



Reigate Deanery “Virtual” Synod Meeting Minutes

Date:	Thursday 22 nd October 2020, 8pm		
Venue:	ZOOM		
Meeting Chair:	Revd Anita Colpus		
Note Taker/Secretary:	Judith O’Connell (judith@stlukesreigate.org.uk)		
Attendees:	42	Apologies:	13

	ITEM	Lead/ Action
1	Welcome by Revd Anita Colpus (Area Dean) – especially to the New Synod members Reading from Colossians 3	Anita
2	Review of Minutes of Reigate Deanery Synod Meeting held at All Saints, Merstham on 4 th February 2020. Signed as an accurate record by Anita.	Anita
3	<p>Election of Office holders (<i>meeting of House of Laity</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lay Chair – Mr Leslie Jackson was voted in as the new Deanery Lay Chair. <i>Proposer:</i> Peter Darwent <i>Secunder:</i> Elizabeth (Liz) Gunn <i>Chris offered his congratulations to Leslie.</i> - Treasurer – Fiona Hawker was approved as the Treasurer (<i>in her absence</i>). - Secretary – Judith O’Connell was confirmed as the new Reigate Deanery Secretary (<i>since February 2020</i>). <p>Anita advised that the recently revised document: “<i>The Role of Deaneries and the Rules and Constitution of Deanery Synods (2020-2023)</i>”, is now available and should have been received by the majority of Synod members. This is used as a guide for the work of the Deanery and those working as part of the Deanery and is a useful reference tool.</p> <p>If you have not seen it & would like a copy, please email: judith@stlukesreigate.org.uk</p>	Chris Anita Anita
4	<p>Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) – Update and Introductions</p> <p>The Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) is currently not complete and there are still a couple of vacancies. Anita was waiting for Parishes to hold their APCMs, to see who was elected on to Synod before making any further appointments.</p> <p>The DLT are keen to have a diversity of membership and (if possible) have representation from different backgrounds and cultures. There are currently 9 members of the DLT, who would like to introduce themselves.</p> <p>Kim Honey, Sue Weakley and Fiona Hawker were not present at the meeting but are also valued members of the DLT.</p> <p><u>Leslie Jackson (Lay Chair)</u></p> <p>Parish and Role: St. Mary’s Church (new Church Warden), Member of Diocesan Synod Background as a Secondary School maths teacher, previously worked at St. Bede’s, Redhill. Works part-time, representing and supporting staff for the National Education Union. Began as a Christian as a teenager at a Boy’s Brigade camp and continued to grow and learn about the Christian walk. Married with 2 children.</p>	Anita



Hopes to show compassion and the ability to listen and then to seek God's wisdom.

Recently become a Trustee of Sparkfish. Would love to see the Deanery Synod working in a similar way to Sparkfish, bringing lots of Churches and different denominations to work together. Excited about the future of Reigate Deanery.

Rev Sarah Alexander

Parish and Role: Associate Vicar at Holy Trinity, Redhill for 6.5 years.

Responsibility for discipleship and training. Helping people come and grow in faith.

Runs courses and helps others to use their gifts. Ran a course a couple of years ago "How Can I Tell". Also involved in "Thy Kingdom Come", across the Deanery.

Keen to work together to support churches to grow in Faith.

Just begun face-to-face services at Holy Trinity (Weds am and Sun am).

Planning for Christmas.

Rachel Gardner

Parish and Role: St. Peter's, Woodmansterne, Children and Families Minister for 5.5 years, but been a member of the Church since leaving University.

Involved in school's work, Messy Church, Toddler Groups etc. and supports children and young people in the churches.

Deanery Champion for Children and Young People and keeps DLT up-to-date with news in this area.

Currently St. Peter's, doing 1 service of Zoom and 1 meeting in church.

Managed to do a visit to a local school recently for an R.E. day.

Rev Richard Wilson

Parish and Role: Vicar of St. Mary's, Reigate for a couple of years, previously Area Dean in Bath.

Vision for Deaneries is that we are increasingly confident in our ability to make disciples.

Encourage one another in disciple-making.

Most successful way of connecting at St. Mary's was an online Alpha Course.

Did a Whole Church Alpha (all were invited) and many engaged and bought friends along.

Rev Canon Les Wells

Parish and Role: Rector of Horley Team Ministry – for approx. 3 years. Previously an Assistant Area Dean (for 5 years) and Area Dean in Merton (for 2 years). Now on Diocesan Synod and on the Diocesan Council of Trustees.

Part of the Horley Team, which includes: Vicars, Readers, a Pioneer Minister and a Pioneer Curate. (Martha, Naomi, Penny, Tim, Sue (curate))

Looking at how to have an impact on 2 new local Housing Estate developments:

1. Westvale Park
2. The Acres (where Trinity Oaks School is, Les is a Governor there)

Tim – Pioneer Worker (looking at doing a Youth Alpha, with the Pioneer Curate)

Learned Zoom, with 4 services in Horley all going on at the same time! Important to find a way to connect and stay connected with congregations.

