

# THE DEANERY OF HEYWOOD and MIDDLETON

[www.heywoodandmiddletondeanery.org](http://www.heywoodandmiddletondeanery.org)

## Minutes of the Heywood and Middleton Deanery Synod

on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2006, St. James, Heywood.

### 1. Opening Prayers

The meeting began at 7:50 with prayers and thanks for the hospitality received.

### 2. Apologies

There were 24 members present and 14 apologies for absence were received.

### 3. Minutes of the last Deanery Synod

Circulation of the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2006 meeting had been overlooked, apart from a further (sic) copy to Rev I Butterworth. The secretary apologised for this oversight. A copy was duly circulated during the meeting and was later accepted and signed as a true and correct record of the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

### 4. Matters arising

A decision had been taken for a feasibility study for the proposed new C of E based Academy in Middleton.

### 5. Area Dean's Announcements

- ✍ Congratulatory were extended to Rev'd Carol Gully and to Rev'd Lee Longden, who were both ordained on June 24<sup>th</sup> 2006 and prayers were offered for their future ministry
- ✍ Rev'd Chris Fallone is on sabbatical leave until October 2006
- ✍ Nigel Spraggins reported that the following parishes had not yet submitted final audited accounts for the financial year ending 2005: St Martins, Castleton; Heywood Team; All Saints and Martyrs, Langley; St John's, Thornham; and All Saints, Rhodes.

### 6. Correspondence

No correspondence

### 7. Financial Report

This item was overlooked during the course of the meeting but a summary was given to the secretary just after the meeting was formally closed, and is included for information purposes only.

The summary was as follows:

- ✍ Yorkshire bank    £220.58p
- ✍ Halifax            £89.45p

### 8. MAIN ITEM: Deanery Pastoral Committee work

#### a) Diocesan Synod Elections: Lay and Clergy

**Lay:** Mr George Etugo's submission had been received too late to be accepted and there had been no other Lay nominations prior to this meeting. Nominations by Mr David Peace were received at the meeting for Mrs Pauline Jones and Mr George Etugo; both were seconded by Dr Jackie Broxton. In the event of no other nominations each was accepted. There is still one Lay vacancy to be filled.

**Clergy:** Canon Nick Feist is an ex-officio member of the Diocesan Synod by virtue of his membership of General Synod. It was unclear at the time of the meeting whether the Rev'd Carol Gully had already been accepted by the Diocese prior to the meeting. In the event she had not been, she was duly proposed by Rev'd Ian Butterworth, who also proposed the Rev'd Philip Millar. Rev'd Adrian Gallagher seconded the nominations and both were duly elected.

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## b) Deanery Pastoral Committee Update

There had been two Deanery Pastoral Committee (DPC) meetings since March predominantly held to review the responses to the questionnaires based on The Articles of Enquiry. Not every parish had been represented at the meetings and two responses had not been received for analysis at the meetings. One parish has since responded but the other has still to respond. All parishes' visualisers that had been received from the initial questionnaires have now been circulated to every parish.

At the first meeting, each parish shared a SWOT analysis with each other and indicated their three main priorities for the future. A summary was later circulated. The visualisers produced by the Rev'd Chris Fallone will be presented at the next meeting.

Before the second meeting, a further document, the DP Leaders Toolkit had been received (19 pages). The meeting reviewed the document but will be 'used', at the next meeting on Saturday morning on July 22<sup>nd</sup> to process the results of the questionnaires/visualisers. All members of the DPC are urged to make attendance their top priority. If elected members are unable to attend then they were requested to encourage at least one of their deputies to attend.

Hope was expressed that DPC members were sharing all the information and thinking with their own PCCs and DCCs.

The clergy had spent an 'away-day' at Parceval Hall to reflect on all the issues. With the exception of one person who was ill, all incumbents had attended, together with two curates. The general view was that it was a good time of encouragement and a constructive sharing of views. These views, together with those expressed in answer to the '5 questions' from Sep 2005, would be further input to the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

There then followed a general discussion about the way the Cof E is managing its current financial affairs and how awareness levels of the current financial plight could be raised within congregations and it was hoped that the issues of viability drawn out by the DPC would help in this direction.

Nick reiterated that the whole process is really about developing ways of managing the Deanery with 9 rather than 12 priests. There would be no redundancies during the process and it would be achieved through 'natural wastage' through future retirements.

Some concerns were expressed at the lack of visibility into where all the extra bodies that have been recently recruited within the Diocese have been deployed.

The meeting closed with Nick reading a passage from "Every Day with Jesus. The passage was essential a reflection on the Acts of The Apostles (esp Ch 2) Nick also thought 2 Corinthians, read earlier in the evening, was of particular relevance to the current situation.

## 9. Date of forthcoming meetings/events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event: Topic</i>	<i>Venue</i>
<b>July</b>			
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 – 3.00	Chapter Meeting	Bircle
Saturday <b>22nd</b> <b>(was 20<sup>th</sup>!!)</b>	9:00 - 13:00	Pastoral Committee Meeting	St John, Hopwood
<b>September</b>			
Saturday 16th	9:00 ->13:00	Pastoral Committee Meeting	St John, Hopwood
Tuesday 19th	7:30 p.m.	Deanery Synod	St Martin, Castleton

## 10. Closing Prayers

The meeting closed with the grace at 8:40pm