

THE WINCHESTER DEANERY

Deanery Synod: Evening of 17 June 2015 at St Mary's Twyford

A sunny evening at the beautiful church at Twyford began with a very generous table of Bring & Share supper items before the meeting opened with evening prayer and worship led by Reverend Jonah Watts. Thanks to him and all his team for their gracious hospitality.



- 1.0 We were delighted to begin the formal part of the Deanery Synod evening by welcoming Bishop David to commission our new Assistant Area Dean, the Reverend Karen Kousseff.
- 2.0 **Vacancies**
 - 2.1 Area Dean Rev Paul Kennedy gave an update on the vacancies currently in the Deanery. Paul confirmed that at St Barnabas in Weeke, Rev Ed Dines is being licensed as the new vicar on 6 July at 7.30pm. Everyone is invited - let's welcome Ed to his first incumbency.
 - 2.2 The vacancy at Kingsworthy & Headbourne Worthy is well underway with an appointment which takes into account the Upper and Lower Dever clustering.
 - 2.3 At Christ Church the vacancy is some way down the process. Again this will take into account the St Barnabas, Weeke and St Luke's, Stanmore clustering.
 - 2.4 At St Cross with St Faith's the vacancy is likely to be balanced between the City Centre cluster and what can be provided centrally.
- 3.0 **Diocesan Synod – Colin Harbidge, Diocesan Head of Operations**
 - 3.1 Colin updated the Deanery Synod on the forthcoming Diocesan Synod elections (closing date for nominations 29 June 2015). This year it comes at the same time as the 3 year Diocesan Synod and the 5 year General Synod elections.

Colin explained that the role of Diocesan Synod is to consider proposals from General Synod, listen to proposals from deanery and parish synods and approve the Diocesan budget. But what value does it add to our mission and purpose? The word *diocese* means 'managing the household' – we are a household, a family. The word *synod* means 'finding a shared way', or 'walking the way together'. It's about listening to the Holy Spirit under God to find the best way together. So the purpose of Diocesan Synod is to manage the household to find the shared way. It meets three times a year for a morning and in 2016 one of those is a 4 day residential. However, the conversations before and after the meetings do take time. Diocesan Synod is there to look to the future, understand what is to come, and to act as a vital line of communication up and down the streams. An opportunity to tap into the wealth of knowledge and experience of people from across the Diocese from every type of church. It needs representatives who are willing to engage in the discussions and play an active role.

Nominations are due on 29 June and you don't have to be a member of Deanery Synod to be a member. We have an allocation of 6 members for the Winchester Deanery. Historically there have not been sufficient nominations to warrant an election. All forms and guidance notes have been published on the Deanery Website www.winchesterdeanery.org/synod/diocesansynod

4.0 **Previous Minutes**

- 4.1 The minutes from the Deanery Synod Meeting in February 2015 were agreed as an accurate account.
- 4.2 Matters Arising from previous minutes: A question posed at the previous Synod regarding the amount of paperwork generated by the Diocese at a parish level was addressed by Colin Harbidge. He explained that Siobahn Cole & Jayne Tarry at the Diocesan Office are acutely aware of the volume that is sent out – always to the same people in the parishes. Unfortunately there is so much Church of England statutory paperwork. An example of this at a Diocesan level is Parish Share. After its launch in 2014 there was a request to make the process simpler – and as a result there are now more guidance notes and forms! It is an ongoing issue. There is also a national review of the Faculty Process which it is hoped will deliver a simpler solution.

5.0 **Deanery Finance Report**

- 5.1 The Deanery Finance Report had been distributed prior to the meeting. Nick Goulding, Deanery Treasurer requested if parishes would please pay their Deanery subscriptions electronically.
- 5.2 Bishop David spoke about the need to resource for the future. He explained that the Archbishop's Council says that if we are to use historic resources, we need a new way of distributing it. Here in the Winchester Diocese (along with Guildford), Diocesan Parish Share is much more of a sensitive issue than anywhere else in the Country due to the lack of historic resources. Parish Share is a way of asking people to contribute to resourcing the Diocese. There needs to be a greater understanding of what the money is spent on and where the greatest need is. Generosity brings generosity.

6.0 **Parish Mission Action Plans**

Rev Paul reiterated that for those parishes who have yet to begin their pMAPS, only two or three key things need to be picked up on – not all four Strategic Priorities.

7.0 **Bishop's Lent Course 2016**

The Lent course for 2016 will be on evangelism which the Bishop will be encouraging everyone to do.

8.0 **An hour with Bishop David**

We were delighted to welcome back Bishop David to the Winchester Deanery who gave an insightful, reflective and entertaining talk to Synod about his first 9 months in the role.

9.0 **Next Meeting**

Deanery Synod 18 November 2015, 7pm for 7.30pm at St Paul's Church Winchester (just behind the train station). Our special guest will be the new Canon Principal of the School of Mission, Mark Collinson who will be sharing with us his plans for the School of Mission and what that will mean for us in the Winchester Deanery.

Apologies recorded from 17 June 2015

<i>Hugh Podger</i>	<i>Rev Mary Copping</i>	<i>Paul Philips</i>
<i>Rev Amanda Goulding</i>	<i>Matthew Briggs</i>	
<i>Chris Sharp</i>	<i>Malcolm Lemmon</i>	
<i>Dick Wilkinson</i>	<i>Gerry Cornick</i>	
<i>Geoffrey Bennetts</i>	<i>Father Malcolm Jones</i>	
<i>Keith Mantell</i>	<i>Rev Sue Foster</i>	
<i>Rev Lis Chase</i>	<i>Ian Dighe</i>	
<i>Duncan Rutter</i>	<i>Barbara Smith</i>	
<i>Mark Byford</i>	<i>Rev Roland Riem</i>	