



Woodbridge Deanery Synod

<https://www.woodbridgedeanery.org/>



Minutes of the meeting of Woodbridge Deanery Synod held at 7.30pm on Thursday 2nd February 2023 at St Felix Church, Walnut Tree Avenue, Rendlesham, Woodbridge IP12 2GG

24 people attended: five Clergy, 18 Lay Representatives and one visitor.
There were nine apologies.

Revd Katrina welcomed everyone and thanked Revd Mandy and her team for providing warmth and refreshments. Revd Mandy led the opening prayers.

Growing Younger KD welcomed Hilary Wordsworth-Sewell, Diocesan Children's and Families' Officer and her colleague Barbara Norburn, licensed Children's and Families Minister in our Diocese. Hilary began by outlining her spiritual journey that led her to her role which extends across the Diocese. She went on to describe the help and resources available, accompanied by an informative presentation, a copy of which is attached. Barbara also gave an insight into her role in the Diocese. There was an opportunity for small breakout chats and many special memories were stirred and shared. KD thanked Hilary for providing a comprehensive look at the resources available for parishes to access.

Business meeting

Mary Hare

1 Minutes

1.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2022, having been previously circulated, were accepted and signed.

1.2 Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 17th November 2022, having been previously circulated, were accepted and signed.

2 Matters Arising

There were no further matters raised.

3 Update on the appointment of a new Rural Dean

Revd Katrina Dykes

KD reported that, following a meeting with the Bishop, Deanery clergy had been tasked with working it out. Clergy would be working together to fulfill the role of Rural Dean and the result would be announced by the next Deanery Synod.

4 Financial Update

Clive Willetts

4.1 CW was pleased to report that the Deanery was in an excellent position. He thanked every Parish for achieving the £450K required of the Deanery.

4.2 The target for 2023 was £525K. There was some uncertainty but we should be there by the end of the year. The increases were not a consistent across the Deanery and ranged from 2% to 6.5%.

MH suggested CW should ask the Diocese to explain the calculation.

ACTION: CW

TA said it was difficult to be simple and fair at the same time. MH thanked CW and everyone for doing very well in 2022.

5 Eco Church and Website Update

Rita James

5.1 Eco Church: RJ encourage all churches to do the Eco Church Survey. She also reminded that the Diocese had committed to achieving net zero carbon by 2030 – just seven years away. RJ shared a presentation with a plethora of information available to parishes. *Copy attached*. The church was demonstrating commitment to how we were taking care of God's creation. MH said it would be good if, as a Deanery, we could get all Parishes to achieve a Bronze award by the end of the year.

5.2 Website: RJ urged everyone to encourage their parish to use the website to reach a wider audience for their events. <https://www.woodbridgedeanery.org/> **ACTION: ALL**

6 Cost of living initiatives

6.1 Parishes across the Deanery were rising to the challenge and providing help, warmth, food and comfort via warm places, hot meals, food banks and collection points.

7 Reports

7.1 There had been no General or Diocesan Synod meetings since the last Deanery Synod

7.2 The next General Synod - 6th February 2023

7.3 The next Diocesan Synod - 18th March 2023

8 Any Other Business

8.1 Mission and Pastoral Committee meeting to be arranged.

ACTION: MH

8.2 Suggestions were asked for future meeting topics.

ACTION: ALL

The meeting closed with the Grace at 09.20pm.