

Aire & Worth Deanery Synod Report 2021 (Bradford Episcopal Area)

(For Christ Church & St. John's APCM Meeting on Thursday 20th May 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom.)

Our Deanery Synod reps are: Dawn Whitaker, Sharon Quinn, and Lynn Stow.

Deanery members met on Tuesday February 2021, at 7.30pm, via Zoom.

- Worship was led by Henriette Howarth, St. Paul's, Shipley.
- Synod was made aware that Rev Richard Burge (Hewenden Benefice) has been appointed as Assistant Area Dean for the Aire and Worth deanery. The role has yet to be fully defined but he will be supporting Revd Canon Benham in her role as Area Dean.
- This was Revd Suzy McCarter's last meeting as a member as she has been appointed as team vicar to the Killinghall, Hampsthwaite and Birstwith benefice in the Ripon Area. Suzy's last Sunday as team vicar in the Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth and Denholme benefice was 28th February.

Elections

Lay chair: Mr Mike Moss (proposed by Zahida Mallard, seconded by Viv Brearley) was elected unanimously by Zoom poll as Lay chair for this term of Synod.

Rev Benham expressed her thanks to Mike for agreeing to stand but made Synod aware that he will not stand again and asked members of Synod to prayerfully consider the role and hoped that someone would feel able to shadow Mike for a period with a view to taking on the role at a future date.

Secretary: Mrs Alison Haigh (proposed by Rev Malcolm Hendry, seconded by Elizabeth Evans) was elected by show of hands.

House of clergy reps to Standing Committee: Rev Malcolm Hendry and Rev Martin Weaver were nominated and elected by Zoom poll of the House of Clergy to Standing Committee

House of Laity reps to Standing Committee: Ms Elizabeth Evans and Mr Stuart Eteson were nominated and elected by Zoom poll of the House of Laity to Standing Committee

Break out rooms via Zoom: Synod members were then put into breakout rooms where they were asked to discuss the questions:

- a. What experience/expertise can you contribute to Synod that your parishes already know about
- b. What would you like to see happening at Synod and what training or help can Synod provide to help.

Responses from the groups included:

- Exploring how to support congregations through trauma/tragedy.
- Exploring the Living in Love and Faith project as Synod.
- Singing together.
- Learning from each other/finding out what each parish is doing (as an exhibition or marketplace sharing best practice).
- Awareness that Synod provides a bigger context than individual parishes and provides a bigger pool to help parishes.
- Synod helps in developing relationships with individuals from parishes that may have a different style of worship from our own and learning from them.
- Expanding the use of Zoom to care homes or nursing homes to make worship accessible to others.
- Parishes need to reappraise what can be 'ditched' or done differently.
- Minimal 'business' at synod and more meetings with themes- having speakers and facilitated discussions.

There was opportunity during the meeting for reps to meet fellow reps (with a break for coffee).

Date of next meetings: Monday 17th October 2021 at 7.30pm. (Venues or meeting details will be confirmed once face to face meetings are permitted).