

# *The Deanery Synod of Northern Ryedale*

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DEANERY SYNOD OF NORTHERN RYEDALE HELD AT ST PETER, PICKERING AT 7.00 – 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**

### **Present:**

Sheila Clayton  
Ven David Butterfield  
Revd Susan Bond  
Revd Andrew de Smet  
Revd Stephen Gamble  
Revd Mark Brosnan  
Revd Lynn Grove  
Revd Stuart Hill  
Revd Christopher Johnson  
Revd Dr Jo White  
David Alger  
Peter Allen  
Dr David Billett  
Helen Goodman  
Sally Gough  
Eddie Gray  
St John Harris  
John Dunning  
Tony Gilham  
Dr D J Knowelden  
Chris Martin-Jones  
Clarissa Napier  
Barbara Ralphs  
Brenda Robinson  
Hilary Slights  
Margaret Timbrell  
Lesley Tucker  
Jane Wood  
Ian Henley

Lay Chair

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### **Apologies:**

Revd Canon Francis Hewitt  
Revd Antony Pritchett  
Revd Tim Robinson  
Susan Binks  
Elizabeth Capstick  
Sue Clements  
Mary Jones  
Peter Milner  
Simon Mumford  
Freda Shaw  
Judith Short  
Robert Sword  
Mark Wilshaw

### **WELCOME**

1. The Chair thanked Revd Christopher Johnson for presiding at the Eucharist and Pickering PCC for their kind hospitality and welcomed the Venerable David Butterfield to the meeting.

### **ITEM 1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014 were accepted as a true record.

### **ITEM 2. MATTERS ARISING**

3. There were no matters arising

### **ACTION**

### ITEM 3. ADDRESS BY THE VEN DAVID BUTTERFIELD

4. The Venerable David Butterfield expressed his pleasure at being at synod. Until May 2014, he had been Archdeacon of the East Riding but then the Archbishop had appointed him Archdeacon for Generous Giving and Stewardship and also Residentiary Canon of York Minster. He had studied music at university and, following ordination, served as curate in Southport. In 1981, he moved to the West Midlands, was team vicar in Aldridge for 10 years, then vicar of 3 parishes in Shropshire. He was appointed Archdeacon of the East Riding in 2007. During his time in Shropshire, a new Church and Community Centre was opened in Muxton, Telford. Thus, not only was he experienced in fundraising but also in leading churches into growth.

5. He thanked the deanery for their generous pledges. In the last year, of the 34 parishes, 25 had either maintained or increased their commitment. It was 2 years since the introduction of the new system, "Generous Churches – Making and Nurturing Disciples" in which 5 marks of mission were identified: Christ-likeness, commitment, partnership, influence and numbers. In addition, the old formulaic method of funding mission through the common fund had been replaced by freewill giving. Many parishes had responded enthusiastically to the new approach. In 2 Corinthians 8 (*For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means*) and in the letter to the Philippians, Paul highlights freewill giving and generosity of giving. It might be useful for parishes to consider their freewill offerings at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and afterwards at PCC Meetings and also to view (again if already seen) the DVDs on Freewill Giving (2013 and 2014) which can be viewed online at <http://dioceseofyork.org.uk/generous-churches/freewill-offering/>.

Secretary's Note: The 2013 DVD will be sent out to all incumbents in May to coincide with the 2016 Freewill offering consideration period – 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> July. If PCC's wish to get the 2014 DVD, they should contact Eleanor Course (01904 699530).

6. The Archdeacon then introduced and discussed 5 principles relating to the Freewill Offer for 2016:

a. **PRAY.** *Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*

How might you as a PCC pray in a focused way about your freewill offer?

b. **BE GENEROUS**

*The Churches in Macedonia gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. It was more than we could have hoped for! First they gave themselves to the Lord. (2 Corinthians 8.3-5)*

What would being generous look like for your PCC?

c. **BE REALISTIC**

*For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. (2 Corinthians 8.12).*

What will being realistic mean for your church?

d. **HAVE FAITH**

*Without faith it is impossible to please God.....he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (Hebrews 11.6)*

How might having faith affect the way your PAC members make their freewill offer?

e. **BE CONNECTED**

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. As it is, there are many members, yet one body. (1 Corinthians 12.12-13a, 20)*

How could your church feel more of a sense of belonging to the Diocese of York?

7. Finally, the Archdeacon issued 2 pamphlets: "Stewards in a Slump" and "Giving in Grace."

**ITEM 4. FINANCE**

8. **DFA.**

a. **Freewill Offering to Year End 2014.** The Deanery had contributed 98.06%, which represented a shortfall of £8,200. The offering had been £422,241. As this was freewill money pledged, 100% ought to have been paid. Furthermore, this had followed the quota for 2013 of £459,663; thus there had been a reduction of £45,062. The large shortfall in payments for 2014 had been offset by generous increases in offerings from other parishes. PCC's should be aware that continuing reductions in offerings and contributions would inevitably lead to a reduction in numbers clergy.

b. **Freewill Offering January 2015.** Although not unusual for the beginning of the year, funds received were 4.99%, against an 8.3% committed annualised figure. Were this to continue, the deanery would only contribute 59.89% of the offer for the year.

9. **Treasurer.**

a. All parishes had contributed to the cost of administrative help for the rural dean in 2014, not all of which had yet been spent.

b. The recent Songs of Praise for Christian Unity, held in Kirkbymoorside, had been a wonderful get-together. The collection had been shared between Water Aid and Tear Fund.

c. On Sunday, Jun 7<sup>th</sup>, there would be a Northern Ryedale Deanery Family Day entitled "Pentecost Fire", with many fun activities for all ages. There would be ice cream and a creche. It was felt that a donation from the benefices of £20 or more would be appropriate. Cheques (Northern Ryedale Deanery) to Helen Goodman, Ledbrooke House, Oswaldkirk, York, YO62 5XZ.

**ITEM 5. RURAL DEAN'S NOTES**

10. The Acting Rural Dean reported that Tim Robinson had returned home from hospital that day. Jo White was still off sick. Thanks were expressed to Michael Sinclair for his ministry at Lastingham; David Purdy was now covering pending a new incumbent. The Archbishop would bless the altar at Rievaulx on 4<sup>th</sup> June. The deanery was asked to pray for Susan Binks as she prepared for ordination.

**ITEM 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11. The Lay Chair announced that she would shortly be stepping down from the post and consideration needed to be given to electing a new Lay Chair.

12. There was concern that the HandyMag magazine had published a 4 page spread relating to services in the Malton, Norton and Pickering areas and including a Christmas

message from the Bishop of Whitby. It was felt that the churches in Kirkbymoorside, Helmsley, Ampleforth and Upper Ryedale should have been included.

13. Ryedale Christian Council had considered advertising the "missing services" but considered that the cost (Pickering and District Churches together had paid £500 and Ryedale Christian Council were quoted £900) was not justified.

14. Secretary's Note. Approaching Christmas 2015, the Deanery will consider whether and how the Christmas services at all churches within the deanery should be advertised including using HandyMag.

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15. The Deanery Prayer Calendar was distributed.

16. The Ven David Butterfield would be writing an article for inclusion in the May edition of the Magazine serving the east end of the deanery.

**ITEM 7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING**

17. The next Synod was planned to take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at Middleton.



Distribution

Ven David Butterfield  
All Synod Members

Ian Henley  
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