

Newcastle East Deanery Synod
Thursday 22nd November 2018
at St Anthony's, Byker

Present: Clergy: Rae Caro, Jonathan Cooper, Pat Craighead, Rob Fox, Helen Gill, Stephen Herbert, Robert Lawrance, Jonathan Lawson, Martin Lee, Phil Medley, Avril Taylor & Tracy Usher,

Laity : Andrea Bain, Jennifer Brown, Margaret Colbeck, Sheila Dove, J Etherington, Louisa Fox, Matthew King, Margaret Legge, Trevor Lennox, Marion Pennie, M Phillips, Sandra Potts, Elizabeth Screen, Jenny Trotter, J Ward & Steve Ward

In Attendance:- Canon Ian Flintoff, The Venerable Mark Wroe

The meeting opened in prayer.

Robert Lawrence welcomed Ian Flintoff who is Diocesan Director of Mission and Mark Wroe who is Acting Archdeacon of Northumberland

2.	Apologies: Les Hodson, Arthur Barnes, Jenny Germain, Neal Terry, Johanna Smith, Pearl Scott, Eddie Long, Phillip James, Wynn Findlay	Action
3.	Minutes of the Last Meeting The minutes for the meeting on the 18 th Sept 2018 were agreed as a correct record.	
4.	Matters Arising Item 3 Disability Champion – Following last month's Deanery Synod Meeting, Rob Fox has offered to be a Disability Champion for the Deanery. This was agreed. He offered to visit each Church in the Deanery at their invitation and to talk to PCCs. Item 5 Detached Youth Work – Money has been made available to explore detached youth work. There will be a meeting at St Francis on Tuesday 27 th November for anyone who is interested. Item 9 Chain of Peace –Robert Lawrance will attend the Holocaust Memorial Event on the 29 th of January at St Mary's RC Schools and invited others to join him. Mental Health Awareness –Phil Medley drew attention to the work being done by Tyne and Wear Citizens on mental health awareness.	
5.	Re-imagining the Deanery – presentation and discussion led by Canon Ian Flintoff, Venerable Mark Wroe and The Reverend Robert Lawrance. The diocese is looking to develop a Coherent Ministry Plan. As part of the discussion they would like to hear from the deaneries in order to develop a framework for the future. As part of this discussion they are asking Deaneries to look at 3 questions What is the mission of God? It is not the Church of God which has a mission but the God of Mission who has a Church. We are a called and sent people. What ministry do we need? What resources do we need? They are asking what the deanery's vision is and what has already been put in place. It is important that laity and clergy work together and that we have the grace to receive what God has already given. Are there opportunities which we have which we haven't noticed? They talked about some of the 'levers' we have which enable us to work with God in his mission including Commissioned and Authorised Ministries, Chaplaincy including voluntary, Focal Ministers (Rural), Lay Employees in Ministry, Reader Ministry, Retired Clergy, Self Supporting Clergy. A large proportion of Stipendiary Clergy are due to retire – what might this mean? Vocations. Robert Lawrance outlined what the Deanery Development Group had already done and invited others to join them. He talked about the importance of collaboration	

	<p>between the parishes. The Deanery Vision is Bringing Hope, Growing Communities. A discussion in groups then took place around the following three questions. Following the question are some of the points which were made in the feedback following the discussion.</p> <p>What brings hope? Welcome; Valuing difference; Called into hope for whole community; Things will get better; Relationships; Something better to come; Daring to believe; Sense of belonging; Someone else might care; Communities of gratitude; Use in everyday language; Be there to listen; People being valued for who they are; Get help and support; Hope brings hope; Shining brighter</p> <p>What are the needs of our communities? Language – people from abroad; Vulnerable people; Kids no family life, no love; Loneliness; Be Accepted; How do we know who is in need – not like the old days when everyone knew everyone; How do we get to know people?; Groups are often virtual these days; Work Communities; World changing; Younger people don't expect community where they live; Online – do we need to be more active; Shift Work – don't see people; Problem of living in high rise flats; Positive human contact; poverty; homeless; Mental health problems; Substance abuse</p> <p>How will my Church be willing to collaborate with others to bring hope? MINE doing it already – room to be themselves, willing to embrace difference; Sharing skills; Sharing gifts God has given us; Churches different denominations, across Deanery Border; Churches together in Heaton; Sharing Resources ; Not reinventing the wheel; Each Church hasn't got to do everything; Looking for opportunities; Teaching, Learning, Bible Studies; Lent/Advent Groups; share responsibility; Skills Census; Conversations need to be ongoing</p> <p>The Deanery Development Group will craft a discussion document, which can be discussed at PCCs.</p>	
6	<p>Deanery Share Update The Diocesan Budget for the year 2019 has been decreased by 3.3%. We are on track to pay 94.5% of what has been committed. We are proposing to pay an increased share next year, but both St Mary Magdalene and St Gabriel's won't be able to raise more than their 2018 contribution, so it has been agreed among treasurers and incumbents that the other parishes will offer a rise of 2.3% in Parish contributions.</p>	
7	<p>Notices and News from Parishes St Anthony's has a new window.</p>	
10.	<p>The next meeting of the Deanery Synod will be on the 12th March 2019. All Synod meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend.</p>	