

RICKMANSWORTH DEANERY: 'We are the body of Christ'

SYNOD OFFICERS

Rural Dean:	Revd David Hall, The Vicarage, The Common, Chorleywood WD3 .	01923 284325
Lay Joint 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

DEANERY STANDING AND PASTORAL COMMITTEE (DSPC) MEMBERS (in addition to those named above)

Jane Brading	(Croxley Green, St Oswald)	(vacancy)	(Rickmansworth)
Revd Charles Burch	(Bovingdon, St Lawrence)	Judy Olney	(Chipperfield, St Paul's)
(vacancy)	(Mill End and Heronsgate with West Hyde)	Revd Miriam Mugan	(Croxley Green, All Saints)
Revd Michele du Saire	(Sarratt, Holy Cross, Chipperfield, St Paul's)	Les Palmer	(Chorleywood, St Andrew)
Brian Donnelly	(Chorleywood, Christ Church)	Bob Shearer	(Sarratt, Holy Cross)
Revd Tim Horlock	(Chorleywood, St Andrew's)		

DMAP Conveners:

DMAP Goal 1 (Ecumenical) Lead Person: Deborah Snowball
DMAP Goal 2 (Dementia + Fresh Expressions) Lead Person: David Hall
DMAP Goal 3 (Joint Spiritual + Worship) Lead Person: Miriam Mugan
DMAP Goal 4 (Worship and Social / Training esp safeguarding, healing and evangelism + children's work) Lead Person: Robert Riley-Braleay

Deanery Synod Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 6th February 2018

At Christ Church, Chorleywood at 7.45pm

Members of the House of Clergy

Present (5) Michele du Saire, Simon Cutmore, Tim Horlock, Terence Russoff, Charles Parry, David Hall

Apologies (2) Charles Burch, Miriam Mugan

Members of the House of Laity

Present (16) Bob Shearer, Andy Farr, Nik Bennett, Fran Bennett, Anne Oke, Tony Barton, Jane Brading, Alan Wills, Bill Seddon, Les Palmer, Nigel Challis, Jeannie Poulton, Gordon Cutting, Judith Palfreman, Brian Donnelly, Duncan Kerr

Apologies (7) Sue Hillier, Ivan Carter, Judith Olney, John Marsh, Julie Shepherd, Jackie Gedling, John Rhodes

1. WELCOME

David Hall opened the meeting at 8pm and welcomed everyone to Christ Church. He mentioned that this meeting would be Charles Parry's last, as he and Sally will be moving to Cheltenham in March. David thanked Charles for his valuable contribution to the Deanery over the last ten years, and he wished him all the best. Charles said how much he had enjoyed serving on the Deanery, as a retired minister.

2. OPENING ACT OF WORSHIP

Simon Cutmore lead a short time of worship focussing on Psalm 111, a psalm of thanksgiving.

3. APOLOGIES

The names of those who could not attend the meeting were read out.

4. MINUTES OF THE DEANERY SYNOD ON September 28th 2017

Nik Bennett pointed out that a correction needed to be made to 7a). The following sentence has been deleted: 'In this context the parish agreed to circulate a brief note outlining plans designed to overcome the existing imbalance and strengthen the fellowship and its community outreach'. Since the meeting, these minutes have been re-circulated to all Deanery members on February 10th 2018. Otherwise the minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed by Nik Bennett and seconded by Brian Donnelly.

5. MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED BELOW

Nothing to report.

a) Safeguarding Update (Duncan Kerr)

Judith Palfreman said she had received an email from the Diocese that evening, stating that two dates were being proposed for safeguarding training on April 30th at St Andrew's and May 17th at Christ Church. Judith reported that the diocese have suggested that only 40 people will be able to attend each course. There was a reminder that a safeguarding course will be taking place at St Oswald's in March but that this course is already at full capacity.

Anne Oke asked if the list of people who need to do the face-to-face course, has been reduced. Tim Horlock said that he recently attended the clergy safeguarding course and he spoke to Martin Headley. Tim and Martin discussed the fact that limiting each course to only 40 people would mean that it will take a considerable amount of time for everyone to get through their training. Martin responded by reminding Tim that there is a considerable amount of training that can be done on line with the CO course part 1 and 2. Martin confirmed that the CO course part 2 would be available on line soon. However, it was pointed out that these on line courses are in addition to the face-to-face courses, and not instead of.

Since the Meeting, Sylvia Mann (Church Warden at Christ Church) has provided this update:

"Safeguarding Training - two dates have been allocated by the diocesan safeguarding team to this deanery for evening trainings - Monday 30th April at St. Andrew's Church and Thursday 17th May at Christ Church – both of these are now on the website. In my request for training at Christ Church, I asked for two dates and, as there are no break-out groups needed, for consideration to be given to increasing the numbers attending each training to 50, in order to accommodate all our folk and have room for others in the deanery to join us. I have been given to understand that 30th April and 17th May will be the only trainings offered in this deanery in the current programme through to the summer."

