

Diocesan Synod DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting Date:	Tuesday 20th June 2023
Times:	1800 - 2030
Venue:	St Francis Church, Beatrice Road, Salisbury, SP1 3PN.

Item	Description	Outcome
1	Welcome and Introduction	
	The Chair of the House of Laity (GC) welcomed all to the meeting.	
2	Opening Prayers	
	+A led Diocesan Synod in opening prayers	
3	Minutes from Previous Meeting	
3.1	Minutes from the 04 th February 2023 meeting were approved	Approved
3.2	No conflicts of interest were raised. Apologies were received from 12 clergy and 20 laity – meaning this Diocesan Synod is quorate.	
4	AGM of the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Finance 2022 Annual report and Accounts	
	<p>Jane McCormick (JMc) chaired the AGM and presented the 2022 Annual report and Accounts</p> <p>The meeting was opened with a short video which you can watch Here (key conversations)</p> <p>2022 was a difficult year in the wider context. It was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With help from National Church we provided 90 Warm spaces over the winter months within our diocese. • We are deeply thankful to all our parishioners that are giving to the work of the church; however, our accounts show a major deficit; share received is too low (£1m below required amount) and this is something we MUST tackle. • We need to increase income or decrease expenditure by 10%. This is an opportunity to step into a new future using the resources available to us in 	

	<p>the diocese – let’s move into this confidently.</p> <p>With this in mind, the DBF Chair shared financial principles to work to as we move forward with our new strategy and advised that some KPI’s will be developed to aid us with these moving forward. She stressed there will be some difficult decisions to make as well as choices to consider. The DBF continue to proactively manage both income and expenditure with oversight and independent scrutiny from the Finance and Resources Committee.</p> <p>+Stephen spoke of the ‘legal’ attachment of Jersey and Guernsey and noted the difficulty CI members face in attending the Diocesan Synod meetings (1 here today – thank you!); this will be reviewed moving forward to help find a pattern that assists with this.</p> <p>Synod members were asked to approve the following motions:</p> <p>2022 SDBF Annual Report and Accounts The Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance to move: <i>“That the Diocesan Board of Finance receives the Directors’ and Trustees’ Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.”</i></p> <p>Appointment of Auditors The Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance to move: <i>“That the Diocesan Board of Finance approves the appointment of Haysmacintyre as the auditors for the Diocesan Board of Finance.”</i></p>	<p>Received</p> <p>Approved</p>
5	Diocesan Synod Questions	
	Several questions were received from Synod members in advance and answered accordingly. Question and answers can be found on the website. They can be found here.	
6	Prayers	
	Rev’d Jean De Garis led Diocesan Synod in prayers	
7	Presidential Address	
	<p>+Stephen opened the session with thanks for the team led by Director of Mission & Ministry in the successful hosting of the Archbishop’s mission weekend. The visit was good news and a huge success; these are challenging times and the gospel is needed in our communities now more than ever.</p> <p>Presidential address from +Stephen (in full) Here</p> <p>+Stephen stressed that the Vision and Strategy is for ALL of us and is not a strap line but an active choice which he would like Diocesan Synod members to commit to.</p>	

	<p>+Karen shared next steps in Local Partnerships in Mission - central to our diocesan vision. An opportunity to build on the work already happening by bringing together home, school and church with coastal, rural and market towns. Multi-parish benefices to work together, creating an environment to ‘grow the church’ and change lives for the better.</p> <p>This will require us to use the abundance of resources available to us as PCCs and the DBF (so called ‘total economy’). There will be some limited funding from National Church for specific (timebound) local pilots. Alongside this will be a growing faith network to support our Children and Young People.</p> <p>The Director of Finance & Asset Management shared an update on Fairer Share. Building on research from last year it has been suggested we move forward with a hybrid system that attributes 60% of cost with 40% of mutual support. An email will be drafted in the coming weeks to verify worshipping community figures from PCCs (already submitted to Church of England statistics) which will enable us to accurately model the new share scheme and impact on parishes. Further information and modelling of the new scheme to be shared in the autumn/winter.</p>	
8	Making Jesus Known	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our vision is to make Jesus Christ known in every place so that all might flourish and grow seeking His Kingdom, here and now.</i></p> <p>5 strategic priorities underpin this vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Partnerships in Local Mission • Courageous Christian Leadership • Working for Justice • Championing Climate Justice • Financing the future sustainably <p>Our vision and strategy must be locally-led and relevant. Synod members being asked to play an active part in engaging all parts of the diocese as we seek to extend and deepen the conversation around Making Jesus Known for the remainder of 2023.</p> <p>The Director of Comms & Engagement shared the 3-phases of the engagement process: reflecting, sharing and embedding.</p> <p>This meeting today marked the beginning of the reflecting stage which will continue over the coming months to help shape the vision in later stages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources to help local leaders to facilitate conversations will be made available from the end of June onwards. Our focus is on engagement, 	

	<p>building enthusiasm and deepening growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More in-depth resources will be made available via webinars (September / October) for those eager to explore further. • Towards the end of this stage a summary will be made available on our website also showing the next steps. <p>Sharing phase is scheduled from late 2023/early 2024 where face-face engagement will be key.</p> <p>Embedding phase will take years but a detailed plan will be set-out for the future years.</p> <p>+Stephen posed the following motions to Diocesan Synod:</p> <p><i>'This Synod affirms our vision to make Jesus Christ known in every place, so that all might flourish and grow, seeking his Kingdom, here and now. This Synod commits to engaging with churches, schools and communities in discussion and action, in response to the vision and the five strategic priorities.'</i></p> <p>This was unanimously approved.</p>	Approved
9	Closing act of commitment	
	<p>+Stephen asked Diocesan Synod members to pledge the following acts of commitment with him:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you commit with me to make Jesus known in every place and to all people, so that all might flourish and grow, seeking His Kingdom, here and now. • Do you commit with me to continuing to listen to the God who calls you to be His visible presence in the communities in which you live, work and serve. • Do you commit with me to praying daily for the life, mission and witness of all Christians of all ages across the Diocese of Salisbury, so to build up the Body of Christ. 	
10	AOB	
	<p>Words of thanks were offered to Joy Tubbs for her dedication and hard work.</p> <p>Next Meeting: 07th October 2023 1000 – 1600 at: Gryphon School, Sherborne.</p>	

