

## **Private & Confidential**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **ST ALBANS DIOCESAN SYNOD** held at All Saints Academy Dunstable on **SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2019**

The Synod convened at 9.30 am with the Bishop of St Albans in the Chair.

1. **PRAYERS** were led by the Reverend Michael Macey (Assistant Rural Dean, Hemel Hempstead Deanery) and the Reverend Caroline Wainman (Assistant Curate in Training, Hemel Hempstead Team Ministry).

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/diocese/bishop-of-st-albans-sermons/>.

3. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Synod held on Saturday 13 October 2018, 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, and in particular, thanked Mr Matthew Chinery for his work as Diocesan Registrar, as he prepared to leave the diocese to take up a new post with the Church in Wales. The President welcomed Mr Colin Bird as the new Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance.

The President reported that a motion received from Ampthill and Shefford Deanery supporting the Diocese of Hereford's motion at General Synod would not be debated at Diocesan Synod in 2019, but that it could be reviewed following the publication of the 'Living in Love and Faith' document in 2020.

*Chair: Canon Peter Adams, Chair of the House of Laity, assumed the Chair.*

5. **INTRODUCTION TO 'WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME'**

At the request of the Bishop's Council, the Reverend Simon Cutmore and, with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mr Arun Kataria, Diocesan Communications Officer, introduced this item.

6. **'SHAPING THE FUTURE OF WORK'**

With the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, Mrs Alison Smith, Chair of the Europe Group, gave a short presentation on 'Shaping the Future of Work'.

A copy of paper **DS/19/01** had been circulated.

## **7. '#LIEDENTITY – WHO YOU ARE IS MORE THAN HOW YOU LOOK'**

At the request of the Bishop's Council, the Archdeacon of Hertford gave a short presentation on '#liedentity – Who you are is more than how you look'.

A copy of paper **DS/19/02** had been circulated.

## **8. FEEDBACK AND EXAMPLES FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

Over the extended Coffee Break, members discussed and reflected on the following questions and prepared one 'question' and one 'opportunity' arising from their discussion.

- a) Ways in which digital means could help their parishes to deliver Living God's Love;
- b) How their parishes might make a Christian response to tackling the issues arising from digitalisation.

*Chair: The Reverend Javaid Iqbal, Chair of the House of Clergy, assumed the Chair.*

## **9. 'CELEBRATING AND INCLUDING BAME PEOPLE IN THE DIOCESE'**

At the request of the Bishop's Council, the Bishop of Bedford, and with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Reverend Grace Sentamu Baverstock, gave a presentation on 'Celebrating and Including BAME people in the Diocese'.

There were responses from the Bishop of St Albans, the Reverend Stefan Chrysostomou (Barnet Deanery), the Reverend Dr Rachel Pennant (Cheshunt Deanery) and Mr Robin Davis (Watford Deanery).

A copy of paper **DS/19/03** had been circulated.

## **10. UPDATE ON REACHING NEW PEOPLE**

At the request of the Bishop's Council, the Bishop of Hertford, and with the Chairman's permission under Standing Order No. 4, the Reverend Canon Tim Lomax - Director of Mission, Mr Mark Dunwoody - RNP Senior FX Development Officer and Mrs Patricia Humber - RNP Monitoring Coordinator, gave a presentation.

A copy of paper **DS/19/04** had been circulated.

The Bishop of St Albans thanked everybody for their contributions and dismissed the Synod with prayers at 12.38 pm.