Changes to Code of Canons and Digest of Resolutions, passed at General Synod 2019

The changes to the Code of Canons passed at Second Reading at General Synod 2019 were as follows:

- Canon 35 (Of the Structure, Furniture and Monuments of Churches, and the Due Care Thereof): Section 1 of the Canon was altered to include reference to stained well as painted windows and also to extend the scope of the Canon to include the curtilage of any church used for public worship. A similar reference to curtilage was included in Section 3 of the Canon.

Resolution 3 under Canon 35 was altered to delete reference to the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, the Scottish Civic Trust and local civic or amenity societies affiliated to the Scottish Civic Trust as bodies to whom notice of any proposed change to a listed building was required to be advertised.

- Canon 52 (Of the General Synod): Section 23 of the Canon was altered to delete reference to an Information and Communication Board

The index to the Code of Canons has been updated accordingly.

A number of changes were made to the Digest of Resolutions as follows:

- In the light of the alteration to Canon 52 referred to above, references in the Digest to the Information and Communication Board were deleted (sections 2.2.1 and 2.7, resulting in a renumbering of sections 2.8 – 2.11);
- Section 2.2.6 was altered to clarify the setting of provincial quota annually, including provision so that if General Synod is unable to agree on the amount of provincial quota to be requested for the following year, then the amount of provincial quota for that year may be set by Standing Committee at a figure no greater than that requested for the immediately preceding year.
- The former Committee for Relations with People of Other Faiths was removed as a pendant committee of the Church in Society Committee and replaced by a new Interfaith Relations Committee, directly pendant to the Faith and Order Board. Changes to sections 2.4.3 -2.4.7 and sections 2.5.3 and 2.5.8 were made to reflect that.
- Alterations were made to the criteria for payment of child allowance, provision was made to accord stipendiary clergy similar rights to those statutorily accorded to employees in relation to maternity, paternity, parental and adoption leave, and the Administration Board was charged to make provision for provincial grants to assist congregations where the latter made payment of maternity, paternity, adoption and shared parental pay to clergy. Sections 4.3.2, 6.12 and 4.3.3 respectively of the Digest were altered to reflect these changes.

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