

Hertford & Ware Deanery Synod

Our vision is to see flourishing, Christ-centred communities inspiring people of all ages and backgrounds to discover God, grow in their relationship with Him and respond to His transforming love through serving others.

Deanery Lay Chair

The Purpose of the Role

To share in the leadership of the Deanery, working collaboratively with the Rural Dean and the Deanery Leadership Team to fulfil the Deanery vision.

Primary Responsibilities

The Deanery Lay Chair will:

- support the Rural Dean in Deanery leadership
- support lay people contributing to the management and mission of local churches, and
- represent the views of the laity in the Deanery and represent the laity at events.

Key Tasks

The Deanery Lay Chair will:

- meet regularly with the Rural Dean and Assistant Rural Dean to discuss and plan Deanery mission and ministry, finance, administration and communication
- participate in meetings with the Bishops, Archdeacon and Diocesan Officers to understand Diocesan policy and strategy and to represent a Deanery perspective
- chair the Deanery Synod jointly with the Rural Dean
- convene and chair any meetings of the Deanery House of Laity
- assist the Archdeacon with the annual visitation and admission of churchwardens
- assist the Archdeacon with visitation of parishes under the inspection of churches measure
- take responsibility and exercise duties to support parishes during ministry vacancies and when selecting new incumbents, and
- respond to requests made by the Bishop or other appointing bodies for information and advice on Deanery appointments, including a new Rural Dean.

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In relation to the Deanery Synod Standing Committee and other officers

The Deanery Lay Chair is an *ex officio* member of the Deanery Synod Standing Committee. S/he will have a key role in the administration of this committee as it carries out its functions.

Requirements

The role of Deanery Lay Chair requires the holder:

- to have good relationship building skills, since they will work closely with people from all traditions within the Deanery
- to be an excellent team player, and
- to have the ability both to think strategically and implement plans wisely.

The Deanery Lay chair should be computer literate. At the very least, they should be comfortable with the use of email and video-conferencing technology.

The Deanery Lay Chair must support the Deanery Vision.

The term of office is to the next Synod elections.