6. MISSION ACTION PLANS

a) Updates from DMAP morning and individual groups

The minutes from the meeting on January 13th, have been circulated. David Hall said that there is evidence that much progress has been made and he asked that this forward momentum be maintained throughout the year. Duncan Kerr confirmed that he had contacted Bob and Mary Hopkins regarding inviting them to a future deanery meeting later in the year, and that plans were being made to make this happen.

b. Updates re parish MAPS

Anne Oke said she had a meeting on February 8th and would provide an update at the next meeting.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Parish Share Review

Duncan Kerr reported that Susan Pope and David Nye would like to attend a meeting to discuss the concerns regarding parish share, and Duncan felt this would be beneficial. He explained that it is hoped that this meeting will take place in the next month or so and he will inform everyone of the proposed dates. DK asked that we have representation from all parishes in the deanery, at this meeting. Having had this meeting, he said our deanery will be in a better position to compile any questions that need to be put to diocesan synod. Nik Bennett agreed that having a meeting was positive as he felt that our current process is unfair. David Hall and Duncan Kerr confirmed that this proposed meeting will not prevent any future discussions we need to have on parish share. DK said that part of the context we should be looking at is the way this relates to the strategy that the diocese is developing in respect of church growth.

Since the meeting Duncan Kerr has provided this update:-

Regarding the proposed meeting about Parish Share with David Nye and Susan Pope, a meeting has been provisionally arranged for Monday, 19th March at Christ Church at 7.45pm for 8pm. Please advise Emma Hulme about your availability - the aim is to have at least one representative from each parish attending.

8. DEANERY-WIDE EVENTS

a) Report on Deanery Quiz Night on 3 February

DH said that the Quiz was a very successful social event and he thanked all those who were involved in organising it. Eight teams entered and a good time was had by all (especially the team who won!)

b) Future events – Ascension Day Service

This will be taking place on May 10th 2018 at Christ Church. Please see the Central list of dates.

9. DIOCESAN AND NATIONAL CHURCH EVENTS

a) Forthcoming elections to diocesan synod (Duncan Kerr)

DK informed the meeting that the triennial elections will be taking place from 1st May onwards. After this, the election procedure can be initiated. DK asked that everyone should encourage representation in their parishes. The Rickmansworth deanery will continue with 9 places in total – 4 clergy and 5 lay. This is the same format that has been in place for the last few years. DK said he would provide more details in the near future.

Bill Seddon – update on forthcoming Synod:

Bill Seddon said the General Synod will begin on Thursday February 8th 2018. He explained that the Safeguarding discussion is likely to cause some media attention. It has been made clear that after the presentation to update the Synod, questions may be asked, but it will not be a debate.

Other items include Canon's related to the wearing of vestments and the burial of suicides. Bill explained that he felt it will be up to the Queen to decide on these topics.

There is some legislation to be discussed on pensions, property and changes in rules on who is allowed to be a trustees (repercussions on PCC members) also a minor change on who provides services (PCC's). Other legislative business includes measures on ecumenical relations, property and pensions. In addition there is a proposal to make minor changes on disqualification for the role of trustee, and the provision of services to a parish by PCC members. Bill reported that there is to be an address by a Methodist Church representative prior to a debate on a report produced by the respective faith and order bodies of the C of E and the Methodist Church. This introduces proposals to be put to both Churches ruling bodies to enable their ordained ministries to become interchangeable. The bishops have been asked to consider changing the baptism liturgy in the event of a person having had a sex change – the person may want to be baptised again using their new name. The Synod will also discuss food waste and how all churches should encourage their congregations to be aware of this. In previous meetings there were discussions about whether the

membership of Deanery Synods is the best electorate for the General and Diocesan Synods. Bill explained that last July an advisory vote was taken to assess the appetite for change. The results show that both the House of Laity and the House of Clergy, including bishops, voted clearly to keep the status quo. Therefore, electing members of Diocesan and General Synods seems likely to remain a key responsibility of Deanery Synod members in the future. Bill encouraged everyone to highlight this to their Church memberships. Finally, there is to be a debate on Down's syndrome entitled *Valuing People with Down's Syndrome*. This is in the context of developments in Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing and their likely impact on post screening abortions.

b) David Hall to update on Rural Dean's Conference and c) Update on Church Commissioners' approval of Diocesan Application for strategic Development Funding – £1.7k (David Hall)

David Hall then gave an update on his attendance at the Rural Dean's Conference.

The Diocesan objections by 2028:

- 8,000 new disciples – 'Making New Disciples'
- 300 new Fresh Expressions of Church (abbrev: FX)
- 1,200 new lay leaders
- Secured £1.7 million grant from central funds. No St Albans diocesan money is required until 2021. Individual parishes can apply for grants of up to 3.5K for monthly expressions of FX or 14K for weekly FX.

Simon Cutmore spoke about Fresh Expressions and how Mill End is one of the churches taking part in this. Simon encouraged everyone to spend their fresh expressions allowances to make new disciples, by using the money on enterprises such as Messy church and weekly toddler groups. Simon said an encouraging video on fresh expressions is available to watch, and that perhaps this should be shown at a future deanery meeting. Tim Horlock said there is a training course coming up on May 12th entitled 'Reaching New people' at Rothamsted Conference Centre in Harpenden, which he recommended.

10. PASTORAL MATTERS

Nothing to report.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Dates for future meetings (See Central list of dates)

In addition, Brian Donnelly announced that Christ Church will be showing the England Vs Ireland Rugby game on March 17th at 2.45pm and all are welcome to attend.

12. CLOSING PRAYER

David Hall closed in prayer at 9.05pm. Thanks were again reiterated to Charles Parry.

Revd David Hall
Rural Dean