Wilbourne, Assistant Bishop of Llandaff, introduced a presentation on Youth and Children’s matters. It included a film about Messy Church introduced by Mrs Lesley Cox (non-member); a presentation by the Bangor CYFMEs (Children’s Youth and Families Mission Enablers), Naomi Wood, John Price and Andy Hughes (non-members); and a presentation by Brannen Liston-Smith and Laura Williams of the St Asaph Youth Forum (non-members).

The Governing Body held a discussion with the young people involved following the presentation.

15/11 Report on Representation of Women in the Church in Wales

Dr Gill Todd proposed and the Reverend Canon Jenny Wigley seconded the following motion:
That the Governing Body:

(i) receive and welcome the Report of the Working Group on Representation of Women in the Church in Wales dated April 2015 and endorse the recommendations therein;

(ii) accept that the Church in Wales has not achieved in the last seven years the expected cultural change, the appointment of more women into senior posts and the greater involvement of women in Church decision making;

(iii) recognise that the equality agenda is the responsibility of the whole Church;

(iv) commend the Report to the Province, dioceses, deaneries and parishes for study and appropriate action;

(v) request the Standing Committee to allocate the recommendations in the Report to the appropriate bodies for action;

(vi) request the Standing Committee to report back on progress in implementing the recommendations within 3 years.

After four members had spoken, the Governing Body adjourned the debate to give time for an introduction to the group discussions to take place at the beginning of the following day.

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Canon Kirk vacated the Chair which was resumed by the Archbishop.

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15/12 Evangelism – Introduction to Group Discussions

The Bishop of Bangor and the Reverend Richard Lowndes (non-member) gave an introduction to the paper Witnessing to Good News In Wales and 2020, which members would discuss in groups the following day.

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Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned until the following day.
The Meeting of the Governing Body resumed on Thursday 16 April 2015.

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
There was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist in Holy Trinity Church, Llandrindod Wells.

15/13 Evangelism - Discussion in Groups
The Governing Body divided into ten discussion groups to discuss *Witnessing to Good News In Wales and 2020* and the issues raised.

The Governing Body then reconvened in plenary session.

Mr Tim Davenport was appointed as the Assessor for the day.

The Chair was taken by the Reverend Canon Steven Kirk.

15/14 Report on Representation of Women in the Church in Wales (continued from Minute 15/11)

The debate on the motion resumed.

The Reverend Janice Brown proposed and Mrs Louise Davies seconded the following amendment:

To delete 'and endorse the recommendations therein’ in clause (i) and delete in full clauses (iv), (v) and (vi) and to substitute new clauses (iv), (v) and (vi) as follows:

(iv) request that the Standing Committee commission further work investigating the positive impact that women are having on ministry in the Church in Wales;

(v) request that the Standing Committee take all available steps to prove the opportunities for women to experience ministry at senior levels, as well as highlighting clear areas where improvement is necessary;

(vi) request that the Standing Committee to report back on progress to this body within 3 years.
The amendment was lost with 33 members voting in favour, 76 against and 12 abstentions.

The debate on the substantive motion resumed.

The Bishop of Swansea & Brecon proposed and the Bishop of St Asaph seconded the following amendment:

In clause (i) of the motion, delete the words ‘and endorse the recommendations therein’.

The amendment was carried by an overwhelming majority.

The amended motion was then passed in the following form with 12 members voting against and 10 abstentions:

That the Governing Body:

(i) receive and welcome the Report of the Working Group on Representation of Women in the Church in Wales dated April 2015;

(ii) accept that the Church in Wales has not achieved in the last seven years the expected cultural change, the appointment of more women into senior posts and the greater involvement of women in Church decision making;

(iii) recognise that the equality agenda is the responsibility of the whole Church;

(iv) commend the Report to the Province, dioceses, deaneries and parishes for study and appropriate action;

(v) request the Standing Committee to allocate the recommendations in the Report to the appropriate bodies for action;

(vi) request the Standing Committee to report back on progress in implementing the recommendations within 3 years.

Canon Kirk vacated the Chair which was resumed by the Archbishop.

