

Cowley Deanery Synod
7:30pm Monday 3rd June 2019 at SS Mary and John Church

Apologies received:

Flora Alexander	Eric Bossward	Ed Ling
Ben Baker	Tim Howles	Tony Phelan- Lay Chair
Elaine Bardwell	Beverley Humberstone	Felicity Wallendszus

Attendances signed:

Hubert Allen	Maureen Davis	Ray Lee	Leslie Rhodes
Margreet Armitstead	Sky Denno	Diane Mason	Phil Ritchie
Geoff Bayliss- Area Dean	Nick Dewey	Darren McFarland	Miriam Schilly
Gemma Beesley	Wulf Forrester-Barker	Margaret Norman	Blanche Stiff
Jane Campbell	Natasha Huggett	Jayne Ozanne	Christine Tucker
Leon Catalo	Jane Kelly	Millius Paalyiwa	Margaret Woodcock
Richard Chand	David Knight	James Plunkett	

Minutes recorded by Angela Cooper

Time	Item	Actions
19:00	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
19:44	5.	
	5.1	
	5.2	
	5.3	

The Area Dean welcomed everyone, apologizing that the speaker, Ray Gaston, was unable to attend. New Lay Synod members were introduced and welcomed.

Affirming Multiculturalism – A Theological Imperative Part 1- Cancelled

Refreshments-rearranged for the end of the meeting.

Affirming Multiculturalism – A Theological Imperative Part 2-Revd. Cancelled

Deanery Business:

5.1 Approval of the minutes for Synod 26.02.2019- approved as an accurate record following the amendments listed below;

Stephen and Patricia Michaels, Tim Holwes to be added to attendances signed.

Page 1, ". had been praying that whoever bought the it .." Delete "the".

Page 3, "...sense that somehow St Ebbes was playing by the rules.." Add "not".

Page 4, "The strapline for the church is the heartbeat "of" the community, not "if".

Page 4: "It was hoped ..." is repeated at the end of that section, one to be removed.

Page 5, "the target they have set for this is £25,000, not £25,00.

5.2 Visitation Service- The Area Dean thanked all those who had contributed to the evening, including Darren McFarland for the order of service and Margreet Armitstead and Malcolm Atkins for the exceptional deanery choir.

Bishop Stevens sermons are available on his blog, accessible via the Diocesan website. It was asked what Synod thought of the Visitation service taking place in the Cathedral? The general consensus was that for the commissioning of such important work 'our' Cathedral was the appropriate place for the service.

5.3 Fees- The proposal had been circulated prior to the meeting, if Synod approved this proposal would be sent to the Archdeacon and Bishop for consideration. Some Dioceses pay LLMS and SSMS for taking services, this proposal to do the same in Cowley Deanery if carried forward could prompt other deaneries to follow suit.

Rev. David Knight - retired clergy do not receive the full amount of the service fee, they receive 2/3 and a 1/3 goes to the Diocesan Board of Finance.

Nick Dewey asked how this proposal, if approved would affect the Parish Share.

Area Dean -unless there was a significant change in practice it should not affect the Parish Share greatly.

David Knight asked if it the clergy chose to waive the fee would this cause complications?

Amendments to be made and minutes signed by Area Dean.



Signed..... Date.....7/11/2019.....

	<p>5.4</p>	<p>Darren McFarland- permission to waive a fee would have to be sought from the Archdeacon or Bishop. It would be unrealistic to assume that funeral numbers would double if the proposal was approved, stipendiary clergy would be able to cover most requests, meaning it would not affect Parish Share significantly. The Area Dean proposed that Synod accept and move forward this matter, Trevor Jones seconded the proposal. All were in favour.¹ The Area Dean would report back with the response from the Bishop and Archdeacon.</p> <p>Deanery Name Change-the results of the questionnaire conducted on 26.02.2019 were circulated prior to the meeting. The Standing Committee had concluded that the results were not significant enough to give a mandate to change the deanery name.</p> <p>Nick Dewey- What were the options for a new name?</p> <p>Area Dean -Currently there was no mandate to change the name and not much time had been spent on names, the questionnaire showed most that Oxford East was favourable.</p> <p>Hubert Allen-One big reason to change the name would be to educate Oxford Deanery. The name would show that we were two parts of the same city, each deanery has different inhabitants and different problems, but we are still the same city.</p> <p>Phil Ritchie- There is a rich history in Cowley, but the deaneries names divide the city. Cowley Deanery implies that the deanery is not proper Oxford, it would be good to ask how the two deaneries could relate to one another. Blanche Stiff pointed out that geographically Cowley does not cover the whole deanery.</p> <p>Margreet Armitstead- There is a need as a deanery to challenge the perceptions that might be held about Cowley Deanery, the need to share stories of our deaneries and how we do ministry, as these are shared unity could begin to flourish. It would help Cowley Deanery feel a greater equality with Oxford Deanery and help both deaneries to understand each other better.</p> <p>In an attempt to try and address the underlying issues behind these attitudes towards Cowley Deanery, Jayne Ozanne requested that this topic be considered for discussion at the joint Synod with Oxford Deanery in September. The Area Dean he would raise this request with Will Donaldson, his Oxford counterpart and thanked Synod for this discussion.</p>	<p>Area Dean to send proposal to Bishop and Archdeacon and report back.</p> <p>Area Dean to put the request to Will Donaldson to discuss this at joint synod.</p>
	<p>5.5</p>	<p>MAP workshop- 28th September 2019- save the date posters for the Deanery Priority and Vision Exploration day were available. This would be a joint event with Oxford Deanery, Bishop Steven would address both deaneries in the morning. Andrew Anderson-Gear would help Cowley Deanery start to look at its vision and priorities in the afternoon. The incumbent plus 2 others from each parish could attend, final numbers of those attending to be sent to the Geoff by the end of July, this would allow for planning of a suitable sized venue and catering.</p>	
	<p>5.6</p>	<p>Putting out into Deep Water- Diocesan Common Vision Conference report- Jayne Ozanne</p>	

