

Hertford and Ware Deanery Synod Standing and Pastoral Committee

Minutes of the meeting on Monday 3rd September 2018 at All Saints
Hertford, 2.00pm

1. Welcome and Prayer

2. **Present:** Jo Loveridge, Diana Perkins, Catriona Baker, Pat Parker, Mike West, Janet Bird, Mark Dunstan (Doug Loveridge, Secretary).

Apologies for Absence. Lyn Paddon, Nick Sharp, Colin Taylor.

3. **Minutes** of 11 June 2018. Agreed

4. **Matters arising.** None

5. **Fresh Expressions update:** There is currently a push towards the 22 October Vision Day. Janet was concerned that we still don't seem to be hearing much about what is happening, we need good news stories. Mark suggested that FX items are all put on Facebook – see the Reaching New People community page.

Catriona will ask Alison Jackson about this, and we hope to connect FX to the Deanery Website (email added to these Minutes).

Jo suggested that we should have a register of FX so that we can share and progress within the Deanery – by Parish Reps? Mark added that it is unclear what constitutes an FX rather than being another more normal event, Catriona to ask Alison Jackson about this also.

Review of 11 July Synod meeting. The address by Margaret Pritchard Houston was appreciated. Catriona wondered whether having a children's corner goes against the inclusive idea being put over. Mark felt she was saying that you may have separate events but when together it must be inclusive. Altogether it had been good and helpful. Agreed that we need to think harder about inclusion of children, are they not currently an afterthought? St Mary's Ware indicated that they have seen an increase in numbers of children in recent times.

6. **Parish Share – the current situation.** The Diocesan website not completely up-to-date: the end of July saw 5 parishes behind, 4 ahead. Currently £1k over.

Pastoral Aid Grants – we all need to be aware of the timetable and work to it. Mark felt the process needs to begin in May in order to do this effectively. Agreed. Will be done next year.

A brief Treasurers' meeting 2018 will be added to the Archdeaconry Budget Presentation on 4 October, clustering during the coffee break.

7. **Deanery Website** www.hertfordandwaredeanery.org.uk More Synod members have been signed in, currently almost 20. No-one has added any events yet though.

8. **Deanery MAP revision**

<https://hertfordandwaredeanery.org.uk/mission/strategic-working/goal-2-3/> Communication is the current area of concern. The

digital generation find this more straightforward. Also PCCs should ensure that Synod Reports are on the Agenda regularly. Should be kept brief!

9. **Thundridge and High Cross:** the House for Duty post has been filled. The Revd Amanda Duncan. Licensing 4 December.

10. **Hartford Hundreds.** Cover arranged; concerns remain re the Vicarage – a parish meeting has been arranged. The Parish profile is not yet complete. We need to add a Deanery paragraph also.

11. **Little Amwell.** This is not technically a vacancy until Nick has been inducted at Rye House (and resigned), 23 October. The Archdeacon meets the Wardens this Thursday. She has said that it is likely that Nick will be replaced. Might this person be partially shared across the Hertford team?

12. **Diocesan Synod.** Three people out of five posts elected in each house – further ideas needed on how to fill these positions. The Revd David Sheppard and David Scott will add one more delegate per house. Revd Jenny Gray was suggested, Jo or Mark to approach her at Chapter next week. Another lay person needs to be sought.

13. **Deanery Nominations to DBF and DBE.** Colin Bird is happy to continue for another three years, ratify at next Synod. DBE has just changed, this is new, Catriona to speak to Dot (also for Synod agenda)

14. **Agenda for Synod meeting 22 October 2018.** Topic – “Worship in Town and Country” with members of the Diocesan Liturgical Committee, at Christ Church, Ware. Our expectations are needed to inform speakers as they prepare. Mark: welcome is a frequent concern, Jo added “after-care”. Catriona: walking into a traditional service is very confusing, guidance needed... Diana mentioned a church with three separate hymn sources. And people don’t help each other... Instructions needed. Jo asked Catriona for Mystery Worshipper info to relay to the Liturgical Committee. Doug mentioned preparedness and ensuring a suitable worshiping environment.

15. **Future Deanery Synod meetings and potential topics.** *From previous Minutes: January/February: Environmental responsibility. Agreed. Then, which of the recent three do we take forward for May and July?* Suggestion of Ministry to the Elderly – Tim Bull has shared in this discussion - as a topic for 2019. Also about their ongoing involvement, how awkward it can be to give up jobs as no-one takes over..... Pat spoke about the possibility of linking up the generations,

and how to look after those who can no longer attend church. Bible Reading Fellowship has a daily reading scheme for people of an older generation. Scripture Union have one for those with dementia. Could someone who writes/arranges this be available? Catriona mentioned a speaker who spoke very positively about retired people and their knowledge and time usage.

16. **Church inspections** – update. Ongoing, mainly achieved.
17. **Any other business** Composition of the Standing and Pastoral Committee – a suggestion of Helen McCash from Watton, who is very financially astute and involved. Janet brought to our attention the Living with Mental Health event, 6 October, for all/any church members.
18. **Next SPC and Synod meetings – date, location.** Next Synod 22 October at CCW: ask attendees to use the public Car Park (free), SPC November 26, then Synod meetings 2019 – Tuesdays were suggested, but we need to go across the days of the week e.g. Mon Feb 4th, Tues May 7th, Wed July 10th, Thu Oct 17th.
19. **Prayer.**