Meeting in all 3 Churches. Looking at how to juggle face-to-face services with Zoom.

Rev Anita Colpus

Parish and Role: Vicar of St. Luke's, Reigate. Area Dean since January 2019.

- Online services taking place.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected with Coop food stores, providing food for families in need. • Midweek bible groups. • Hoping to continue with “Make Lunch” initiative, when possible. 	
5	<p>Reigate Deanery “Mission Action Plan (MAP)”</p> <p>The DLT have been working on the Reigate Deanery “Mission Action Plan (MAP)” and have tried to define the purpose/direction/mission objectives (<i>see the attached MAP</i>).</p> <p><i>The Mission Statement agreed upon was:</i></p> <p>“Reigate Deanery provides a supportive framework for Churches to connect with each other.</p> <p>We collectively develop and share ways to proclaim the love of God, to grow as disciples of Christ Jesus and see the Holy Spirit transform lives.</p> <p>We aim to be creative, exciting, fun and welcoming with servant hearts.”</p> <p>Three main “action areas” were agreed upon:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connecting Local Churches 2. Christ Centred Disciples 3. Creative in Mission <p>The MAP contents were expanded upon and presented by Anita.</p> <p>Anita asked if anyone had any thoughts or feedback regarding the MAP, to please contact her on: vicar@stlukesreigate.org.uk</p> <p>Anita advised that as there are so many pressures currently, including planning ahead for Christmas, there will not be much additional communication from the DLT/Deanery in the short-term, to limit the burden on everyone’s time.</p>	Anita
6	<p>Updates from Deanery Project Areas</p> <p><u>Reigate Archdeaconry Social Justice Focus (RASJF) – Chris Elliot</u></p> <p>Raising awareness of County Lines drug dealing, modern slavery, teenage mental health and working to improve the lives of the exploited.</p> <p>Linking up services including the police with representatives from the Church.</p> <p>Breaking County Lines Forum held on 3rd October 2020. Further details on this: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OSXdPcvqnl5aoDqb-WXCgKTCYXERQATU/view https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/news/2020/10/21/breaking-county-lines-in-the-diocese-of-southwark</p> <p>Other Useful Links:</p> <p>The Clewer Initiative - https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/news</p> <p>RASJF on Twitter: https://twitter.com/RASJF3</p> <p><u>Youth & Children – Rachel Gardner</u></p> <p>Held zoom meetings for Parish reps of Children and Young People, which increased attendance.</p> <p>Having a “Christmas Focus” meeting in November.... To share challenges.</p> <p>ACTION: If you think the Parish Rep contact details are not correct, please contact Rachel with up-to-date details. Please double check with them. She is very happy to have multiple contacts! For more information, please contact Rachel on: spcwcfm@gmail.com</p>	



Wholeness and Healing Ministry – Libby Green

Wholeness and Healing Ministry, not always about physical healing and contact. Had a Zoom meeting, to see each other in person..

As couldn't meet face-to-face, a time was set up for everyone to pray at the same time – 5pm on the last Sunday of each month.

Prayed through a list of people who had requested to be prayed for. Requests for prayers can be sent to: reigatedwandh@gmail.com

MESSAGES TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS ARE CONFIDENTIAL and only seen by Libby and Chris Elliott.

ACTION: Please circulate the email address throughout your Parish.

7

Updates from Parishes

Hilary Richardson (Deanery Mothers' Union and St. Matthew's, Redhill)

Hilary is Deanery Leader for Mothers' Union. 6 branches within the Deanery.

For further information, please contact Hilary on: hilaryjoyr@btinternet.com or

Penny Lothead (Vice President) on: pennylothead@outlook.com

Horley started doing Zoom meetings for their branch, but then opened it up and now include everybody in the Deanery who wants to join in.

Normally on 4th Wednesday of the month, they say prayers in the Harvard Chapel at Southwark Cathedral (currently not possible), but people have still been producing the prayers and having meeting/prayers over Zoom instead.

Thanks to Penny Lothead and Anne Wright for organising face-to-face meetings in Horley.

Worldwide Mother's Union, live-streams daily midday prayers on their Facebook page at 12pm, Monday – Saturday). To see previous prayers and more about the group, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/MothersUnion>

For further information on Mothers' Union, visit: <https://www.mothersunion.org>

St. Matthew's Update

The food bank (which although run out of St. Matthew's is a Deanery/Inter-church project), had to really scale up recently, but has been very well supported. Still supplying about 70 families a week.

About to get a portacabin at the top of the car park to try and free up the St. Matthew's parish rooms (for lettings).

Been doing online services and a weekly recorded Children's service. Started "Messy Church" once a month, and now looking ahead to Christmas.

