

The Deanery Synod of Northern Ryedale

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT MIDDLETON VILLAGE HALL, MIDDLETON AT 7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2017

Present		Apologies
Ian Henley	Lay Dean in the Chair	Peter Allen
Revd Sue Binks		Revd Mark Brosnan
Revd Stuart Hill		Steve Bulmer
Fr Antony Pritchett		John Dunning
Revd Tim Robinson	Area Dean	Vivienne Hughes
Mel Burnside		Mary Jones
John Castle		David Knowelden
Helen Goodman		Veronica Linskill
Eddie Gray		Revd Dr Jo White
Helen Halkyard		Jane Wood
Ali Holmes		
Tom Hustler		
Mike Linskill		
Chris Martin-Jones		
Simon Mumford		
Clarissa Napier		
Mary Pettitt		
Brenda Robinson		
Mike Sellers		
Hilary Slights		
Robert Sword	Deanery Financial Adviser	
Margaret Timbrell		
Lucy Willshaw		
Nicola Woosnam		
Richard Woosnam		
Honor Wright		
St John Harris	Secretary	

WELCOME

The Lay Dean welcomed everyone to the meeting including guest speaker, Mrs Lucy Willshaw.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2017 and matters arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Developing the Deanery – progress report and Deanery Leadership Team

The Lay Dean provided an update on the implementation of the new Diocesan Vision for Deaneries in Northern Ryedale. At its meeting on 18 July, the new Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) had agreed to focus on four areas: mission (including outreach with children, families and elderly people), communication (including the website and other media),

training and worship at deanery level. He referred to the Deanery Baptism Day in Gillamoor on 2 September and the Choral Day and Evensong arranged for 22 October. Other events were also being planned. The DLT had held a constructive meeting with the Bishop of Whitby and Archdeacon of Cleveland on 5 September at which mission and the move to sustainable finances were both discussed. On 17 September, the Area Dean and Honor Wright, a member of the DLT, had attended worship in Middlesbrough as the beginning of working together. A further meeting with Middlesbrough DLT was planned for 4 November to consider areas of joint working. On 23 September, both he and the Area Dean had been anointed by the Archbishop at a service to celebrate deaneries in York Minster. The Synod then approved the following new members of the DLT who had been co-opted since the Synod meeting on 1 June:

Revd Sue Binks (Kirkdale)

Revd Jackie Cray (Kirby Misperton)

Mrs Lynn Gosling (Kirkbymoorside)

Mrs Helen Halkyard (Middleton)

Mr Mike Stallybrass (Lastingham)

This meant that Thornton Dale was the only benefice in the Deanery that was not yet represented on the DLT. It was hoped to identify a representative soon.

The Area Dean then commented on the important outreach element of the event on 2 September, the one on 22 October and future events; the need to worship together from time to time, and to pool the Deanery's resources to support individual parishes. Mrs Nicola Woosnam suggested a Day of Prayer / Quiet Day to reflect on the Deanery's purpose and mission which the Area Dean welcomed.

Action: Mrs Woosnam to help arrange with the DLT

The Area Dean also alluded to the financial challenge facing the Deanery: that of the 7.5 stipendiary ministers, only six were funded from within the Deanery. This challenge and its implications for ministry would need to be addressed in the coming months.

4. Talk by Lucy Willshaw – 'Lift the Lid'

Mrs Willshaw gave a talk on the 'Lift the Lid' educational resources project which had been set up by the Elim Church in Malton in 2010. The project involved the interactive retelling of Christian stories using a range of objects to help bring religious education alive for both primary and secondary school children. Although religious education was compulsory, there was no national curriculum. The objects, resource cards and other material used were tailored to the North Yorkshire County Council Religious Education Agreed Syllabus and increasingly to the 'Understanding Christianity' Resource Teacher's Handbook. Mrs Willshaw, the Primary Schools Worker and Resource Developer, went into local schools to explain the scheme to staff and children in order to enable teachers to use the materials, and to perform interactive retellings herself of the Christmas and Easter stories, during which children would be asked questions about the characters, action and theological meaning therein. Over the Easter season, Mrs Willshaw had delivered 27 resource boxes to schools in Ryedale, and over the Christmas and Easter periods had seen some 500 children in two weeks. Mrs Willshaw encouraged churches in the Deanery to take the material into their local schools and to develop their relationship with them. The meeting was then adjourned to allow those present to examine the materials and ask Mrs Willshaw questions. Prayers and thanks were offered to Mrs Willshaw for her valuable work. The Area Dean asked if a similar approach could be used to reach out to adults, for example, through an Open Day at Hope Central Elim Church. The Deanery would be willing to provide financial support for such an event.

Action: Mrs Willshaw to look into this suggestion

5. Treasurer's report

Mrs Goodman reported that the Deanery account currently held some £2700, but at least £1000 was required to pay for the costs of the Deanery Baptism Day on 2 September and the Deanery Family Day held on 11 June at Welburn Hall: two important outreach events. She thanked parishes and benefices for their subscriptions to the Deanery, and those who had given financial and other contributions to make the Deanery Baptism Day such a success.

The Synod approved Mrs Goodman's proposal to set up an online account for the Deanery.

6. Area Dean's Notes

In addition to the challenge of financial sustainability (see item 3 above), the Area Dean also reported forthcoming changes in clergy across the Deanery:

- The new Priest in Charge of Kirby Misperton and Middleton Benefices, Revd Capt Robert Barker would be licensed at a service at St Laurence Church, Kirby Misperton on 29 October at 3pm
- A profile was in preparation for the replacement of Revd Andrew De Smet, Priest in Charge of Kirkdale who was leaving that position on 19 October
- Interviews for the House for Duty priest of Upper Ryedale would be held in the next month

Any other business

- Mr Hustler reported St Andrew, Middleton's successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to restore the fabric of the building and to construct a kitchen and toilet
- The Lay Dean invited suggestions to improve communications across the Deanery
- The next Deanery Synod meeting was arranged for 22 February 2018 at 7pm at Wydale Hall

The meeting closed with the Grace.