

LEDBURY DEANERY SYNOD

Minutes of the Meeting of the Standing Committee held on
3rd November 2010 at 2.30 pm
at Birchwood Lodge, Storridge.

Present: Rev'd Prebendary M.D.Vockins (Rural Dean), Mr. I.D.S.Beer (Lay Co-Chairman, in the Chair), Mr.M.W.Brothers, Mr.G.W.Hopkinson (Secretary), Rev'd M.Horton, Mr G.Probyn (Treasurer), Mr.B.Speakman, Rev'd Prebendary S.Strutt.

In Attendance: Mr T Copp, Item 7.

1. **Welcome and opening prayers.** The Lay Co-Chairman welcomed all present and prayers were said by the Rural Dean.
2. **Apologies.** Mr.M.C.Greensmith, Rev'd R.Ward.
3. **Minutes of the Standing Committee** held on 2 September were noted.
4. **Matters arising:** None.
5. **Deanery Synod Minutes of 23 September:** Noted.
6. **Finance.**
 - i. The Statement of Accounts for 2009 was noted and forwarded to Synod for approval
 - ii. The Treasurer reported that progress for the current year was satisfactory;
 - iii. Budgeting for 2011: The Treasurer reported that Diocesan Synod had set a figure of 1.9% increase for parish share for 2011. He would prepare a paper for Deanery Synod explaining in detail the impact for the Deanery and its benefices. It would also show the working of the mechanism for the allocation of the diocesan demands between benefices, and so would begin to address some of the issues raised by a paper put forward by the Team Rector of Ledbury on behalf of the Ledbury benefice. It was also agreed that from 2011 the Deanery's own costs ought to be allocated on the same 3:1:1 basis as most of the rest of the Diocesan Share.
7. **Deanery Website:** Mr Copp said that he had consulted the Diocesan Communications Officer and Mr R Hunter. In the light of advice from the former he had restructured the website so as to bring it into line with other parts of the Diocesan website. As regards current arrangements for getting material onto the website, these seemed to be working well and he proposed no change. It would, however, be desirable to have some photographs to enliven it a little, and it might be appropriate to update the Who's who part. Both were agreed. SC thanked Mr Copp for his continuing work.
8. **Stewardship:** The Rural Dean said that he hoped to arrange for the National Stewardship Advisor to address a meeting in the week beginning either 10 or 17

January. It was most important that all Parishes should be represented. Incumbents, Church Wardens, Treasurers and Stewardship coordinators in particular should attend. The meeting would provide the opportunity to consider the response to the Diocesan call for the appointment of a Deanery Stewardship Coordinator. Thought should meanwhile be given to suitable candidates.

9. Women Bishops: The Rural Dean undertook to invite Rev'd Prebendary K Garlick to address an open meeting organized by the Deanery on this.

10. Good News: Cradley hoped to be back in Church for Armistice Sunday. They now had moveable pews and the font had been resited. At Bosbury, there would be coffee mornings on Thursdays, aimed mainly at mothers bringing their children to school. Colwall's Children's Choir had been a great success. The Rector hoped to use it generally for weddings.

11. Deanery 5 Year Plan:

- i. 2015 Onwards: The Deanery working group's report was before SC who agreed that it should be the main focus of the next Synod. The Rural Dean expressed the thanks of SC to the members of the working party who had done a very good job. The Deanery Report should be mentioned at the forthcoming Diocesan Pastoral and Mission Committee meeting.
- ii. Training and Children and Young Persons: The Rural Dean reported that "Open the Book" was well under way. Consideration would be given to extending it to older groups. Meanwhile, it seemed clear that not all the funding obtained would be required. An estimate would be made about how much might prudently be returned to the Diocese.
- iii. Communications: See Item 7 above.
- iv. Social Event: Thanks were expressed to the Rural Dean, Mr D Mckerracher, and the performers for the highly successful social event on 1 October. Some preliminary ideas were floated for the next event and the possibility of some activity linked to the 2012 Olympics was proposed.

12. Bishops Council and Diocesan Synod: The Secretary reported that apart from items on the current agenda the other significant matter from Diocesan level was a review of Communications. This was in train with the aim of a first report by the end of January and a final one by Easter.

13. Vulnerable Adults: There was agreement that the Diocesan paper was most unsatisfactory. However, given national legislation, it was necessary that Parishes did put in place appropriate machinery. It would be important, however, to ensure that the burden did not become disproportionate. It was agreed that in the first instance incumbents should be asked to carry forward arrangements. That might be done on a benefice basis, though formally the Parishes would need to adopt the policies individually and make (possibly common) appointments.

14. Forthcoming Meetings: The final 2010 meeting would be on 25 November at Colwall Ale House. For 2011:

Synod: Thursday evenings on : 24th March (venue tbd); 28th July (Colwall Ale House); 29th September (Munsley WI Hall); and 24th November (Cradley Village Hall).

Standing Committee: Wednesday afternoons on 2nd March, 6th July, 7th Sept and 2nd November.

15. Any Other Business: None.