

The Deanery Synod of Northern Ryedale

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE DEANERY SYNOD OF NORTHERN RYEDALE HELD AT ALL SAINTS, HELMSLEY AND HELMSLEY TOWN HALL AT 7.00 PM ON WEDNESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2010

Present:

Revd Paul Mothersdale
Mr Mark Willshaw
Miss Sheila Clayton
Revd Jonathan Cooper
Revd Lynn Grove
Revd Stuart Hill
Revd Michael Sinclair
Revd Ron Treasure
David Alger
Susan Binks
Adrian Bishop
Geoffrey Booth
Sue Clements
Mrs D Coutts
John Dunning
Mrs B Evans
David Goodman
Helen Goodman
Eddie Gray
Gordon Huddy
Jannine Lee
Chris Martin-Jones
Freda Shaw
Jill Simpson
Christine Smith
Ann Stewart
Charles Taplin
Anthony Tubbs
Joan Walker
Ian Henley

Chairman
Joint Lay Chairman
Joint Lay Chairman

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Apologies:

Revd Andrew de Smet
Revd Antony Pritchett
Revd Adam Reed
Mr Peter Allen
Mr D Callow
Jackie Crofter Harris
Mr Peter Edmund
Mrs Judy French
Mr Tony Gillham
Mrs Betty Harrison
Mr Tom Hustler
Mr D Gordon Mellor
Mr Peter Milner
Margaret Timbrell
Richard Woosnam

ACT OF WORSHIP

ACTION

1. Synod participated in an Iona style Act of worship led by Lucy Willshaw.

ITEM 1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND MATTERS ARISING

2. The Minutes of the final Helmsley and Pickering Synods were accepted as true records. There were no matters arising.

ITEM 2. ELECTION OF SYNOD OFFICERS

3. In addition to the Rural Dean as Chairman, it was proposed that the previous lay chairmen of Helmsley and Pickering Deanery Synods should be joint lay chairman of the new synod. As both Betty Harrison and John Lindley, the previous Pickering Secretary and Helmsley Financial Adviser respectively, were stepping down, it was proposed that Ian Henley be Secretary and Charles Taplin be Treasurer of the new synod. Synod approved unanimously.

ITEM 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

4. The role of the Standing Committee was to prepare the agenda for forthcoming synods. Consequently, there was merit in keeping the membership numbers low. It was agreed that the membership of the Standing Committee be as follows:

- a. Chairman – Revd Paul Mothersdale
- b. Two Lay Chairman – Sheila Clayton and Mark Willshaw
- c. Secretary – Ian Henley
- d. Treasurer – Charles Taplin
- e. Deanery Financial Adviser – David Alger

ITEM 4. FINANCIAL UPDATE

5. The Treasurer made the following proposals:
 - a. To open a new account to be called “The Deanery Synod of Northern Ryedale” with the Rural Dean, Secretary and Treasurer as signatories, any two of which would be required to act on the account and sign cheques. Freda Shaw seconded the proposal, which was carried unanimously.
 - b. To transfer the following funds from The Pickering Deanery Synod account and subsequently close the account:
 - (1) £289.62 of restricted funds for work with young people in the former Pickering Deanery.
 - (2) £92.25 to open the new deanery account and subsequently to transfer £90 to Wydale Hall.

John Dunning seconded the proposal, which was carried unanimously.

- c. To levy the parishes of the Deanery of Northern Ryedale in proportion to their parish share apportionment for the purpose of funding the responsibilities and activities of the Deanery Synod of Northern Ryedale with a total of £500 for the year 2010. This was seconded by Sheila Clayton and carried unanimously.
- d. To fund a room sponsorship at Wydale Hall of £250 per annum as a Northern Ryedale room. This was seconded by Cathie Gambles and carried unanimously.

6. The Deanery Financial Adviser (DFA) reported that at year-end 2009, Helmsley Deanery had achieved payment of 90% of their parish share apportionment and Pickering Deanery had achieved 96%. So far this year, the Deanery of Northern Ryedale had achieved payment of 80%. However, some parishes did not pay monthly so this figure was not a true indication of ability or intention to pay. Nevertheless, parishes were being encouraged to pay by monthly direct debit.

7. A Deanery Finance Sub-committee had been established with members drawn from all the benefices in the deanery. The previous two deaneries had operated different systems so a new system of calculation of parish share was necessary. The system needed to be fair, transparent and easy to administer. Various options had been considered but had been whittled down to a combination of the one third attendance/one third clergy cost and one third income with an allowance for the cost of maintaining the church building. It was felt that the parish share should be apportioned on a benefice basis with benefices determining what their individual parishes should pay. The proposal had not been finalised but would need to be by October.

