

## **Diocesan Synod 28 November 2020. Breakout Group: EBBA**

Noted that the 5th mark of mission "Safeguarding the environment" was missed out in section 3 under Engaged in God's transforming love.

### **What is the good news for you in this?**

At last!! We seem to have been talking about this for years Covid and the financial situation has driven this forward. Good that we are talking about it in a systematic and structured way, Its good that we are building teams, it is a lonely place as a priest so the collaboration and working together of teams is a fantastic move forward. There is a long way to go and it will need careful planning and management.

The spirit is moving and we need to follow it, rather than remain where we are. It is scary but it is exciting.

It is good that the Archbishop of York has recognised this need and is supporting the need for change.

The devolved plan and budget is good news, so that people can apply it to their context based on their own needs. Good that the model remains simple and flexible.

### **Where do you see this happening already?**

Already happening where there is a need - in the rural context. Also in MINE initiative.

We did feel that this felt very much like the ideal of team ministries which, in fact, are dying out. We wondered whether this was because of over-clericalisation. Showed the importance of training focal ministers and lay people. Need to get the model right and enable all people - how do we do that? Needs to have someone to identify vocations in people and offer the necessary support.

### **What might you have to let go of?**

Need to ensure that we don't end up with a "bubble" which still look inwardly and just do more of the same together. We need to identify those in the community where good news is already happening and work with them, rather than taking over. This is something that the Mothers' Union are doing already. We need to be less insular. Would it be good for 2 bubbles to meet/link up as a partner bubble to share good practice and ideas? Clergy need to learn to delegate and stop trying to do everything themselves.