¹ The response from the Venerable Martin Gorick- Thank you Geoff. I will take some advice and get back to you with the best way to proceed. As this well-reasoned request concerns a diocesan policy it might be best for this to go on to Diocesan Synod for consideration and decision. I will consult the Diocesan Secretary and come back to you.



Signed..... Date.....7/11/2019.....

	<p>5.7</p> <p>5.8</p>	<p>Geoff Bayliss, Eric Bossward, Skye Denno, Jayne Ozanne and Milius Palaywia had represented Cowley deanery at the three day Diocesan conference. Bishop Steven’s talks were based on the book of Acts and Luke, drawing on the examples of Christian mission found within them and encouraging the Diocese to become bold and creative in thinking about mission by putting out into deep waters.</p> <p>Jayne Ozanne had felt during the conference that it was important that the deanery knew each church within it. Each church has its own unique DNA or angel and that it would be good to challenge each church to find a creative way to share with the deanery what the angel of their church is like. For example, Littlemore’s angel would represent their investment in the arts. Once created, it would be good to arrange an evening when these angels could be shared and celebrated- advent was suggested.</p> <p>Donations for the Community Emergency Foodbank Summer Holiday Scheme- a list of food required to cover the summer programme was attached to the agenda. The Area Dean was happy to coordinate collection and delivery of donations if necessary.</p> <p>BMO update- BMO’s for HOME currently being processed, BMO’s for Cowley plant currently with the Bishop, BMO’s for Anglican Asian Living Church are being drafted.</p>	
	<p>6.</p>	<p>A.O.B- Jayne Ozanne- The following proposal was circulated at the meeting:</p> <p>In the light of the Oxford Diocese’s commitment to becoming a Christlike Church that is courageous, compassionate and contemplative we ask that the Oxford Diocesan Synod: i) recognise the significant level of inequality that exists across the diocese that enables some parishes to have churches that are “fit for purpose” whilst other parishes struggle to provide even the most basic of facilities such as running water, and ii) commission a Working Group that will propose how best to provide urgent practical support and funding to those parishes that are most in need of basic facilities so as to enable them to fulfil their mission.</p> <p>To use the analogy of churches as fishing boats, not all of the fleet of church fishing boats are in a sailable condition, some struggle to put out into deep water because of their need for repair. The fund being launched by the Diocese doesn’t recognise or deal with the fundamental issue that some Parishes are poorer than others and cannot afford to undertake repairs or are without basic facilities. Grants from the fund could therefore end up going to wealthy churches, this inequality is not fair or biblical. In keeping with Cowley Deanery’s concern for equality, is it right to ask the Diocese to address this inequality.</p> <p>As the proposal had not been circulated prior to the meeting, a non-binding vote was taken to determine the level of Deanery Synod support for it- there was one abstention, all others present were in favour of moving the proposed motion forward - it would be tabled as an agenda item for the next Synod.</p> <p>It was noted that the Diocese had significant historic funds. Synod debated if these might be released.</p> <p>Margreet Armitstead- a more systematic way of looking at the issues of church repairs and need is required, if 10 churches are without toilets, these should be considered as a joint project with one team overseeing it, this would save money and time.</p>	<p>Proposal to be tabled as an agenda item at the next Synod.</p>

Signed..........Date.....7/11/2019.....

		<p>James Plunkett- it is recognised that the church has an important role to play with the health of local community and society, to invest in the churches would be to invest into the health of local community and society. This would also help release some of the burden of support care from social services. This should be a good enough reason to persuade the Diocese to release money from the historic funds to areas of need.</p> <p>The Area Dean thanked the deanery for being a passionate deanery who are keen to talk about and deal with matters on their hearts.</p>	
20:56	7.	Rev. Phil Ritchie closed the meeting with prayer.	

Actions.

Item		
5.1	Amendments to be made to the minutes for 26.02.2019. Minutes to be signed by Area Dean.	Angela Cooper Geoff Bayliss
5.3	Area Dean to send the fees proposal to Bishop and Archdeacon and report back.	Geoff Bayliss
5.5	Area Dean to put the request to Will Donaldson.	Geoff Bayliss
6	The development fund proposal to be tabled as an agenda item at the next Synod.	Geoff Bayliss

Signed..........Date.....7/11/2019.....