

RICKMANSWORTH DEANERY SYNOD

Rural Dean:	The Revd. David Hall, The Vicarage, Christ Church, Chorleywood, Herts	01923-282149
Lay Chairman:	Duncan Kerr, Lavender Lodge, Nightingales Lane, Chalfont St Giles HP8 4SR	01494 763481
Treasurer:	Rupert Barnes, 4 Rugby Way, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth WD3 3PH	01923-897875
Secretary:	Emma Hulme 23 The Grove, Parkfield, Latimer, Bucks HP5 1UE	01494-764469

Minutes of the Synod in Christ Church, Chorleywood, 8pm, Thursday 6th Oct 2016

Members of the House of Clergy (9 current members)

Present (5): David Hall (Rural Dean), Jairo Nyaongo, Charles Burch, Charles Parry, Simon Cutmore,

Apologies (4): Deborah Snowball, Michele du Saire, Miriam Mугan, Robert Riley-Braley

Members of the House of Laity (29 current members)

Present (14): Duncan Kerr (Lay Chair), Julie Shepherd, Alan Wills, Judy Olney, Clare Endicott-Johnson, Jane Brading, Tony Barton, Rupert Barnes, Les Palmer, Terence Russoff, Sam Devadoss, Geoff Roberts, Pam Dawson, Judith Palfreman

Apologies (11): Bob Shearer, Anne Oke, Dr Allan Brown, Mrs Pauline Brown, John Rhodes, Bill Seddon, Fran Bennett, Andrew Farr, John Parsons, Alex Twells, Others absent (4), Simon Allard (resigned)

Observers

Present: (1) John Guy (Holy Cross)

1/2. Welcome and Opening Worship

The meeting opened at 8pm with David Hall giving his testimony. He referred to Proverbs Ch. 3, V.5 and encouraged the attendees with reassurance that God takes ordinary people and brings about amazing results, for His greater glory. Duncan Kerr then chaired the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Deanery Synod on 8th June 2016

These were accepted and signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising

a. Election of Deanery secretary

Duncan explained that Emma Hulme had offered to act as the Deanery Secretary for the time being, in a paid capacity in addition to her role supporting the Rural Dean as Deanery Administrator. Members were invited to pray about this matter and bring forward other possible proposals. It was agreed that Emma should act as secretary meanwhile.

b. Deanery Accounts for 2015

The Treasurer presented the Accounts for the year Jan 1st to Dec 31st 2015. These were to have been presented at the July meeting of the DSPC but this meeting has been cancelled. The Accounts were approved.

c. The Lay Chair mentioned that the current Deanery signatories are Deborah Snowball (as RD), Alex Twells (as Secretary), Rupert Barnes and himself. Deborah will stand down as a signatory as she is no longer Rural Dean, and should be succeeded by David Hall the new Rural Dean. Alex Twells will also stand down, having resigned as Secretary. These changes were approved and will be implemented by the Treasurer.

5. Deanery Mission Action Plan

Current position and Future Plans:

a. Jane Brading reported that the dementia MAP group have organised an event at St Paul's focusing on dementia, at which Julie Shepherd will be speaking.

Judith Palfreman reported that a Safeguarding Training Meeting was held on Oct 5th, and that this initiative was making progress.

Charles Burch reported that St Lawrence, Bovingdon have now produced their SMART goals. Their aim is to engage more with the community. Work in progress.

It was pointed out that the review dates on the Deanery MAP website are out of date and need to be updated.

David Hall said that on November 7th, the Bishop will discuss the review of parish MAPS.

b. David Hall referred to the list of future dates that had been emailed to all members. He invited everyone to attend The Deanery MAP meeting on Saturday 4th February at Christ Church, from 0830-11am. The intention of the meeting is to review current Deanery MAPs and look ahead in the light of Bishop Alan's comments about parish MAPs (see 7a) in order to help everyone involved in the process, whether at parish or Deanery level.

6. Financial matters

a. The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) will shortly meet parish treasurers to discuss the draft diocesan budget for 2017 which is due for approval at Diocesan Synod on 15th October. From this meeting, information about parish share allocation will become clearer.

b. Payment arrangements for the Deanery Administrator/Secretary - the Treasurer will make enquiries to establish the most effective method of making payment.

