

STOKESLEY DEANERY In the Diocese of York

Minutes of the Deanery Synod held at St. Augustine's Church Hall,
Kirkby-in-Cleveland.

Wednesday, 18th October 7.30 pm.

Attendees: Clergy: Revds. Tessa Stephens (Area Dean) Darren Moore, Robert Opala, Geoff Jaques, Laura Wild, Kate Brown, Anne Heading, Paul Peverell, Nik Stevenson, **Lay:** John Dickinson (Lay Dean), Carol McGee, Frances Brown, Sally Hamlin, Roy Parsonage, David Heading, Christine Young, Linda Smith, Richard Besford, Jenny James, David Hand, Jane Kitching, Avril Rhodes, John Rhodes, David Local, David Yates, Astrid Wood, Liz Taylorson (Secretary) Bob Ardley (Treasurer) . **Guests:** David Young, Mrs. Yates.

1. Welcome and Prayers (Revd. Tessa Stephens, Area Dean)

2. Apologies for absence

Clergy: Revds. Jon Dean, Brenda Forrester and Ben Gunter. **Lay:** Ken Taylor, Linda King, Sally Hamlin, Margaret Lawrance, Judy Hall, Sarah Weyell, David Haworth, Haley Durant, Shelagh Holley, Diana Baker, Julia Ardley, Nick Land.

3. Minutes of last meeting (June 6th 2023)

Accepted.

4. Deanery Update

- **Visitations. Revd. Tessa Stephens (TS).** Thoughts on the Parable of the Talents. The visitations (spring-summer 2023) highlighted the amazing resources and hard work of those who prepared for the Archdeacon's visitation. Are we all using what we have for the best? It's not about how much you have, but what you do with it. Thanks given to all involved – and it's another 5 years until the next visitation.
- **Living Christ's Story (LCS). John Dickinson (JD).** Although the plan itself has not progressed very far, individual parishes have done good work that meets the criteria of LCS (Becoming more like Christ · Reaching people we currently don't · Growing churches of missionary disciples · Transforming our finances and structures.) Our response is to share the good news of what we *are* doing. The leadership of the Diocese appears undecided about the way they will lead and coordinate the Deanery plans. There is, as yet, no date for the next implementation and coordination group meeting. We are working within parishes throughout the Deanery on initiatives under agreed LCS objectives and principles. However the plan calls for working collectively, which appear a step too far at this point. Working to the plan is an unnecessary burden compared to simply sharing what we are doing and learning from each other. This is the way we intend to move forward.
- **Comments: David Local** It's good to share information in Carousel Conversations at Synod.
TS: Area Deans can encourage, but can't tell parishes what to do.

5. **Carousel Conversations – an opportunity to find out more about some new initiatives in the Deanery.**
- Carol McGee: **Obtaining grants for work in your parish.** (See attachment 1)
 - Revd. Laura Wild and Liz Taylorson: **Benefits of a parish/benefice office/administrator.** (See attachment 2)
 - John Dickinson: **What we offer across the Deanery.**
 - Revd. Nik Stevenson: **Outdoor ministry.**
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6. **Finance Update (Bob Ardley, Treasurer)**
- The Current Account balance is £2648.03
 - 16 (out of 20) parishes have paid the Deanery levy. One incorrect e-mail address now corrected.
 - Book grant cheques for all Readers have now all been cashed.
 - Cheques for Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) created in September have now been issued. 7 have been distributed, 2 of which have been cashed. ALMs are encouraged to cash these, before the end of year accounts (31st December).
7. **Deanery Financial Advisor (DFA) Update (presented on behalf of Ken Taylor by TS).**
- Most of the Freewill Offers for 2024 have been submitted to the Diocese- 7 parishes have increased, 10 have remained the same as 2023 and only 1 has reduced [Carlton]. This may sound encouraging, but the overall increase is only around 1.5% so we are not yet, as a Deanery, back to the pre-covid level of giving.
 - A number of parishes have not yet submitted their accounts for 2022- we are asked to do this as soon as possible please.
 - 4 parishes were the recipients of the enhanced card readers as part of the recent “Digital Rollout” by the Church of England. These are a big improvement on the older models and hopefully will encourage especially visitors and occasional givers to use them more.
 - We will be having another meeting of treasurers on Wednesday 8th November at 3pm in the Stainton Church Room. Please encourage as many treasurers as possible to attend. We will be pleased to have both our Clergy and Lay deanery leaders present!
8. **What’s on around the deanery**
- Yarm Church is moving towards opening Café Magdalene, Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays in the church, beginning with a grand opening on Saturday, 2nd December at 11 am. There will be home made cakes and scones, and a top-notch coffee machine.
 - Trip to the Allerton Waste Recovery Park with the Environment Network – some places available. Tuesday, January 9th from 2 to 4 pm. The Park is located at Moor Lane, Knaresborough, HG5 OSD, and participants will need to organise their own transport. Please contact Geoff Jaques (jaques132@gmail.com) with any enquiries.
 - A face-to-face safeguarding training session, provided by Jenny Price of the Diocesan Training team and organised by Mark Sutcliffe, will take place on