15/15 Question Time

Oral answers to written questions from Mr Dean Roberts, the Reverend Chancellor Dr Patrick Thomas, the Venerable Peggy Jackson, Archdeacon of Llandaff, and Mrs Kathryn Hall were given by the Bishops of St Asaph, Swansea & Brecon, Monmouth and the Archbishop.
15/16 **Church Action on Poverty Issues**

The Bishop of Swansea and Brecon proposed and the Reverend Jon Durley seconded the following motion:

That the Governing Body:

(i) recognise the gospel imperative to address poverty and disadvantage;

(ii) adopt the revised Ethical Investment Policy approved by the Representative Body on 20 November 2014;

(iii) welcome the establishment of the Churches’ Mutual Credit Union and commend credit union membership;

(iv) welcome the progress made towards accreditation of the Church in Wales as a Fair Trade Province;

(v) recognise and affirm the work of local churches and church-related projects in supporting people in poverty, combating the effects of poverty, and campaigning against the causes of poverty;

(vi) call upon the Welsh Government to do all that it can to minimise the impact of poverty, austerity and recession on the people of Wales.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

15/17 **Parochial Fees – Report from the Representative Body**

Mr James Turner proposed and Mr Sandy Blair CBE, DL seconded the following motion:

That the Governing Body:

(i) receive the report entitled ‘The Allocation of Parochial Fees in the Church in Wales April 2015’;

(ii) approve the core principle for the allocation of fee income as set out in the report;

(iii) note the proposed working arrangements and the intention to consult further thereon with the Bench of Bishops and Diocesan Boards of Finance;
(iv) request the Representative Body to undertake such further consultation to enable a Bill to be prepared and brought forward in due course to implement the proposed changes from 2018.

34 members voted for the motion, 48 against and there were 27 abstentions. Therefore the motion was lost.

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His Honour Philip Price QC vacated the Chair which was taken by Mrs Lis Perkins.

15/18 Report of St Michael’s College, Llandaff

The Bishop of Monmouth proposed and the Archbishop seconded the motion:

That the Report of St Michael’s College, Llandaff be received.

The Reverend Dr Mark Clavier, Acting Principal of St Michael’s College, (non-member) spoke about the report.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

15/19 Criteria for Elected Lay Membership of Provincial Bodies

His Honour Philip Price QC proposed and the Reverend Canon Steven Kirk, Chair of the Drafting Sub-committee, seconded the following motion:

That the amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendices 1 & 2 to the Report headed ‘Criteria for Elected Lay Membership of Provincial Bodies’ and dated 19 March 2015 be approved.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

[The amendments are appended to these minutes at Appendix 1]

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Mrs Lis Perkins vacated the Chair which was resumed by the President.

15/20 Private Members Motion

The Reverend Canon Paul Mackness and Mr Nigel Roberts asked for the Governing Body’s consent to postpone the following motion until September:

That the Governing Body:
(i) believes the upper age limit on service in parish, deanery and diocesan lay offices has a negative impact on the life and mission of the church and produces no discernible benefit;

(ii) therefore resolves to conduct an extensive review of the impact of the Equality Act 2010 on age restrictions contained in the Constitution of the Church in Wales in so far as the Clergy, Laity and those who hold office in the Church are concerned with a view to achieving, in so far as practicable and lawful, the repeal of all such age related conditions.

The Governing Body gave its consent.

15/21 Date and Place of Next Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Governing Body would be held on Wednesday and Thursday, 16 and 17 September 2015 at the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, Lampeter.

This concluded the business of the Meeting and the President gave the Blessing.
Chapter II - The Governing Body

6.

(1) Subject to subsections (2), and (3) and (4), every lay Communicant who is over eighteen years of age and who either resides or has resided at any time for a period of twelve months in a parish which is in Wales or whose name appears in the electoral roll of any parish in Wales and who does not belong to any religious body which is not in communion with the Church in Wales, shall be qualified to be a member of the Governing Body.

(2) No salaried employee of the Representative Body, a Diocesan Board of Finance or any other such provincial or diocesan body within the Church in Wales shall be eligible to be a member of the Governing Body or any committee or sub-committee thereof.

(3) No Lay communicant who has reached his or her seventy fifth birthday shall be qualified to be a member of the Governing Body.

(4) A lay Communicant may be elected a member of the Governing Body only for the diocese in which he or she either resides, holds diocesan office or has his or her name on the electoral roll of a parish in such diocese.
Chapter III - The Representative Body

7.

(1) Subject to subsections (2), and (3) and (4), every lay Communicant who is over eighteen years of age, and who either resides or has resided at any time for a period of twelve months in a parish which is in Wales or whose name appears in the electoral roll of any parish in Wales who has been a contributor to the funds of the Church in Wales within the twelve months next preceding the day of his nomination, and who does not belong to any religious body which is not in communion with the Church in Wales, shall be qualified to be a member of the Representative Body or any committee or sub-committee thereof.

(2) No salaried employee of the Representative Body, a Diocesan Board of Finance or any other such provincial or diocesan body within the Church in Wales shall be eligible to be a member of the Representative Body or any committee or sub-committee thereof.

(3) No lay Communicant who has reached his or her seventy fifth birthday shall be qualified to be a member of the Representative Body.

