

MEETING MINUTES: WITNEY DEANERY SYNOD

St. Britius, Brize Norton

25th June 2014

Present:

Mark Albert & Ann Boutflower (Bampton with Clanfield), Eileen Wojciechowska (Black Bourton), Elizabeth Holmes (Brize Norton), Gillian Allison (Broughton Poggs cum Filkins), Kevin Rillie (Burford), Ian Griffiths (Carterton), Barbara Eaton, Mark Kingston & Elizabeth Knowles (Cogges), Ian Paul & John Pearson (Ducklington), Anne Hichens (Langford), Jeremy Taylor (Little Faringdon), Kirsty Strange & Nicola Carter (Minster Lovell), Sheila Caygill (Northmoor), Donald Chamberlain (Shilton), Judy Poole (South Leigh), Susie Miles & Alison Shaw (Standlake), Helen Meyrick & Stephanie Keates (Witney), Philip Rogers (Yelford)

Reverend James Madden (Host / Brize Norton), Reverend Nick Pike (Cogges), Reverend David Lloyd (Bampton), Reverend Andrew Tweedy (Lower Windrush Benefice), Padre Andi Chapman & Padre John Ellis (RAF Brize Norton), Reverend Harry MacInnes (Shill Valley & Broadshire Benefice) Reverend Neil Traynor, Reverend Joy Hance & Reverend Alastair Blaine (Witney), Reverend Hugh Lee (General Synod Rep)

Charles Mathew (Standing Committee / Stanton Harcourt), Sue Campbell (Deanery Treasurer / North Leigh), Reverend Ron Curtis (Assistant Area Dean), Reverend Toby Wright (Area Dean), Mandy Studley (Administrator)

Apologies:

Rosemary Peirce, Dave Adams, David Exham, Arthur Pont, Ruth Edy

Reverend Richard Coombs, Reverend Paula Clifford, Reverend David Spence, Reverend Simon Kirby, Padre Andi Chapman

Gaynor Taylor & Rachel Vander Elst (Burford), Gill Cox (Kencot), Rod Craig & John Glanville (North Leigh), Michael Russell (Taynton), Nick Thompson & Phil Plat (Witney)

1. Welcome – Toby Wright

Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

1. Minutes of 14 November 2013 accepted (proposed Harry MacInnes, Helen Meyrick to second)
2. Date of next meeting – 19th November 2014 at St. Mary's Bampton at 7pm

2. Election of Standing Committee and Officers

Officers

Post	Lay Chair	Treasurer	Secretary
Nominee	Kevin Rillie (St Johns Burford)	Sue Campbell	Mandy Studley
Proposer	Sue Campbell	Nicola Carter	Helen Meyrick
Seconder	Charles Matthew	Alastair	Sue Campbell
Vote	Carried (no abstain, no against)	Carried	Carried

Standing Committee

Post	Lay	Lay	Ordained
Nominee	Charles Matthew	John Glanville	Andrew Tweedy
Proposer	Susie Miles	Susie Miles	Susie Miles
Seconder	Neil Traynor	Neil Traynor	Neil Traynor
Vote	Carried	Carried	Carried

3. Finance Report – Sue Campbell

Good news that we reached 50% June target and will get the 1% rebate was announced. 12 have paid over the due amount of which 8 parishes (out of 28) have already paid in full, Despite this good news we need to appreciate some parishes will not be able to pay their shares in full this year.

14th July there will be a treasurers' get together in Witney,
A full report is attached separately.

4. Presentation by 3 new members of house of clergy

Padre John Ellis – senior Chaplain at RAF Brize Norton (3 in the team – 2 Anglicans at the moment). Sunday eve service once a month at St John the Evangelist, Carterton. Not a member of House of Clergy as part of RAF, but has PTO. Been here just over a year and wants to be another 12 – 18 months here and wants team to be involved in community more. Happy to give talks etc., so feel free to ask.

Reverend Drew Tweedy – 3 year curacy at St John's Carterton. Barcelona for last 6 years and just moved to Lower Windrush Benefice. This Sunday evening doing a riverside service at the Ferryman Inn.

Reverend Joy Hance – Met husband Nick at Wantage Methodist church, met Toby's father at the parish church and got confirmed (hence knew Toby when he was 16). Moved to Benefice just outside Faringdon – house for duty for 11 years. At end of sabbatical this last year met Toby again, decided right time to move. Can offer to lead quiet days, retreats, is a spiritual director, spiritual nurture for deanery.

Reverend Neil Traynor – worked as press officer under George Carey, then for Princess Anne charity, 7 years working USPG. Ordained 3 years ago, served 18 months curacy in Barnsley Yorkshire. 18 months Bishops Chaplain. Got made redundant and came south to start at Witney.

5. Bible study – Ron Curtis: Acts Chapter 6 verses 1 – 7 New Beginnings



6. Vision – Toby Wright

Plot out Vision for Deanery and work as Synod. Pick up at next meeting. Diocese is encouraging Deaneries to have Vision Mission and Action Plan (VMAP). Diocese is trying to encourage parishes to have VMAP and so more likely to buy into Deanery ones. Charles Chadwick is happy to work with John Glanville on Deanery VMAP. Focussing on Schools ministry (Alastair Blaine) and men's ministry (Kevin Rillie, James Madden). Deanery website. If interested in being a member of working group please let member of Standing Committee know (Sue, Drew, Ron, Charles Toby, John). Please pray for this work.

7. General Synod Report – Reverend Hugh Lee

Last reported to the Deanery Synod in November 2012.

The feel of Synod has changed –the Synod pray together more, while debates are happening there is a group of people continuing praying, and the Synod meet together in smaller facilitating groups with professional facilitator.

A written report on the updates has been requested. Information can be found online at <http://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/general-synod.aspx>

Debate on environment and ethical investments. Motion passed that investments should be directed to helping environment. Bracknell deanery proposal for debate at diocesan synod for de-investment in fossil fuels.

Safe guarding issues – church recognise guilty for allowing abuse to happen and on journey to put it right. No time limit on sexual abuse complaint, an incumbent must not allow anyone to minister or even robe in their church unless know no issues and approved by the Bishop.

Amending Canons – there should be no discrimination between men and women. There are should be no discrimination, however should be respected that certain parts of church have not accepted this and should allow each other to flourish.

Next General Synod is Monday 14th July in York.

Next elections for General Synod are September 2015. Find out about candidates and what they really stand for. Diocesan synod (Deddington proposing) trying to pass motion for more electronic communication about candidates).

8. Area Dean Notices

Sat 20th September - The Grand Day Out in Oxford / Bishop John's farewell. Churches across diocese take over central Oxford. Volunteers from each Deanery to man posts, provide volunteers, first aiders etc.

Reverend Canon Judy French now Archdeacon

Inspections of churches are now progressing and there is a schedule rolling over 3 years.

Churchwarden training on 30th September at the Cotswold Wildlife Park

9. Other important matters

18th September Thames walk.