

THE DEANERY OF HEYWOOD and MIDDLETON

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Minutes of the Heywood and Middleton Deanery Synod

on Monday, 6th March 2006, ST Leonard, Middleton.

1. Opening Prayers

The meeting began at 7:45 with prayers.

2. Apologies

There were 27 members present and 14 apologies for absence were received.

3. Minutes of the last Deanery Synod

Minutes of the Nov 7th 2005 meeting were accepted and signed as a correct record

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

5. Correspondence

Robert Lundy had resigned from the Pastoral Committee due to pressure of work.

6. Area Dean's Announcements

- Janet West was remembered. Janet was a past secretary of the Deanery Synod, a member of the Pastoral Committee, and had supported Christian Aid for many years.
- Rev'd Gordon Joyce's last service is planned for Easter Day before leaving for Bury. The total complement of incumbents will then be down to 11. A meeting of the Deanery Pastoral Committee will shortly be required to discuss the situation at St Michael's.
- The Parish Share for 2005 had a £960K shortfall in the Diocese (12% off target). The Deanery defaulted by £46,229 (13.2% off target). Alan Cooper and Nigel Spraggins were organising a Roadshow about the budget and to obtain suggestions and ideas of how a higher response could be achieved in the future and to help in setting the 2007 budget. (Timetable attached)
- In spite of the deficit in the Parish Share received, the actual deficit was ameliorated by other factors. There was now £200K more in reserves than at the beginning of the year. This was due to increased Glebe income and income from CBF investment funds coupled with a lower expenditure than anticipated.
- Attendance was recorded at 1% higher levels than the previous year.
- Rev'd Matt Carlisle was welcomed into the Deanery
- Go ahead has been granted for a joint Roman Catholics and C of E school at St Joseph in Heywood for Sept 2007
- Negotiations are taking place for the formation of an Academy in Queen Elizabeth High School with sponsorship coming through the vehicle of the C of E. An alternative site is being considered. It will be a new build wherever it goes.
- The £20 donations towards Deanery funds would be dealt with later at the Standing Committee.

7. Financial Report

No report was available

8. General Synod Report

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Nick presented the Nov 2005 General Synod report. A detailed report of the full Synod was available. DS105/12, which is a summary report, is also available and a smaller report has also been produced by the Evangelical Group.

Main item was the beginning of the process of "Woman in to the Episcopate". The Guildford Report proposes TEA ("transferred episcopal arrangements") and the Synod had agreed to consider it further.

Nick warned that there were far more legal implications for women to be admitted to the episcopate than existed when women were admitted into the priesthood.

Parishes could opt for an alternative Episcopal oversight in some matters but not in others. Members could keep up to date with events by reference to the M/c Diocese and C of E websites.

An actuarial review of clergy pensions is also available on the website.

The 'Green Sheets', giving statistics of church life were also available.

Ethical investments were also discussed at Synod with particular reference to Caterpillar Tractors and their use by the Israeli government to bulldoze homes in Israel.

The next Synod will be in July 2006

9. MAIN ITEM: Deanery Pastoral Committee work

Nick reported that two training evenings had now been held and PCCs would need to address the issues and use the 'Tool Kits' provided during March.

Comments were then requested from the floor:

- ✍ Holy Trinity, Parkfield: Minutes of their deliberations had been circulated to all incumbents following their PCC.
- ✍ St Leonard's had completed their 'sheets'
- ✍ Rev'd Geoff Turner reported that they needed to do it at two levels: at the PCC level but also at the DCC level. The new material promised which is better aligned to these requirements had not yet been received. There had also been complaints about the presentation of the material.

Bishop Nigel had visited incumbents to discuss progress.

The Deanery Pastoral Committee would need to complete deliberations by July, but there was recognition that there could be slippages from Deaneries until Nov 2006.

10. Date of forthcoming meetings/events

Date	Time	Event: Topic	Venue
March			
Tues 21st		Pastoral Committee Meeting (since cancelled)	
Wed 22nd	2:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Middleton Rectory
April			
Tuesday 25th	7:30 p.m.	Pastoral Committee Meeting	St James, Heywood

11. Closing Prayers

The meeting closed at 8:40pm by remembering Janet West with prayers for Henry and family, and also for Anne and Gordon Joyce