

Private & Confidential

MINUTES of a meeting of the **ST ALBANS DIOCESAN SYNOD** held at All Saints Academy Dunstable on **SATURDAY 17 JUNE 2017**

The Synod convened at 09.30 a.m. with the President in the Chair.

1. **PRAYERS** were led by the Reverend Diego Galanzino (Priest-in-Charge, Houghton Regis Benefice) and Mrs Patricia Humber (Dunstable Deanery).

2. **PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

The Bishop addressed the Synod and a copy of his Address is attached to the original Minutes. The Address may be found on the Diocesan website:

<http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/Presidential-Address-June-2017>.

3. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Synod held on Saturday 11 March 2017, which had been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the President.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BUSINESS ITEMS**

The President noted those people who had recently joined or left the Diocese, taken up new roles within the Diocese, retired or died.

Chair: Mr John Wallace, Chair of the House of Laity, assumed the Chair.

5. **ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2016**

Dr Christopher Green, Chair of the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the Archdeacon of St Albans, Chair of the Council for Discipleship and Ministry together with the Reverend Canon Dr Tim Bull, Director of Ministry (on behalf of the Council for Discipleship and Ministry) presented their reports for 2016. There were three questions from the Bishop of Hertford, the Reverend Canon Tim Lomax and the Reverend Lynn Money (Dunstable Deanery). The Archdeacon of St Albans (Interim Chair of the Council for Discipleship and Ministry) on behalf of Synod, thanked Mr Anthony Archer, outgoing Chair of the Council for Discipleship and Ministry, for his dedication and hard work and expressed Synod's appreciation.

The Annual Report for the Diocese had been circulated and the opportunity was given to raise questions.

The Chairman then moved:

"That the Annual Report of the Diocese for 2016 be now received."

Debate: the Reverend Dean Henley (Amphill and Shefford Deanery).

The Motion was PUT and CARRIED with 2 AGAINST and 4 ABSTENTIONS.

6. **QUESTIONS**

The text of three questions had been circulated on the First Notice paper **DS/17/02**. The answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 were tabled on the Second Notice paper (**DS/17/02b**).

Three supplementary questions were asked and replies made. The text is attached to the original minutes.

7. **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE FOR 2016**

Canon David Nye, Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance, gave a presentation. There were four questions from the Reverend Will Gibbs (Wheathampstead Deanery), the Reverend Canon Richard Hibbert (Bedford Deanery), Mrs Stella Brooks (Amphill & Shefford Deanery) and Mr Ian Douglas (Welwyn Hatfield Deanery).

Canon Nye responded and then moved:

'That the Report and Accounts of the St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance for the year 2016, as laid on the table, be now received.'

The Motion was PUT and CARRIED unanimously.

The Chairman thanked Canon Nye and the finance team for all their work.

Chair: The Reverend Canon Jo Loveridge, Chair of the House of Clergy, assumed the Chair.

8. **DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION – FORMAL RESOLUTION FOR THE NEW CONSTITUTION**

On behalf of the Diocesan Board of Education, the Bishop of Bedford, Chairman of the Board, introduced the item to confirm, with minor amendments, the Diocesan Board of Education Constitution as agreed by Diocesan Synod in March 2016.

The Bishop of Bedford, Chair of the Board of Education, moved:

"This Synod approves the revised Constitution for the Diocesan Board of Education as set out in paper (**DS/17/03**) and resolves, subject to the consent of the Bishop of St Albans, to request that instead of being constituted in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 1991 (as amended by the Education and Inspections Act 2006) the Secretary of State be asked to make an order for the Diocesan Board of Education to be constituted in accordance with the proposed Schedule 2017 contained in paper (**DS/17/03**)".

The Motion was PUT and CARRIED unanimously.

A copy of the paper (**DS/17/03**) had been circulated.

9. **"REACHING NEW PEOPLE IN NEW WAYS"**

With the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Reverend Canon Tim Lomax, Director of Mission, gave a presentation on the Strategic Development

Funding Bid to the Church Commissioners for the Development of Fresh Expressions of Church.

There were responses from the Reverend Jane Banister (Berkhamsted Deanery), Mr John Edmundson (Sharnbrook Deanery), the Reverend Canon Dave Middlebrook (Watford Deanery), the Reverend Fiona Gibson (Biggleswade Deanery), the Reverend Peter Kay (Sharnbrook Deanery), the Reverend Simon Cutmore (Rickmansworth Deanery) and Mr Colin Bailey (Buntingford Deanery).

10. "SETTING GOD'S PEOPLE FREE"

Mr John Wallace gave a short presentation on "Setting God's People Free", a report by the Lay Leadership Task Group that was presented and debated at the General Synod meeting in February 2017.

The General Synod Report can be found at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/renewal-reform.aspx>

The Bishop of St Albans thanked everybody for their contributions and dismissed the Synod with prayers at 12.34 pm.