

## Minutes of Easingwold Deanery Synod June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 Stillington Church

Present – Revd Liz Hassall (Area Dean), Margaret Price (Lay Dean), Revd Charlotte Cranfield, Revd Trevor Gant, Revd Stephen Pope, Revd Margaret Young, Revd Steve Whiting, Revd Martin Harrison, Revd Catherine Toase, Paula Ritchie, Liz Crawshaw, Andrew Evans, Michael Wansborough, Malcolm French, Richard Mapletoft, Janet Mountain, Janet Irish, Michael Turvey, Adam Thomas, Carol Colbourne, Sian Merritt (secretary),

Apologies – Revd Malcolm Wainwright, Revd Dot Hicks, Jane Johnson, Alizon Leese, Jane Pearce, Louise Clark, Alan Hake, Kathy Peacock.

1. Opening Worship was led by Revd Steve Whiting.
2. New members elected at the recent APCM's were welcomed.

3. Bishop John – Liz Hassall finishes her 5 year tenure as Area Dean in September and was warmly thanked by the Bishop for what has been a very successful time, with our deanery being seen as very forward thinking. The process of appointment involves asking the clergy and the deanery leadership team to put forward suggestions for a replacement and the Archbishop then appoints. We are asked to pray for the process.

The Archbishop of York is also due to retire in 2020 and we were asked to consider 5 questions regarding his successor. Working individually and in small groups, responses to each question were written on Post-Its and they have been collated and will be sent to the relevant people - and they are also circulated with these minutes.

We are asked to pray for this process too and encouraged to contact any of the appointment committee members, once these are made public, if we wish to add more thoughts. It is a church and public-wide consultation process.

4. Diocesan Synod Lay Representative election – one nomination had been received from Richard Mapletoft, Stillington. He introduced himself and was thanked for standing and duly elected unanimously by the lay members of synod. The other lay reps are Malcolm French, Husthwaite and Paula Ritchie, Crayke.

5. Minutes of synod 16 January 2019 were signed as a correct record.

6. Matters arising from minutes – none.

Margaret Price took the opportunity to thank Liz Hassall for all her time and efforts as Area Dean and for all she has achieved in her 5 year tenure – this was endorsed by synod members.

7. Updates – the Lent Course had been run as a joint deanery course; unfortunately the Bishop had been unable to lead it as planned due to ill health but it had been ably led by clergy members. Many reported that they had enjoyed the joint course but others expressed a preference for a return to benefice based courses. Liz suggested that next year there could perhaps be a combination of the two – something which Strensall did this year.

### Interest Groups:

Liz apologised for the cancellation of the Discipleship Training session which she hopes will now happen later in the year.

Margaret Price hopes to run another session of churchyard visits in July - watch the Deanery News for information. She reported a successful second visit to Allerton Park Waste Recovery Park. We are reminded about the new crisp and biscuit wrapper recycling opportunity and many reps had brought bags from their churches to the meeting.

Revd Catherine Toase is collecting green bottle tops from milk cartons for charity.

8. Deanery Plan – synod was asked to agree a minor change to the Plan relating to the Interest groups; the “Telling the Good News of Jesus Christ” and “Helping people to grow in their faith” groups will now merge as one “Discipleship” group – led by Revd Liz Hassall. The “Sharing God’s love with all people” group will become a parish based mission as it seems to fit better in that setting. This was agreed unanimously (the amended Plan is sent out with the minutes)

9. Coordinator Report – hard copies of the updated Resource Directory for each church were circulated by Carol at the meeting. (Electronic copies are available if you contact Carol directly).

Website – there is now a section for deanery synod and each rep will be given their own log-in to access synod papers. The aim is to eventually reduce the need to email attachments round to everyone. There will also be sections available for each Interest group to use.

Any photographs of our churches, especially with activities going on, are always welcome for the website.

10. Diocesan Synod report (16 March 2019) – we are asked to put the dates March 12-15 2020 in our diaries for the diocesan-wide “Come & See Mission” led by the northern Bishops which will visit each deanery.

“Reaching 20’s – 40’s” – there will be funding available for help from the clergy appointed in these new roles; we need to apply for it if we have any ideas how to use this in our deanery.

General Synod – there is an ongoing consultation about the length of term deanery synod reps may serve. Margaret P proposes to respond on our behalf saying that limitations would not be helpful in rural areas but she also reminds us to be on the look out in PCC for others who might like a “turn” at deanery synod.

Liz Hassall informed us that there is an interim Archdeacon of York in place (Sarah Bullock having been appointed Bishop of Shrewsbury) and that we can still contact the Archdeacon’s office with any queries.

12. “Setting God’s People Free” report – we had begun to look at this at the last synod – how we can better live out the Good News of Jesus confidently in all areas of our life, not just on Sundays. Margaret P suggested that we are generally pretty good at “loving our neighbours” and so should focus on an aspect that we are perhaps not as good at; ie. sharing our faith with others and answering questions about our faith. And to consider what would help us to become more confident and so “Set us Free” to become better disciples (Matthew 28:19-20).

She set us an exercise to answer some questions about what we find particularly difficult and what might help and this will form the basis of her response on the report to the diocese on our behalf.

13. Dates – York School of Ministry Open Morning 29 June <http://www.ysom.org.uk>

Easingwold Community Bible Study - Wednesdays in September

Future synod dates (6.45 for 7pm) -

Mon 7 Oct 2019 – Easingwold Church

Mon 13 Jan 2020 – venue tbc

Stillington were thanked for their hospitality.

The meeting closed with prayer and the Grace.