

# HEYWOOD & MIDDLETON DEANERY

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

## PASTORAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Notes taken at meeting held at 9:00 a.m. on 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2006 at St John, Hopwood

Meeting began with a reading from Ephesians Ch1 Paul's prayer celebrating the good news of Jesus.

### Introductions

Rev'd Malcolm Weatherby was introduced to the meeting. Malcolm represented Long St, Methodist Church and other churches, some of which have Swahili speaking people and Congolese people in their congregations,

### Apologies

Apologies were received from Rev'd Paul Daly, the Roman Catholic priest from Heywood.

### Representation

All churches were represented, except for St Gabriel's, Middleton Junction, All Souls, Heywood and All Saints, Rhodes.

Ven Mark Davies (MD) was in attendance.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

These were accepted as a correct record, following amendment to clarify that Sutherland's High School and Heywood Community School were the same school.

### Schools News

It was reported that the new Holy family School was starting on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2007 as was the Middleton Academy on the Queen Elizabeth School site.

### Deanery Plan

The text of the updated Deanery Plan was then reviewed and various changes and corrections were accepted for incorporation into the final version.

The following comments and news updates were made on the new proposed groupings

#### ✍ **New Heywood Grouping**

MD stressed that it was important to view the new Heywood Group as a new partnership, and not viewed as one of St James joining the existing Heywood team. The same would apply to St George's should that come to fruition. The new Group would need to decide the model they wished to work with.

#### ✍ **New Middleton Grouping**

Canon Nick Feist (NF) commented on the strong wording concerning St Gabriel's. MD had made efforts to encourage a submission, but to no avail.

The induction of Rev'd Maureen Thorp is being held at 2:00pm on 9<sup>th</sup> December at St Michael's. All were welcome to attend.

Rev'd Alan Broxton OLM currently ministering to St Mary, Birch and St Thomas, Bowlee would be 70 years old in a few years and his OLM status would terminate and would then need to apply to the Bishop in order to continue to officiate.

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MD added further reflections that both Groups should begin work now to clearly articulate **how** each Group would work together in the future. He added that, in Rochdale, the Deanery PC had worked together in even smaller geographical groupings.

### St Aiden's

There is a possibility/likelihood that the current ministry at St Aiden, Sudden would end in 2 years time. Furthermore, there had been a move by the congregation of St Aiden's, backed by the Rochdale PC, for St Aiden to join with St Martin, Castleton Rev'd Ian Butterworth (IB) commented that he had anticipated such a move, even before the proposal from the Rochdale PC. He saw this as a potentially helpful as it would boost the population figures by 5,500 which when added to 5,200 of St Martin and 2,200 of St John, Thornham would help to justify 1.5 priests to minister to it. However, it really needed at least 2 clergy, as there were 3 thriving congregations each fulfilling their respective Parish Shares.

### Deanery Map

NF reported that geographers will produce a full deanery boundary map for around £90 once any boundary changes have been decided.

### Calling to Ministry

MD expressed the need to encourage others who may be thinking of coming into the Ministry.

### Comments on Parishes

#### ✍ **Holy Trinity, Parkfield**

NF thanked Holy Trinity, Parkfield for their responsiveness and commitment to their current situation. Mrs Pauline Jones (PJ) commented that she too had been heartened by their response and empowerment.

#### ✍ **St Thomas, Bowlee**

St Thomas, Bowlee will be facing difficulties in 5 years time because of their OLM situation.

#### ✍ **All Saints & Martyrs**

Even though All Saints and Martyrs, Langley was currently well resourced, their curate finishes in 2 years time. Langley is a demanding parish, not the least because of the Burnside Centre and has lots of funerals.

#### ✍ **All Saints, Rhodes**

Rhodes needs to be considered 'At Risk' and its future needs thought from the Middleton Grouping. Nothing legal can be done without the consent of the incumbent. It is a matter for further deliberations as the parish has a low population of only 3,000. The issue of boundaries with respect to Baguely Cresent and the west side of Heywood Old road has still to be resolved.

### Overall Comments

NF commented with a Group Ministry model congregations would need to understand that they would not always have the same priest on every occasion. Churches would need to begin to help resource each other. Clergy were already sharing taking funerals across the Groups

MD commented that an Established Church has benefits and drawbacks. Freehold incumbents always had the power to scupper any proposals.

### Diocesan Arrangements for Bishops

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The number of Suffragan Bishops had been reduced from 3 to 2 (Bolton & Middleton).

The number of Archdeaconries had been retained at 3

Archbishops of York and Canterbury have decided that Bishop Steven would work at the national level to spearhead Urban Development work. Bishop Steven was being commissioned into that role at the Cathedral on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. All were welcome to attend.

Day to day work of the Diocese was becoming more focussed on Archdeacons rather than Bishops, whose work is ever moving towards national issues.

### Comments from Methodists

#### ✍ **Methodist Buildings experience**

5 years ago there was an expressed wish significantly to reduce the total number of buildings. However, they were still not at the point envisaged.

#### ✍ **Methodist and C of E Covenant**

Both parties had met in a spirit of the covenant

#### ✍ **English heritage**

English Heritage were now considering Grade 2\* buildings in the same light as Grade 1 buildings

### Ecumenical working

✍ An Appendix is to be added to the Deanery report to include the response from the Methodists and Roman Catholics

✍ Invitations will be extended to all ecumenical partners whenever events and 'away' days or weekends were organised

### OLM Job descriptions

OLM job descriptions are being reviewed at a national level, with a view to an OLM being licensed to a Deanery and not just a single parish or church.

### Next meetings and future timetable:

2006	
Nov 20th	Diocesan Plan to be presented to Synod All Deanery PC invited to attend
2007	
Jan 3rd	Deanery Pastoral Committee
Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup>	Each Deanery presents its proposals to Diocesan PC
May	Diocesan PC plan published around time of Archdeacon's visitation
2008	
Jan	Draft scheme with Church Commissioners, if Deanery proposals are to 'count'. Otherwise, informal consultations would need to be restarted.

MD closed the meeting with thanks for all the work put in Nick and Mary for the proposal preparation for the meeting and to Mrs Pauline Jones for all her hard work with the House of Laity.

The meeting closed at 10:50a.m.