

Bruton & Cary Deanery



**Minutes of the Meeting of Bruton and Cary Deanery Synod
held at Wincanton Methodist Church on Tuesday 12th November 2019 at 7.30 pm**

Present:

Revd Liz Mortimer	Area Dean
Dr Rob Sage	Lay Dean
Mrs Rosemary Rymer	Treasurer

Other Members of House of Clergy	6
Other Members of House of Laity	25

Other Readers	3
Other Guests	3

Apologies for absence were received from: Alison Drake, Steve Gilbert, Michèle Hole, Carole Carter, Philip Skelhorn, Alison Davis, Sue Kellagher, Joy Cross, Marjorie Payne and Buff Powell.

- Opening Worship** was led by Synod members from the Alham Vale benefice and included the hymn 'Jesus is Lord' and a reading from Isaiah chapter 11.

Dr Rob Sage (*Lay Dean*) chaired the meeting.

- Previous Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th July 2019 were agreed and signed.

- Lay Dean's Notices.**

- Secondary School Chaplain

Wendy Hester had been appointed as a chaplain to work one day a week in each of the three secondary schools in the Deanery, King Arthur's in Wincanton, Ansford Academy and Sexey's School, Bruton. Wendy started work the previous week, so please pray for her and the work in the schools. It was hoped that Wendy would be able to come to a Deanery Synod meeting the following year.

- Diocesan Prayer Calendar

It was Bruton & Cary Deanery's turn to provide prayers for the Diocesan Prayer Calendar the previous month. Thank you to Marion Clutterbuck from Six Pilgrims who took that on.

- Greater Chapter Lunch

The previous Friday the Deanery had put on a lunch for the Retired Clergy and Readers who had been helping out with services during the vacancies over the previous year. Thanks were due to Alison Drake, Deanery Secretary, to Jane Jeanes and to Jeannie Stevens from Templecombe who did the cooking and provided an excellent meal that was much appreciated.

- Deanery Secretary

Alison Drake was not at the meeting as she was caring for her father. Thanks were given to Jeremy Pratt for taking the minutes. Alison has had to stand down as Deanery Secretary because of her family commitments so there was a vacancy for a Secretary.

- Clergy Vacancies

- Alham Vale

Revd Helen Drever has been appointed as Vicar of the Alham Vale benefice and would be licensed on Thursday 23rd January. Helen was currently a Curate at Crediton in Devon.

- ii) Wincanton and Pen Selwood
Revd Alison Way had been appointed as Rector of the Wincanton and Pen Selwood benefices and would be licensed on Sunday 23rd February. Alison was currently Vicar of South Nutfield in Southwark Diocese.
- iii) Cam Vale
Cam Vale was currently advertising again with a deadline at the end of November and hopefully interviews in January.
- iv) Bruton, Brewham, Pitcombe and Shepton Montague
Revd Justin Bailey had retired and the benefice of Bruton, Brewham, Pitcombe and Shepton Montague had just begun the appointment process.
- v) Castle Cary and Ansford
It was good to have Revd Liz Mortimer back as Area Dean after her Sabbatical. However, this would be her last Synod meeting as Area Dean as she had been appointed to Christ Church with St Mary's, Frome and would be leaving in January. While this was good news for Frome, it wasn't such good news for this Deanery.

4. **Diocesan Synod Report.** A report on the Diocesan Synods held on 22nd July 2019 and 19th October 2019 is circulated with these minutes.
5. **General Synod.** Jay Greene, elected as a member of General Synod for 2015-2020 by Winchester Diocese and now Deanery Synod Representative for South Barrow, gave a presentation on the work of General Synod. A copy of Jay's presentation is circulated with these minutes and is available on the Deanery website <https://www.bruetonandcarydeanery.net/>.
6. **Refreshments.** Thank you to those who stepped in at the last minute to serve refreshments.
7. **The Church Commissioners.** Jay Greene, also a Church Commissioner, gave a presentation on the work of the Church Commissioners. A copy of Jay's presentation is circulated with these minutes and is available on the Deanery website <https://www.bruetonandcarydeanery.net/>.

On the question (on slide 5) of whether to sell the long-disused church to the Imam of the local Muslim community, 26 people present would sell to the Imam, 8 people would do something else.

8. **Short Discussion.** Proposed trips to learn from other churches.
Suggestions included:
a visit to a younger church
a visit to a retreat house in a rural location to include community groups
a visit to another diocese with multi-parish benefices
a visit to somewhere with an ecumenical project
9. **Election of Officers.**
 - a) Assistant Lay Dean
Jay Greene was elected.
 - b) Deanery Secretary
Jeremy Pratt was elected.
10. **Closing Prayers.** The Area Dean closed the meeting in prayer.

Next Deanery Synod Meeting – Tuesday 3rd March 2020, 7.30 pm at North Barrow Village Hall
(Refreshments: Milborne Port with Goathill and Charlton Horethorne with Stowell)