

READING DEANERY SYNOD

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the 2014 - 2017 Synod. Held at Southlake St James Church, Southlake, Woodley on Thursday 12th June 2014 at 20.00 hours

Present:

Clergy		Lay members	Apologies
The Revd Neil Warwick	Mr Peter Jeal (Chair)	Mr Alfred Kolawole	The Revd Joy Atkins
The Revd Nicholas Cheeseman	Mrs Gill Adams	Mr Sozzie Kasozimusoke	The Revd Pads Dolphin
The Revd Penny Cuthbert	Mr Ayo Akintoye	Dr John Ledger	The Revd Leon Collyer
The Revd David Harris	Mrs Pat Almond	Mrs Margaret Lowe	The Revd Dr Graeme Fancourt
The Revd Dan Heyward	Mr Tony Bartlett	Mrs Katy Lyne	The Revd Nigel Jones
The Revd Nick Jackson	Mr Graeme Buick	Mrs Jane Masson	The Revd Elizabeth Newman
The Revd Chris Leslie	Mr Mark Burton	Dr Diana Matthews	The Revd Vernon Orr
The Revd Jane Lewis	Mr Orazio Camioni	Prof John Missenden	The Revd John Rogers
The Revd Graham Lunn	Mrs Ann Cheeseman	Dr Christopher Mott	The Revd Denis Smith
The Revd Eddie Marquez	Mr A Cobb	Mrs Sue Mott	The Revd Carol Spence
The Revd David Pickersgill	Mrs Rosemary Cooper	Mrs Pamela Patman	The Revd Canon Jonathon Wilmot
The Revd Canon Chris Russell	Mr David Cox	Miss A Peyton	
The Revd Sean Riordan	Mr John Cull	Mrs Marian Pitman	<u>NSM – PTO</u>
The Revd Jonathan Salmon	Mr John Davies	Mr David Potter	The Revd Colin Bass
The Revd Mike Smith	Mr Brian Day	Mr Chris Rimmer	
The Revd Jeremy Tear	Mr Mike Eggleton	Mrs May Smith	Mrs Jane Borgeaurd
	Mrs Jane Fulford	Mrs Ann Taylor	Mrs Anne Barnes
<u>NSM – PTO</u>	Dr Philip Giddings	Mr Ralph Taylor	Mr Robert Dimmick
The Revd Margaret Dimmick	Mr Trevor Greaves	Mr Bill Watts	Mrs Poullette Falconer
The Revd Francis Jakeman	Mr Leslie Green	Miss Joan Walker	Dr Alison Johnston
	Mrs Pauline Harris	Mrs Anne Whitaker	Dr Elizabeth Lowson
	Mr Lee Hill	Mr Tony White	Mrs Linda Lyle
	Mr Mark Hinckley	Mr Nicholas White	Dr Sally-Ann McDowell
	Mrs Margaret Jeal	Mrs Hilary Wynn	Mr David Paine
	Mr Steve Jenkins		Mr Simon Walker
			Dr Elaine Watts

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Welcome:

The Revd Nicholas Cheeseman welcomed everyone to the 1st Meeting of the newly formed Deanery Synod and opened the meeting to the House of Laity to nominate a chairperson for the triennium. Mr Peter Jeal was proposed by Mr John Davies, seconded by Tony Bartlett. There being no other nominees Mr Jeal was duly elected.

Mr Peter Jeal took over chairing the meeting and thanked those present and welcomed everyone to the meeting,

Opening Prayers:

Mr Jeal invited the Revd Nick Jackson to lead the opening worship, a slightly longer time of worship to mark the first meeting of this Synod reflecting on the work God is calling us to do in this deanery.

Minutes of the last Synod:

Minutes of the Synod held on 4th February 2014, previously circulated were agreed.

Matters Arising, not covered elsewhere in agenda: none

Election of Officers then followed:

- a) Assistant Lay Chair – Mr Jeal explained that this was a new position to ensure that the Synod would always have a lay chairperson available to conduct its business. He outlined the role as to the meetings and subgroups and an additional role of the inspection of churches.

Professor John Missenden was proposed by Margaret Jeal, seconded by Hilary Wynn.
Mr Mark Burton was proposed by May Smith, seconded by Margaret Lowe.

Following recounts of votes by the House of Laity, as they were so close, Professor John Missenden was duly elected by a majority vote..

- b) Secretary – Miss Joan Walker was nominated by Margaret Jeal, seconded by Mark Burton. There being no other nominations Joan was duly elected and thanked by the meeting for taking on the role soon after the start of the past triennium in addition to the role of Treasurer.
- c) Assistant Secretary – Members of the House of Clergy were then invited to nominate one of their number to the position of Assistant Secretary. In his absence, but on the understanding that he was willing to be nominated, the Revd Graeme Fancourt was nominated by The Revd Jeremy Tear, seconded by the Revd Canon Chris Russell. There being no other nominations Graeme was duly elected.
- d) Treasurer – Mr Mark Burton was proposed by Dr Phillip Giddings, seconded by Mr Ayo Akintoye. There being no other nominees Mark was duly elected.
- e) Standing Committee Clergy (2 members) - From the House of Clergy the Revd Mike Smith was nominated by the Revd Nick Jackson, seconded by the Revd Jonathan Salmon. There being no further nominations the Revd David Pickersgill volunteered to fill the second vacancy. Thus the Revd Mike Smith and the Revd David Pickersgill were elected.
- f) Standing Committee Lay (2 members) - From the House of Laity Dr Elaine Watts was proposed by Mr John Cull, seconded by Mr Lee Hill; Mr Mark Hinckley was proposed by Mr Alfred Kolawole, seconded by Mr Ayo Akintoye and Mr John Davies was proposed by Mrs Margaret Jeal, seconded by Mr Mark Hinckley. Following a written vote using the single transferrable vote system Dr Elaine Watts and Mr Mark Hinckley were duly elected.
- g) Methodist Circuit Representative – With no immediate nominations coming forward the Revd Jonathan Salmon volunteered himself for the position and duly recognized.
- h) Voting members of Synod by NSM and PTO Clergy (3 members) - Papers had been circulated ahead of the meeting to the 25 clergy members recognized in this category. Mrs Margaret Dimmick had been proposed by the Revd Colin Bass, seconded by the Revd Suzanne Knight. The Revd Francis Jakeman was nominated by the Revd Margaret Dimmick but with no other clergy member in this category being present the meeting agreed to accept the nomination. Thus The Revd Margaret Dimmick and the Revd Francis Jakeman were recognized to be Voting members.

