

# *Helmsley Deanery Synod*

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HELMSLEY DEANERY SYNOD HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, OWALDKIRK AT 1930 ON 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2003

### Present:

Revd Canon David Purdy  
Tony Gillham  
Revd Michael Cartwright  
Revd David Wilbourne  
Jackie Crofter Harris  
David Goodman  
Helen Goodman  
Mike Gray  
Peter Ide  
Marjorie Ingleby  
Carole Lead  
John Lindley  
Anne Martin  
Val Moorby  
Tim Rowe  
Janet Richardson  
Roy Siddons  
Mary Siddons  
Hilary Slights  
Bill Smith  
Margaret Strickland  
Joan Walker  
Ian Henley

Joint Chairman  
Joint Chairman

Sec

### Apologies:

Revd John Warden  
Revd Andrew Shanks  
Revd Ron Treasure  
Sue Binks  
Ann Martin

ACTION

### ITEMS 1 AND 9. OPENING AND CLOSING PRAYERS

1. The meeting opened and closed with prayers led by David Purdy

### ITEM 2. MINUTES OF THE DEANERY SYNOD HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2003.

2. The minutes of the previous deanery synod were accepted as a true record and signed.

### ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING.

3. **Church Tourism.** David Goodman reported on a recent meeting of the Tourism Group with Zoe Kemp and others at Lastingham. The main section was a presentation by Eileen Bellet, Head of Theology and RE at York St John, on how help children to get the most out of school visits to churches. Alastair

Ferguson had reviewed the responses he had received to a questionnaire in Lasingham Church.

4. A final session from Zoe reported that the existing tourism leaflets were going well and being re-printed. If churches were not yet included, it was suggested that they contact Zoe who would provide a form to collect basic information.

5. Looking to the future, a more local Website organisation was needed to ensure that things were kept up to date in the area. No volunteers had been forthcoming, but David reported that the "North York's Moors Churches Together" group might provide a suitable and ecumenical base.

#### **ITEM 4. LIVING THE GOSPEL – SPRINGBOARD FOLLOW-UP**

6. It was unanimously agreed that the visit of the Springboard Travelling School had been a great success. Their presentation had been professional and they had enthused and inspired us. It was important that should build on the impetus that they had created. We should not be deflected by declining numbers – smaller and leaner can result in a fitter church. We were reminded of what the church is for; to spread the gospel of Christ, to reach out, to study and discuss scripture, to share in the Church's mission. We need to be more than evangelists. It was crucial to remember what a treasure we have in the Gospel and to counter the misinformation and disinformation in the atheist press.

7. As a follow-on, Synod then separated into groups to discuss 2 questions: what is the role of the Deanery Synod in the mission of the church, and how can we more effective in fulfilling this role?

8. **The Role of the Deanery Synod in the Mission of the Church.** It was felt that the roles of the Deanery Synod were to:

- a. Support and guide the parishes.
- b. Provide a link between clergy and laity, and between parishes and the Diocese.
- c. Provide a wider perspective than individual parishes could provide in isolation.
- d. Inform and discuss.
- e. Seek out, develop and provide resources.

9. **How can the Deanery Synod be more Effective?** The following were suggested:

- a. Be less serious and more light-hearted and sociable.
- b. Visit parishes/PCC's and help to look at mission.
- c. Provide resource advice and material. Suggest or help conduct courses.
- d. Carry out training to enable Synod members to communicate more effectively.

- e. Engage with and not avoid controversial issues.
- f. Effect a closer relationship with individual parishes. Parishes could host the Synod and give presentations on mission to which the Synod could respond.
- g. Instigate a Deanery Mission Plan.
- h. Have more deanery events; trips, suppers, dances, deanery weekends. Invite speakers. Open up Synod meetings to non-synod members by making meetings more attractive. Streamline and condense the more mundane synod business.
- i. Consult more with congregations on their needs and desires.

10. The value of the Archbishop's School of Evangelism booklet was highlighted as were the Guidelines for running PCC Meetings (yellow leaflet).

#### **ITEM 5. DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT MAY 2003**

11. Helen Goodman reported that the Presidential Address from Archbishop David had focussed on Iraq. Diocesan reports had been received from the Chaplain of the Universities, the Police, Hospitals, prisons and of all the other work that goes on in the Diocese including work in Church schools.

12. There was to be an increase in the Parish Share to cover the increase in clergy stipends and the increase in pension contributions for the clergy. A report had been given of the forthcoming signing of the Anglo Methodist Covenant in York Minster on 24<sup>th</sup> may. Finally, there had been a debate on proposed entrance charges for York Minster which the Diocese opposed.

#### **ADDITIONAL ITEM. YORKSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST**

13. Peter Ide gave a short but lively presentation on the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust and the need for the support of the Deanery in the annual sponsored ride. He pointed out that the proceeds of the sponsored ride were divided between the church and the Trust had made significant grants to churches in the area. Peter urged us to motivate our parishes so that the funds raised this year would beat the rather paltry £350 that had been raised in 2002.

#### **ITEM 6. WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

14. **Communications Group.** Information was always wanted in order to produce a good Deanery Newsletter.

15. **Youth Group.** The strong performance of youth involvement within the deanery was highlighted including the Crusaders camp, which had involved 27 youngsters from Ampleforth, the Helmsley Sunday School, young peoples groups in Appleton-le-Moors and Kirkbymoorside. Harome were planning a junior Alpha Course in September. The Ryedale Christian Council were publishing a booklet by September to go to every primary school leaver to help him or her settle in secondary school. Synod was reminded that the deanery possessed a box of resources for scripture play.

16. **IT Group.** The IT Group had just one member but required funding and agreement to produce a Deanery web site.

17. **Decision.** It was decided that the IT Group of one should be a sub-group of the Communications Group and that the Treasurer was to provide the sum of £30 to fund the Deanery web site.

Treasurer

**ITEM 7. ELECTIONS TO DIOCESAN SYNOD**

18. Helen Goodman and John Lindley were unanimously elected as deanery lay members of the Diocesan Synod. David Purdy was unanimously elected as Clergy member. Although the Deanery was entitled to elect 3 lay members, and 2 clergy members, nobody else was willing to stand. However, it was important that the deanery had full representation.

19. **Decision.** It was decided that attempts to persuade individuals to put themselves forward for election would continue to be made and the issue would be re-examined at the next meeting.

Chairmen

**ITEM 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

20. There was no other business.

**ITEM 10. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING**

21. The next meeting was planned for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm at Hawnby Village Hall. The Standing Committee would meet at the Rectory, Kirkbymoorside at 2 pm on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

Sec

IAN HENLEY  
Sec

Distribution:

Peter Ide  
All Deanery Synod Members