(4) A lay Communicant may be elected a member of the Representative Body only for the diocese in which he or she either resides, holds diocesan office or has his or her name on the electoral roll of a parish in such diocese.
Chapter V - Regulations relating to the election of the Archbishop and the Diocesan Bishops

Part I: Appointment of Episcopal Electors

1. An Episcopal Elector shall be a lay person who is under the age of seventy five years or a Cleric who is under the age of seventy years and, in each case, qualified to be a member of the Governing Body.

2.1 Each Diocesan Conference shall, at its first meeting and at each subsequent first meeting of any newly-elected Diocesan Conference, appoint:
2.1.1 six Clerics who hold a licence from the Diocesan Bishop to officiate and reside in the diocese; and
2.1.2 six lay persons who either reside in the diocese or whose names are on the electoral roll of a Parish in the diocese or who hold diocesan office in such diocese;
to act as Episcopal Electors in the Electoral College, the Clerics being appointed by the clerical members and the lay persons by the lay members of the Conference and the Conference shall make lists of Episcopal Electors in accordance with Regulation 2.3.

2.2 A supplemental list of nine Clerics and nine lay persons shall be made at the same time in a similar manner, from which casual vacancies in the number of Episcopal Electors shall be filled.

2.3 The order in which the names of the persons appointed under Regulations 2.1 and 2.2 shall stand on the lists of Episcopal Electors and on the supplemental lists respectively shall be determined by a vote taken by ballot at the time of appointment, and in the case of an equality of votes the order as between those having an equality of votes shall be determined by the President of the Diocesan Conference.

3.1 A Cleric who is appointed an Episcopal Elector shall continue as such only whilst holding a licence from the Bishop to officiate and residing in such diocese, provided that an Episcopal Elector who at the time of appointment was a Cleric in the full-time stipendiary ministry of the Church in Wales shall cease to be an Episcopal Elector when he or she ceases to hold office in the full-time stipendiary ministry of the Church in Wales, but this without prejudice to eligibility for re-appointment as an Episcopal Elector.

3.2 A lay person who is appointed an Episcopal Elector shall continue as such only whilst residing in the diocese by which he or she was appointed save that this paragraph shall not apply to an Episcopal Elector holding diocesan office or whose name is on the electoral roll of a parish in such diocese.
22. In the event of any member having been elected for more than one diocese, the Secretaries of the Governing Body shall, within one week of receiving the names of the elected members, give notice in writing to such member, calling on him or her to signify in writing within one week twenty one days his or her choice of the diocese for which he or she will serve. In the event of such member failing so to signify his or her choice, the President shall choose the diocese for which he or she shall serve, and thereupon the seat or seats of such member for any other diocese or dioceses for which he or she shall have been elected shall be filled up from the appropriate supplemental list of members of such diocese or dioceses.
Part II: Composition

Membership

2. (1) The Representative Body shall consist of:

(a) *ex-officio* members who shall be:
   (i) the Archbishop;
   (ii) the Chairman of each Diocesan Board of Finance; and
   (iii) the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

(b) elected members, who shall be one Cleric and one lay person from each Diocese elected by the respective Diocesan Conferences who shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-election for further periods of three years if otherwise duly qualified;

(c) co-opted members who shall be limited to two, co-opted by the ex-officio and elected members of the Representative Body without any regard for dioceses, who shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for co-option for further periods of three years if otherwise duly qualified; and

(d) nominated members, who shall be limited to four, nominated by the Bench of Bishops in consultation with the Standing Committee, who shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for nomination for further periods of three years if otherwise duly qualified.

(2) In the event of any member having been elected for more than one diocese, the Secretary of the Representative Body shall give notice in writing to such member calling on him or her to signify in writing within twenty one days his or her choice of the diocese for which he or she will serve. In the event of such member failing so to signify his or her choice, the Chairman shall choose the diocese for which he or she shall serve, and thereupon the seat or seats of such member for any other diocese or dioceses for which he or she shall have been elected shall be filled up from the appropriate supplemental list of members of such diocese or dioceses.
4.1 A list of the Episcopal Electors for each Diocese shall be sent immediately after their appointment by the Secretary of the Diocesan Conference to the Archbishop and each Diocesan Bishop and the Secretaries of the Governing Body Archbishop’s Registrar.

4.2 An Episcopal Elector may resign from office by notice in writing, addressed to the Secretary of his or her Diocesan Conference.

4.3 In the event of a vacancy in the number of Episcopal Electors, the first name on the supplemental list shall be placed at the end of the list of Episcopal Electors, and that person shall become an Episcopal Elector and the Secretary of the Diocesan Conference shall send notice thereof as in Regulation 4.1.

4.4 In the event of any Elector having been appointed for more than one diocese the Archbishop’s Registrar shall give notice in writing to such Elector calling on him or her to signify in writing within twenty one days his or her choice of the diocese for which he or she will serve. In the event of such Elector failing so to signify his or her choice his or her name shall be removed from the list of Electors for each diocese on which it appears.