IN THE DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

I CHRISTOPHER LORD BISHOP OF COVENTRY DIRECT PURSUANT TO RULE 78 (2) (5) AND (7) OF THE CHURCH REPRESNTATION RULES AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS:

The functions of the Diocesan Synod are to:

Consider matters concerning the Church of England, and to make provision for such matters in the Diocese

Consider and express opinion on any matter of religious or public interest

Advise the Bishop when consulted by him

Consider matters referred to it by the General Synod

Consider and approve the annual budget of the Diocesan Board of Finance and to receive and adopt its annual Report and Accounts; and

The Church Representation Rules (the CRR ) by Rule 44(3) require that a question relating only to the conduct of business and that any other question is to be decided by the votes of the members present and voting; and

The CRR do not make any provision for the Diocesan Synod to meet remotely either virtually or by using telephone facilities; and

The Diocesan Synod is required by the CRR to meet a minimum of two times a year; and

Rule 78(2) of the CRR empowers the bishop of a diocese to make provision for any matter not within the CRR; and

Pursuant to Rule 78(5) (b) of the CRR the bishop may modify the procedure for a meeting; and

Pursuant to Rule 78(7) where difficulties arise, the bishop may give whatever directions he or she considers appropriate for removing those difficulties

I DIRECT forthwith that during the restrictions imposed on meetings by the COVID-19 pandemic or unless previously revoked by me that:

1. The Diocesan Synod may meet virtually over the telephone or by using digital solutions (remote meetings)
2. The Diocesan Synod must record their decision to meet remotely
3. The Diocesan Synod must continue to adhere in all other respects to the provisions of the CRR and its Standing Orders

NOW THEREFORE I, CHRISTOPHER, LORD BISHOP OF COVENTRY do make this Order under my hand this day of May in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty.

Signed: