Minutes of the meeting of Southern Ryedale Deanery Gathering (Synod)

11th Feb 2020, St Michael's Church, Malton

In attendance: Rev Martin Allwood, Trish Atkinson, Rachel Baker, Barbara Borrett, Jo Bowden, Janet Burrows, Margaret Clark, Rev Glyn Diggins, Roland Firby, S Galley, Marian Grinrod, Alan Gitsrin, Barbara Grice, Delyth Harran, Rachel Harrison, Mr Hazlerigg, Lady W Holman, Elaine Jones, Beryl Lowe, Janet Nicholson, Jane Ramsden, Mari Richards, Daphne Rose, Cate Tate-Smith, Rev Stephen Walker, Adrian Watson, David White

Apologies: M Boothroyd, Rev M Hall

1. Welcome

CW welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened in prayer.

2. Business

- **Minutes**: JG noted a correct spelling of Martyn Boothroyd. The minutes were approved with no matters arising.
- Alison Hutchinson was to be appointed as Reader in the Howardian Benefice. Her licensing was on 23rd February, 2pm at Terrington. Alison was to take on a new role as Focal Minister.
- **Finance**: parishes were praying about their FWO for 2020 and likely to show a drop of 7 per cent from the previous year. Many parishes were operating on a 'hand-to-mouth' basis and were paying when they had the resources available. Final accounts were being prepared. If income did not exceed 250K, the Independent Examination did not need to be undertaken by a qualified accountant.
- **Deanery Funds**: £100 per benefice was requested for deanery funds.
- **Important dates**: 23rd Feb, Alison Hutchinson's licensing, 2nd June Deanery Gathering, 6th June Archbishop Sentamu's final service, 18th July Deanery Resource Day.
- **Past Care Review**: the Church of England was committed to improving its practices relating to safeguarding. It was therefore asking all parishes to report any 'known acts' from the past which had been reported to the diocese but which had not been dealt with.
- **Rev Rachel Hirst** was retiring and her leaving service was on 26th April. Our thoughts and prayers were with Rachel and Andy.

3. Handover for Lay Dean

- Jo Bowden stepped down as Lay Dean. It was proposed that Sue Teal would be appointed Lay Dean. This was proposed by Janet Nicholson and seconded by Beryl Lowe. The Deanery thanked Jo for her hard work with an amazon voucher. Jo was happy to remain part of the Deanery around the fringes.
- Sue Teal recapped the vision for the deanery and noted that it was the deanery people who kept it going. The DLT was there to bring life and breath to what the Deanery wanted.

4. Where is our Deanery Heading?

- Reach, Grow, Sustain it was noted that this year, we would think about growing. Growth needed to be bottom-up, acknowledging that what works in one area does not work in another. Growth was not simply growing numerically but also in spirituality.
- Feedback and proposals for Resource Days
 - o Deepening spirituality
 - Nourishing congregations
 - Collaborative away/quiet days
 - People would be prepared to pay
 - Partnerships between benefices and team ministries could release a wealth of talent
 - More interfaith working

- Priority was growth
- It could all be described as discipleship new ideas would emerge through discipleship

• Proposal for next Resource Day

- o Listening course
- How to run a house group
- Unpacking church barriers to...

• Forthcoming opportunities

• Talking Jesus course from Wed 4 Mar, 7-8.30pm - email Rev Glyn Diggins to book

5. 'Come and See'

The 'Come and See' team promoted the Bishops' Mission with a film and publicity. 'Come and See' was the Northern Bishops' Mission to the Diocese of York, led by the Archbishop and taking place from 12th-15th March 2020. Southern Ryedale would be joined by Bishop Beverley Mason and her team. Each parish in Southern Ryedale would host its own events. There was to be a final celebration service at St Peter's to which all parishes were invited. It would be the only act of worship in the deanery that day. A small lunch for the visiting team and organisers would be provided by Sue Teal and Delyth Harran.

6. Thy Kingdom Come

It was noted briefly that following the Bishops' Mission, a small multi-benefice group was keen to organise some deanery prayer events. More to follow.

Next meeting: 6th June 2020 (Rev Glyn Diggins to lead opening worship on the rocky places in the parable)