7. Deanery-wide events

a. Bishop Alan will visit the Deanery on 7th November. The Rural Dean will circulate the programme soon, confirming arrangements.

In the evening all churches are invited to attend the Bring and Share supper at St Mary's Rickmansworth starting at **7pm.(Note change of time since the meeting)** David strongly encouraged all Deanery synod and PCC members to attend. This event is open to all congregations too. Bishop Alan will be speaking about the next phase of Living God's Love and the further development of MAPs.

b. Pastoral Grants for 2017

There have been no applications from parishes for pastoral grants in 2017.

c. Suggestions for Deanery social events

Charles Burch said he would like to suggest another Quiz Night – the suggested date was February 4th but as a MAP meeting has been proposed for that day, another date will be suggested soon. It was agreed that The Fiesta had been a successful event.

8. Diocesan-wide events

a. Simon Cutmore described his successful Mission Week in September where St Peter's reached out to a wide variety of different ages and members of their community. The church organised a whole range of varied events and activities: Messy Church, wine tasting evening, curry night, school events. Bishop Michael and J John attended some events. He suggested that Bishop Michael may well ask other churches to consider similar events. Simon was thanked for a very encouraging report.

b. John Parsons note about June's Diocesan Synod was tabled.

Simon Cutmore said that if John were present he would want to commend the Parish Giving Scheme. The benefits of the Scheme were discussed. St Oswald's have launched and are already seeing the benefits; the scheme has also been introduced at Holy Cross.

c. Forthcoming Diocesan Events – 15th Oct.

There are three key items on the agenda for Diocesan Synod on 15th October:-

- Safeguarding. Training will be provided. A new safeguarding officer is now in place.
- Budget 2017
- Next phase of Living God's love

9. National church events

Charles Parry commended Bill Seddon's report on July's General Synod to the meeting, noting that the Anglican Communion is growing and is the third largest denomination in the world and surviving persecution but that there are poor relationships between provinces within the Anglican Communion which need to be mended.

Simon Cutmore asked about the church's practical response to the worst humanitarian crisis ever seen. It was noted that there are a number of groups working locally, some church focused, some not, helping in practical ways. Two young members of Christ Church are helping at 'The Jungle' in Calais at this time.

Judith Palfreman referred to the amazing response to the Samara appeal. Over 200 banana boxes are being sent off; St Oswald's have also helped. A concert raised £1000 to help pay for the initiative.

Simon Cutmore said a container owned by Three Rivers District Council is open every Monday morning for donations of food, clothes or bedding, which are sent to a number of places but mostly to Turkey.

Deanery churches were encouraged to work together to help these worthwhile causes. It was agreed to review the topic at the next Synod.

10. Pastoral Matters

Dave Short has now been inducted as the Vicar of St Peter and St Mark's Maidenhead. Theresa May was in the congregation!
On November 9th, Tim Horlock will be inducted at St Andrew's. All invited to attend.

11. Any other Business

a. Everyone was asked to note the future dates sheet that was circulated with the Agenda. Next Diocesan Synods will be on 11th March, 17th June and 30th Sept 2017.

b. Churches together

In reply to a question about local involvement with 'Churches Together' it was noted that the Croxley Green churches are involved and that references to other involvement had been made at previous meetings.

c. J John's major mission

The JustOne Mission at the Emerites Stadium on 8th July 2017 was discussed. Christ Church is, and St Andrew's may be partner churches. Churches were urged to publicise the event and encourage congregations to consider how they might support it in practical ways. Since Synod met a very good brochure has been publicised – copies can be obtained from Philo Trust T:01923-287777 or <https://justone.co.uk/connect/>

d. SIM

Support In Ministry is a highly regarded confidential scheme. It provides support for those in ministry and can be a tremendous benefit to clergy especially in difficult times. Information brochures would be available after the meeting.

e. Training on Leading Intercessions

Charles Parry announced that there will be training offered to those who are lead Intercessions, at St Oswald's on 5th November, at 0830 until 1030. Anne Lovegrove is leading it. It is open to everyone – those who are already leading Intercessions and those that are thinking about it. Charles Parry can give more details to anyone who is interested.

The meeting ended with the Living God's Love prayer, and The Grace, at 9.30pm.

Signed: The Lay Chair