Friday 3rd November, 10 am – 3.30 pm at Ingleby Greenhow Village Hall. Basic training in the morning and foundation level in the afternoon. Please contact Wallace.sutcliffe@btinternet.com for further information.

- Please contact Bob Ardley if you would like to set up e-mail sub addressing for those with no e-mail accounts to complete online safeguarding training, and he will be happy to help with explaining the procedure.
- Three evenings at Hutton Rudby Church Hall: this Friday, 7.00, a presentation by Jane Kitching on her Camino pilgrimage. A discussion on Freedom and Spirituality on 31st October with a screening of the film, Belfast. 7.00 pm. Friday 1st December a discussion and slides of a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 7.00. All welcome.

9. AOB and date of next meeting

- **AOB: David Yates:** Thank you for electing David Yates and David Local as reps. for the York Diocesan Synod. Please contact David Yates if you have any Diocesan Synod enquiries. (david.yates@ntlworld.com)
- **AOB:** Kirkby is looking for a new organist – 38 services a year, very good organ. Please contact Anne Heading if you know of anyone.
- **Next Synod:** Wednesday 7th February 7.00 for 7.30 pm, venue TBC

10. Closing Prayers

Attachment 1 - Applying for Grants

- Identify project
- Faculty, which may include Statement of Significance and Statement of Needs when making changes to a listed building. The faculty department can then advise and assess the plans for the Church.
Go to the York Diocesan website and look for Church Care Guidance Notes

- Estimates from 2 to 3 Professional companies
- Architect if a large project and involves the building.
(The Company will work with the Architect regarding the specifications)

- Who to Apply To

Jack Brunton Trust

North York Moors National Park for roof (also I got £1500 to have the Church wall repaired with one of their schemes)

Garfield Weston Foundation

Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust

Lemon & Co, Alan Evans Memorial trust.

All Churches Trust

Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation

Listed Place of Worship- Department of Culture, Media and Sport,

National Heritage Memorial Fund

Sir John Priestman Fund for organ

Catherine Cookson Trust for organ

Ingleby Fund

Spooner Trust

The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trust- did not get anything

Rothley Trust- did not get anything

The Laing Family Trusts for organ - did not get anything

There will be other Trusts and Foundations that one can apply to .

- Include in the Estimate:

Professional fees- Architect 14% approx

Bat survey if needed, need to request a price

Contingency- 10% of estimate

Inflation uplift cost - 5% of estimate.

Add the VAT, which can be claimed back from (Top Mark),

Listed Place of Worship Grant Scheme.

Tel Number 08005003009

Website - www.ipwscheme.org.uk

Email - grants@ipwscheme.org.uk

When the work has started ask the professional company for invoices periodically so you can keep recovering the VAT from Top Mark. This recovered VAT will go towards paying for the next invoice.

Some grants are only obtainable on completion of the project.

Keep the Trusts/Charities informed of progress!

Thank you

Carol Anne McGee, St Hilda's, Bilsdale Priory

kcstoney@sky.com

01642 778217

Attachment 2 Benefits of a parish/ benefice administrator

Revd Laura Wild and Liz Taylorson

The Person:

- Consistency of service – especially during vacancies
- Allows church to be open and responsive to enquiries
- Often local knowledge/familiarity within the Parish

The tasks:

- Triage of general enquiries, and dealing with routine tasks, freeing up clergy time.
- Managing expectations – enquiries will be answered at consistent office times.
- Contributing to the legalities of ascertaining ID for banns/wedding enquiries.

The place:

- A physical hub, that isn't (necessarily) the vicarage, with photocopier, etc. staffed at consistent hours (including in clergy absence); a welcoming, functional space.

Resources:

- Parishes within the Deanery who have administrators
- UCAN (UK Church Administrator Network)
- John Truscott (Church Consultant) E-resources: www.john-truscott.co.uk