

# The Deanery Synod of Northern Ryedale

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, THORNTON DALE AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2016

Present		Apologies
Ian Henley	Lay Chair in the Chair	Revd Stuart Hill
Revd Tim Robinson	Rural Dean	Revd Andrew de Smet
Revd Sue Binks		Revd Dr Jo White
Rt Revd Bill Godfrey		Dr David Billett
Revd Christopher Johnson		Sheila Clayton
Revd Antony Pritchett		Vivienne Hughes
		Simon Mumford
Peter Allen		Freda Shaw
John Dunning		Jane Wood
Tony Gillham		Richard Woosnam
Helen Goodman		
Eddie Gray		
Judith Gubbins		
Tom Hustler		
Katrina Lane		
Mike Linskill		
Veronica Linskill		
Chris Martin-Jones		
Simon Mumford		
Clarissa Napier		
Alan Rabjohn		
Brenda Robinson		
Mike Sellers		
Judith Short		
Hilary Slights		
Mike Stallybrass		
Robert Sword		
Margaret Timbrell		
Anthony Tubbs		
Lesley Tucker		
Honor Wright		
St John Harris	Secretary	

### WELCOME

After the celebration of Holy Communion by the Bishop of Whitby and the serving of refreshments, the Lay Chair welcomed the Bishop, the Archdeacon of Cleveland, and Mr Mike Stallybrass (Member of General Synod and the Deaneries Working Party) to the meeting for the main item on the agenda: the Developing Our Deaneries vision.

### 1. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2016

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

## **2. Matters arising**

The Rural Dean advised that the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride event held on 10 September had apparently not been well supported; however, the pie and pea supper social on 1 October had been a success.

## **3. Developing Our Deaneries**

The Archdeacon of Cleveland, Ven Sam Rushton gave a presentation to the meeting on the Developing Our Deaneries vision which had been approved by Diocesan Synod in May 2016. The Archdeacon set the vision within the context of the new Diocesan Strategy, Transforming our Diocese, and at parish level, Leading Your Church into Growth. She reminded the meeting that God had called us to know him not simply as individuals, but in community through partnership across parishes, benefices, deaneries and the diocese, and that there were aspects of ministry and mission that could only be expressed at deanery level. Building on the current Diocesan vision and the five marks of growth, the proposal described deaneries as 'a local network of churches, inspiring, influencing and leading mission and ministry'. This was more than a legal framework, but a true network of churches and people, encouraging each other, crossing some parish and benefice boundaries, and so putting into practice our life as the Body of Christ. This vision was an aspiration, and no easy task, which would take some deaneries longer than others, but the hope was that over time, deaneries would be better able to support the mission of local parishes and individuals and to play a more significant part in developing and delivering the vision and strategy of the diocese. Deaneries with this renewed vision would be characterised by three complementary and overlapping purposes: enabling mission, resourcing ministry, and supporting relationships. The Archdeacon then went on to describe two of the frameworks to support this vision: (i) shared leadership expressed in the Deanery Leadership Team of Area Dean (ordained), Lay Dean and other colleagues with clear responsibilities and role descriptions, who would share responsibility with the Bishop for delivering the Deanery Plan and (ii) the Deanery Synod which would be a more interactive forum responsible for approving the Plan and for ensuring its implementation. Deanery Synods would retain their statutory role and, on occasion, need to fulfil legal and representational expectations. The statutory requirement was three meetings a year. This was encouraged as a minimum with other gatherings added around this so there was proper time to pray for one another, learn from each other and support each other in the Church's mission. Resourcing would be through increasing the Archbishop's Mission Fund, £1000 pa per Deanery to help with administration, and support from the Deaneries Development Group at diocesan level.

The meeting then divided into groups to discuss and give feedback on what people welcomed about the proposals, their concerns and their questions. Groups and PCCs were asked to submit their responses by email to [developingourdeaneries@gmail.com](mailto:developingourdeaneries@gmail.com) by 21 November. In the plenary session, the large size and geography of the Northern Ryedale Deanery was acknowledged, but the new vision was about finding ways of working beyond the individual benefice to do mission, and this may be through sub-Deanery arrangements where appropriate. Individual parishes may also have to change the way they worked, for example, through establishing united parishes.

## **4. Rural Dean's Notes**

The Rural Dean confirmed that the 'God's Story: Our Story' event would take place on Saturday, 12 November at Middleton and Aislaby Village Hall with the Bishop of Hull and local historian and author, Lucy Beckett.

Another event stemming from the Deanery Action Day, was the celebration of baptism of children and adults who had joined the Church during the last five years to be held at Gillamoor church, school and village field on Saturday, 2 September 2017.

The Rural Dean had now recruited an administrative assistant working 14 hours a week, who would enable him to devote more time to the Deanery.

A planning meeting for the Archbishop's visit to the Deanery on 13-15 January 2017 had been arranged for 8 November at Helmsley Vicarage.

A training course for Recognised Parish Assistants would commence on the evening of Tuesday, 1 November at the Millennium Room in Nawton/Beadlam. Further details could be obtained from the Diocesan Lay Development Adviser, Angela Bailey.

The Rural Dean also referred to the events card for the Northern Ryedale Deanery Synod which listed formal Synod and other meetings. All were welcome to these events.

## **5. Any Other Business**

The Deanery Treasurer, Helen Goodman, gave the following report:

The current account currently stood at approximately £1476. Annual Deanery subscriptions realised £500. Three years ago each Benefice gave about £200 for secretarial help. There was £822 left. Each year in autumn £250 was sent to Wydale Hall. Payment for hiring village halls was up to date. Secretarial and website expenses were ongoing.

### Youth events

£100 was given to Gail Radka for two years to take teenagers to XLS at Lightwater Valley. In 2014 £100 was given to the Archdeaconry 'The Big Feast'. There was a surplus of £277 after 'Pentecost Fire' in 2015 and one of £450 after 'The King's Banquet' in 2016.

### Deanery Action days and social events

Expenses for the social event with Bishop Glyn Webster on 7 July amounted to £35. The Action day on 13 February 2016 cost £236 and £77 the one on 24 September. The pie and pea supper made £236.

Mrs Goodman acknowledged that many of these events were helped financially by generous donations and thanked all concerned very much.

## **6. Arrangements for next meeting**

The next meeting of the Synod was arranged for Thursday, 23 February 2017 at St Peter and St Paul Church, Pickering at 7pm. Speaker: Revd Andrew de Smet. Theme: Listening to the still small voice: personal prayer amidst the busyness of church life.

*The meeting closed with prayers led by the Lay Chair.*