Jacqueline Dean (Brockham and Leigh)

Run "Phone Church" as lots of people didn't have access to computers. This has been hugely successful (with over 100 people listening in) and still 60-70 people listening in.

Running services at both Brockham and Leigh.

Youth Minister has been streaming "live" from his sitting room.

Offering a variety of services (both formal and informal).

"Brockham Emergency Rescue Team" (BERT), has set up a food bank run from the Church Hall and also a "Friending Service".

In run up to Easter, big basket of Palm crosses and prayer cards were put out and 200-300 people picked them up.



Alison Knibbs (Lower Kingswood)

Online services have attracted people who may not have otherwise been involved with the church. Challenge now to keep them involved post-COVID.

Challenge has been to try and engage with the Youth/Young People (*suggested linking in with Rachel G for assistance with this*).

Sorel Parkes (St. John's, Reigate)

New to the Church but has lots of ideas and keen to share.

Live Streaming has been great. Zoom coffee to help people to connect.

Building open for services since September.

Biggest Challenge – finances. Significant drop in use of facilities, so trying to think of creative ways to go forward.

Tom Briscombe (Betchworth and Buckland)

Nice variety of services, numbers continue to grow.

Very proactive vicar (Anna Moore) – big supporter of the foodbank campaign.

PCC meetings working very well on Zoom.

Once the Church open again, book share library set up.

Mary White (St. Philips, Reigate)

Re-opened church for private workshop at end of June.

Morning worship on a Sunday, socially distanced services. Organist playing but no singing.

Rev. Jenny Penn (and her husband) recorded weekly services during Lockdown. This could be viewed online on YouTube and has continued for everyone who can't attend the building.

Daily bible study running via WhatsApp or Email.

Planning now for All Souls, Remembrance Sunday & Christmas.

Keeping in touch with Reigate Grange (residential home) and trying to see how contact can be resumed there.

Chipstead (Chris Taylor)

Online services have led to wider involvement in the services and some innovative ways of delivering sermons (including by changing clothes mid-service!).

Discovered new talents within the congregation ("Kim Honey – should have been a Blue Peter presenter, as she's a natural in front of the camera!").

Challenging to do something musical. Used to have a big focus on music but trying to do that in lockdown has been tricky. Have tried to introduce videos (and audios) using iPhone, but takes a very long time!

Online Alpha is running.

Charlwood & Sidlow (Gill Mason)

Phoneline service started on a Sunday morning and has now moved to an evening.

Churches now open, service held alternate weeks in Charlwood and Sidlow. Always a Eucharist service (without wine).

Prayer study group, once a week.

Planning for Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. Rely very much on Sue Weakley (with help from some others).



	<p><u>Christ the King, Salfords – Robert Coupland</u></p> <p>Salfords have not had a vicar since June last year.</p> <p>Congregation of mostly older people, a lot of whom aren't very technical.</p> <p>Send round circulars once a week with news via email, or on paper delivered to those who don't have email.</p> <p>Two assistant clergy, Fr Doug Ross and Rev Frances Plummer, have been invaluable in maintaining worship etc. during the lockdown. Fr Doug has celebrated Mass from his house or garden each week on a private Facebook channel which he set up, as well as other occasions such as over Holy Week, on Ascension Day and on VE Day. Most of these have been live. Rev Frances has celebrated Mass on most Sundays in the Church since services were allowed to restart and she has provided notes on the weekly readings which have been circulated.</p> <p><u>Merstham Team – Libby Green</u></p> <p>Sunday Services: All Saints (fortnightly), South Merstham & St. Katharine's (weekly) & St. Andrew's, Gatton (monthly).</p> <p>Started services back in the building in July.</p> <p>Don't use Zoom, but YouTube sermon recorded – to work through at home, same sermon that is delivered at the service in church.</p> <p>Sunday Club has started again (from September).</p> <p>Women's Support Group (church outreach) back going again (in last couple of weeks).</p> <p>St. Katharine's church is open once a week on a Monday morning for 2 hours.</p>	
8	<p><u>Financial Report from the Treasurer (presented by Anita in Fiona's absence)</u></p> <p>Review of the Annual Report up to December 2019 – as submitted by Fiona Hawker (Treasurer) and approved by the DLT.</p> <p>Anita thanked Fiona for all her work as Treasurer.</p> <p>Accounts had been circulated and have been approved, examined and signed off.</p> <p>No comments were made regarding the accounts. Submitted as approved.</p>	Anita
9	<p><u>Notices</u></p> <p>Thanks to Chris for all his work as Lay Chair over the years.</p> <p>Thank you to everyone for attending. Closing prayers with Les Wells.</p>	Anita
10	<p><u>Dates of Future Meetings:</u></p> <p>Tuesday 23rd February 2021</p> <p>Wednesday 23rd June 2021</p> <p>Thursday 21st October 2021</p>	Anita

Attachments:

- Deanery Accounts (up to December 2019)
- Reigate Deanery Mission Action Plan