

Bruton & Cary Deanery



**Minutes of the Meeting of Bruton and Cary Deanery Synod
Held at Wincanton Methodist Church on Monday 13th November 2017**

Present

Rev'd Liz Mortimer	Rural Dean
Dr Rob Sage	Lay Chair
Mrs Sue Prager	Assistant Lay Chair
Mrs Alison Drake	Secretary
Other Members of the House of Clergy	9
Other Members of the House of Laity	23
Other Readers	3

Apologies for absence were received from Canon Brian McConnell, Mollie Purse, Lynda Payne, Sue Kellagher, Philip Skelhorn, Helen Corney, Susan Hartnell-Beavis, Julia Crawford-Smith and Andrea Ketley.

The Meeting opened with welcome from the Rural Dean to the Meeting and to the Speaker the Very Rev'd John Davis, Dean of Wells.

Worship was led by the Rev'd Rosy Ashley using Psalm 139.

The Dean of Wells, the Very Revd John Davis spoke on the subject of 'Running a Cathedral and how does the building shape our faith'.

- Organising Large events giving a sense of depth and strength with others gathered in unity.
- Celebrate the landmarks of faith for example the Reformation and World War 1.
- To create initiatives sponsored by the Cathedral following through our faith with action. 250,000 visit every year.
- To allow secular people to find they are not so secular. Visitors come for history but find more.
- Special services and Civil Events as an affirmation of public work.
- Regular Services.
- Childrens' visits from Schools.
- Music.
- Care of the building and fabric.

The Dean then answered questions from the floor.

The Rural Dean thanked the Dean for his interesting talk and the meeting broke for refreshments.

The Rural Dean asked the meeting to consider in groups – ‘What more can you do in your Church to use the building as a resource’?

Answers from groups:

- Advertise ancestry searches for graves/baptisms/weddings.
- Advertise the Church loo is open to draw people in.
- Bell ringers and bell tours.
- Stained glass window explanations.
- Credit unions.
- Connection between village and Church; meet for prayer then lunch in village hall.
- Make Church welcoming, bright and inviting.
- Read and react to the visitors’ book
- Think about first impressions of Church – what word describes it?
- Messy Church, Festivals and Cream Teas.
- Outside lights/flood lights for church. Christmas Tree.
- Special service for all who have been Baptised/Married.

The Rural Dean summed this up as each Church should endeavour to use what we have got!

The Deanery Plan

The final copy Deanery Plan leaflet and supporting documents are ready for circulation and have been passed out to all the parishes. The Plan is already being discussed in PCCs but volunteers are needed for people to champion various sections of the plan.

Previous Minutes were signed as accepted by the Meeting.

Any other Business and Notices

The February Meeting of the Synod will be addressed by Bishop Ruth and the Rural Dean will send invitations to the PCCs and Churchwardens to attend the meeting.

The Rev’d Rosey Lunn will be installed as Vicar at Batcombe on 26th November, 2017 at 3.00pm followed by a cream tea and champagne. All are welcome.

The Rural Dean closed the meeting in prayer

To prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the Body of Christ may be built up (Ephesians 4¹²)