Pastoral Areas:

a) Agreement of revision of Pastoral Areas –

Mr Peter Jeal briefly explained some of the thinking that had gone into the revision of the Pastoral areas and responded to questions as to why it was not where churches already worked with each other. Other comments reflected the need to get to know each other better, or the lack of knowledge as to how the previous organisation had been. Several members felt to be a disadvantage of not knowing the role and responsibilities of the Pastoral committee. Dr Chris Mott proposed accepting the suggested revision and Dr Philip Giddings also proposed this with the explanation that there were flaws, but that the outgoing Pastoral Committee had been striving to please everyone over a number of years but the revision now being presented was one which the pastoral Committee overall had approved. The Revd Neil Warwick supported this proposal saying that with determination the Committee could function as a fun and funky one whilst achieving its goals. Professor John Missenden expressed a desire for people with motivation to take up the challenge of being on the Pastoral Committee.

The following revision was then put to the meeting:

1	2	3	4	5
East Reading	West Reading	South Reading	North Reading	
St John and St Stephen	St Catherine of Sienna	Beech Hill St Mary	Caversham Thameside	NSM's OLM's and Retired Clergy with Permission to Officiate
St James	Tilehurst St Michael	Shinfield St Mary	Caversham St Andrew	
Emmanuel	St Matthew	Spencers Wood St Michael and All Angels	Emmer Green St Barnabas	
Earley Trinity	St Mark & All Saints	Swallowfield All Saints	Caversham Park	
Earley St Nicolas	St George	St Agnes with St Paul and St Barnabas	Greyfriars	
Earley St Peter	St Mary Magdalen	St Giles	St Mary, Minster	
Christ Church	Holy Trinity		St Laurence.	
St Luke with St Bartholomew;				
St John Woodley				

This was accepted by a majority vote with seven abstentions.

b) Election of Pastoral Committee members - (one Clergy member and one Lay member from groups 1 – 4 and one representative from group 5)

Synod members then met in their groups to elect their representatives with the following outcomes:-

Group 1 East Reading: – Clergy member - the Revd Nick Jackson. Lay member – Mr Lee Hill

Group 2 West Reading:- Clergy member – vacant. Lay member - Mr Sozzie Kasozimusoke

Group 3 South Reading; – Clergy member – the Revd Chris Leslie. Lay member – Mrs Sue Mott

Group 4 North Reading:- Clergy member – vacant. Lay member – Mr Steve Jenkins

Group 5 NSM, PTO Clergy: the Revd Margaret Dimmick

The Clergy within groups 2 and 4 were requested to liaise, agree who would do this and notify the Secretary.

Notices:

- a) **Assistant Area Deans** – nil to report.
- b) **Lay Chair** – Mr Peter Jeal Informed the meeting that interviews had taken place to fill the vacant position of Area Dean and incumbent at St Mary Minster and it was hoped to fill the position soon.
- c) **Treasurer** – i) Miss Joan Walker presented the Annual Accounts for 2013 as previously circulated following independent examination.. These were accepted by the meeting.
ii) Agreement of Independent examiner for 2014 accounts – carried over to July 1st Meeting.
Action JW
- d) **Secretary** – Joan reminded everyone present to sign in if they had not already done so as she was trialing this idea rather than the individual submission slips.
Secondly Joan asked for assistance in distributing the ‘Reading Deanery in Profile Booklets 2013’ to individual members of Synod not present at the meeting and also to Retirement/Nursing homes, Hotels and Schools within the Deanery

Any Other Business:

Dr Philip Giddings informed the meeting that the General Synod would be considering the matter of Women as Bishops and the three priorities at its next meeting. He requested Synod members to look on the General Synod website and to read ‘From Anecdote to Evidence’.

Action ALL

Dates of Next Meetings:

Tuesday 1st July 2014 at St Mary Shinfield. 19.30 for 20.00. This is to be an open meeting, in particular Parish Treasurers are invited, and at least one member of each congregation as the new Parish Share Scheme as applied to this Deanery is to be discussed and **decided**. It will be used to decide Parish share for the next three years.

Tuesday 16th September 2014 venue to be advised when the Archdeacon of Berkshire will be addressing the meeting.

Tuesday 11th November 2014 venue to be announced and Peter Jeal requested ideas for subjects at meetings

Mr Peter Jeal Thanked the Revd Nick Jackson and his team for hosting the meeting.

Closing Prayers were led by the Revd Neil Warwick. With the meeting closing at 21.40 hours..

Signed
(chair)

Date