

NEXT DEANERY SYNOD: Thursday 2 April 2009 at 7.30pm
Guilsborough Village Hall

Speaker: The Revd Derek Williams (Bishop's Administrator and Press Officer)
The role and importance of Communication in the Church and Parishes

This presentation will give a holistic view of the importance of communication in our church and parishes, with some practical tips and hints to take back to our PCCs

NEW RURAL DEAN FOR BRIXWORTH DEANERY

The Bishop has announced the appointment of The Revd Mary Garbutt, who succeeds The Revd Canon Clive Evans (recently announced Canon of Peterborough Cathedral) as Brixworth Deanery's Rural Dean. Mary will be licensed by the Archdeacon of Northampton at the Deanery Synod on Thursday 2 April 2009.

MINUTES OF DEANERY SYNOD OF 21 JANUARY 2009

Attendance and apologies were self-completed by attendees as follows:

Present: C Irving-Swift, T Kingston, J Squires, M Scott, G Schaeffer, R Broome, E Godden, L Thake, S Dobbs, C Pugh, S Jaggard, C Baker-Bates, B Smith, P Annis, G Le Flem, M Leach, K Walker, M Diack, A Aldrich, D Parton, S Dodds-Smith, C Jackson, J Charman, L Sparrow, S Robertson, I Mackintosh, Revd M Garbutt, Revd S Trott, Revd M Pettitt, Revd C Evans, Revd Canon I Gemmell, , N Robertson, A Chantler, Revd S Brown, D Cummings (for R Walton)

Apologies: J Squires, R Walton, G Goodridge, D Charman, C Nelson, E Gowling, A Craigie, D Staveley, K Ball, Revd D Lake,

Minutes of 9 October 2008: Circulated and approved, subject to the following amendments – Mary Lloyd to be included in attendees, Presentation was by **John Reynolds**, DPC entry should read that Revd Sarah Brown was SSM at Welford

Website: It was good to see Alan Chantler back at Deanery Synod after incapacitation. The website would now be updated on receipt of the relevant material from the Secretary.

Revised structure of DPC: The Diocesan Pastoral Committee had been revised and retitled the Northampton Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committee with the intention of making it more mission-focused. The Rural Dean and Lay Chair from each Deanery would serve as ex-officio representatives, with meetings to take place at Bouverie Court. These changes were non-negotiable, having been brought about at Diocesan Synod (N Robertson had voted against this motion). Unhappiness was expressed by Brixworth Deanery Synod about the way the changes had been made and implemented, the apparent waste of experience of those previously serving, and the extra burden on Rural Deans and Lay Chairs. This was especially acute, given the very recent elections of Lay Chairs and representatives to DPC. Barry Smith had received communication from the Diocese indicating that he would no longer be a member of this Committee, and was warmly and widely praised by Deanery Synod for his years of service and knowledge.

A verbal report of Diocesan Synod was delivered by Neil Robertson, and a written summary was circulated to members

Family Care representative: Gill Douglas (Ravensthorpe) was now a Trustee of Family Care and had indicated her willingness to be the Deanery representative. This was approved.

An update on Pastoral matters was given by Revd Clive Evans as follows:

Spencer Benefice: Rector's freehold advertised in Church Times, with interviews due on 23 March 2009

Guiltsborough VIII Revd Michael Pettitt was welcomed to his first Deanery Synod. It was announced that Revd Mark Battison (from Oadby) would be licensed to the benefice in February and would contribute two days a week, according to the Deanery Mission Plan. Legalities relating to the formation of the benefice were proceeding.

Brixworth DMP Our Deanery Mission Plan had been accepted. This is a consultative document, which is not legally binding, reviewed yearly but which represents the 'mind' of the Deanery.

Launde Abbey event: Representatives were sought for the Deanery to collect for this event to take place in May 2009. Reps would need storage space.

Vacancy-in-See: Revd Stephen Trott updated Synod of the process now in hand to select a new Diocesan Bishop to replace Bishop Ian on retirement. Sue Tringham and Revd Stephen represent this Synod on the Vacancy-in-See committee. Work was ongoing to create a specification for the new Bishop and for the candidates. Six nominations would go forward to the Crown Appointments Committee, and a public consultation meeting would take place at St Giles, Northampton on 11 March 2009. Bishop Ian's last function in the Diocese would be the St Peterstide events on 29 June 2009, when the Garden Party would precede the Evensong Service later in the day. It was suggested that other events when synod members could bid farewell to Bishop Ian would be at the Diocesan Lent Days (themed 'Transforming the World').

Rural Dean of Brixworth: Revd Clive Evans announced that having served eight years as Rural Dean, he was due to take a sabbatical and would step down as Rural Dean before leaving for sabbatical. He had very much enjoyed his years as our Dean, and hoped to continue his association with the Deanery on his return, and would be happy to remain on the standing committee. He had therefore tendered his resignation to the Bishop who would now seek a new Rural Dean for Brixworth. Revd Clive was thanked and congratulated for his service to our Deanery and Synod, and wished well for his future sabbatical and work in Long Buckby et al. Clive gave an update on his plans for sabbatical with the South American Anglican Mission Society (SAMS), and his pilgrimage to Santiago - 50 days walking 1000 kilometres at the end of June. He hoped to raise £1 for every kilometre walked, in aid of SAMS and Cancer Research in the UK. He is hoping to raise some sponsorship for the fundraising/charity aspect of his trip and Deanery Synod members were invited to support him in this way (leaflet enclosed with these minutes)

Risk in our churches: A presentation was given by Sam Dobbs, from his perspective as a local police officer and PCC Secretary. A lively discussion ensued, with tips that Synod members could take back to parishes. A copy of the powerpoint presentation has been posted on the Northamptonshire Police website for Brixworth Deanery members. Go to the homepage www.northants.police.uk and click on the Documents button found in the left hand side menu, or the Download Documents button at the bottom of the homepage. On the login box, the username is 'churches' and the password is 1662. This will open up the powerpoint presentation. Any problems, contact Sam on his work email address, which is sam.dobbs@northants.police.uk.