8. It was appreciated that the parish share was an increasing burden on some parishes. It was vital that richer parishes assisted poorer parishes and also that parishes/benefices facing financial difficulties communicated their problems to the DFA at the earliest opportunity. The new method of calculation within the deanery would not result in some benefices paying less. All benefices would be advised of the new system by October.

ITEM 5. SYNOD SUB-COMMITTEES

9. It was felt that synod should have 4 sub-committees to carry out the deanery functions of mission and ministry. In addition to the Finance sub committee already established, these sub committees and their activities should be as follows:

- a. **Outreach.** Evangelism and Mission for all age groups and on an ecumenical basis. A separate Youth sub-committee had been considered but although this age group was vital for the present and future church, so too were the needs of other age groups.
- b. **Pastoral.** There was an ongoing need to organise and structure the deanery, matching human resources to benefices and parishes, Dwindling clergy numbers needed to be compensated for by

increased lay participation as well as more effective distribution of resources. It was felt strongly that the Rural Dean in particular had taken on a massive workload, which, though admirable, was not sustainable and additional human-power was needed. The sub-committee needed to address the issues and suggest solutions that did not result in parishes or benefices being without clerical support and oversight.

- c. **Communications.** Effective communication and the sharing of information was essential throughout the deanery. Newsletters, magazines, parish and deanery web-sites and email all played their part but required organisation and management.
- d. **Training.** The expanded deanery gave increased opportunity for effective training in many areas. Some members had already completed a "Learning to Listen" course. Tutors existed in the deanery for the Education for Discipleship series of courses. One of these, "Learning to Lead in Public Worship" was highly recommended. The sub-committee would address all aspects of training from identifying needs to providing resources.

10. It was proposed by Freda Shaw and seconded by Mark Willshaw that the aforementioned sub committees be established. The proposal was carried unanimously.

11. The work of the sub committees was essential to the proper functioning of the deanery. Indeed, most of the work of the deanery would be carried out by the sub committees. It was most important that Synod members were actively involved. Accordingly Synod members were asked to volunteer themselves for membership of the sub-committees (See Annex A). However, membership of the sub committees was not confined to Synod members only. If someone outside synod had gifts to offer, they should be accommodated.

Synod
Members

ITEM 6. FORMAT OF SYNOD MEETINGS

12. Synod agreed that the format of synod meetings should be an Act of Worship followed by sub committee reports. Presentations by outside speakers (requested by sub committees with reference to the parishes) should also be programmed. It was re-emphasised that Synod meetings were open to all but that voting was confined to synod members. Furthermore, it was agreed that the location of Synod meetings should alternate between the three population centres of Helmsley, Kirkbymoorside and Pickering.

ITEM 7. DEANERY INITIATIVES

13. Deanery Events could take place and should respond to need. Although Deanery Services, such as a Deanery Confirmation Service were important, services just for services sake should be avoided. Nevertheless, a series of Taizé services will take place in 2010; a flyer is enclosed with these minutes. However, the establishment of a Deanery Choir for a special choral service was suggested. It was agreed that the Rural Dean would contact Martin Dales and

Fred Dennis on the subject. It was also felt that, to engender a feeling of deanery identity, bi-annual "Pulpit Swaps" should occur in which clergy in the deanery took services in benefices other than their own.

Rural Dean

ITEM 8. PROGRAMME AND DATES

- 14. The dates of meetings of Synod and the Synod Standing Committee for 2010 are as follows:
 - a. **Synod.** 13 May, 21 July and 6 October. An additional meeting with other traditions may be planned.
 - b. **Standing Committee.** 22 March, 7 June, 6 September and 22 October.

ITEM 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. **Diocesan Year of the Environment.** The Diocese was establishing a working group to plan to celebrate the environment and required deaneries to nominate enthusiastic "Deans of Green" to be members. Enthusiasts to contact the Rural Dean.

Synod Members

16. **Additions to Synod Meetings.** It was agreed that reports from the General and Diocesan Synods should be included in Synod meetings.

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ITEM 10. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

17. The next Synod will be held on Thursday 13th May, at Pickering Parish Church, 7.00pm, and afterwards in the Parish Hall.

The meeting closed with "The Grace"

Annex A. Preferences for Sub Committee Membership
Enclosure: Taizé Services 2010

Distribution:

All Synod Members
Revd Bill Page



Ian Henley
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