AMERSHAM DEANERY SYNOD

Minutes of the Amersham Deanery Synod meeting held 19th June 2025 in The Christ Church, Holmer Green commencing at 8pm.

Present: House of Clergy: Michelle Fotherby, Lucy Fyfe-Jamieson, Christoph Lindner, Brian Ludlow, Victoria Jones, Peggy Ludlow (AD), Daf Merion-Jones, Jeremy Moodey, Debbie Oades, Jonny Rapson, Sharon Roberts, Graham Summers, Jenny Tebboth, Samuel Thorp.

House of Laity:

Sarah Ainsworth-Coles, Heather Ashby-Rose, Anthony Bargioni, Jean Batchelor, Andrew Bell, David Carter, Janine Dunnell, Julie Dziegiel (Hon Treasurer), Roger Edwards, Chris Embleton-Smith, Hilary Forbes, Francesca Hall -Drinkwater, Jacqui Hardman, Jackie Lambert, Mary Lee, Sandy Leighton-Jones, Marion Miles, Peter Miles, Hazel Miller, Ian Mitton, John Nash, Mark Nicholas, Andrew Patterson, Derek Portwood, Dorothy Potter, Hilary Povey, Jacqueline Rose, Don Sanderson, Helen Savage, John Spence, Lawrence Tebboth (Lay Chair), Kristel Van Wauwe, Joan Wainman, Eddie Weiss.

In attendance

Hon Secretary. Dorothy Potter.

Apologies: House of Clergy:

Matt Beeby, Dan Beesley, Edward Bowes-Smith, Sue Gill, Edward Millais, Margot Suter, Lloyd Davis, Charmaine Muir.

Apologies House of Laity:

Margaret Gingell, Tom Kitching, David Knowles, Brian O'Regan, Stephanie Shinner, Nicholas Thompson, Wynne Thorndike, Caroline Wiggins, Catherine Wood.

Visitors: Corrine Summers, Estelle Foster, David Winder, Christine Edwards, Rev'd Tim Barnard.

Mr Lawrence Tebboth (Lay Chair) was Chair for the meeting.

1) The meeting began at 8 pm with the Chair welcoming the Synod. We are grateful for the use of the building, and for the refreshments provided. Rev'd Daf Merion-Jones opened the meeting with prayer, worship and bible reading from 2 Chronicles 13;1-17.

2) Apologies – these will be taken from the signing in sheet, in addition to those given to the Secretary ahead of the meeting.

3) Minutes of the Last Meeting – 28th November 2024:
These were approved.

4) Matters Arising.
General Synod is due to meet from 11th July – we have three members on General Synod: Rev'd Jeremy Moodey, Mr Andrew Bell, and Canon Julie Dziegiel.

5) Area Dean's Notes. Amersham Deanery welcomes Rev'd Lloyd Davis as Team Vicar at St Thomas' Beaconsfield, and Rev'd Sam Frampton who will be licensed at Chalfont St Peter on 29th July.

6) Any Other Business: None

Amersham Deanery Synod was suspended.

The Annual General Meeting of the Amersham Deanery Trust was opened

Canon Dziegiel (Hon Treasurer) presented the 2024 Accounts for Amersham Deanery Trust to the Deanery for the members to accept.

It was noted that while it was planned to rebate £16k tp parishes, this was not done as following a rebate by Oxford Diocese, the Parish Share had been reduced, meaning that there had been overpayment by parishes in 2024. The overpayment is being carried forward to reduce payments in 2025.

It was then proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was done by a show of hands. There were no votes against, but 2 abstentions.

Canon Dziegiel gave thanks for the long term support by the late Michael Hardman as Independent Examiner to the Amersham Deanery Trust. Mr David Steel, Treasurer at Gerrards Cross had taken on this role for the 2024 accounts.

It was proposed that David be appointed the Independent Examiner for 2025.

This was accepted by a show of hands. There were no votes against, but 2 abstentions.

The Trust Budget 2025 was presented. The proposal is to rebate ½% for all parishes paying in full. The £18k held in reserves are slowly being used to assist parishes.

It was then proposed to accept the Budget for 2025.

This was accepted by a show of hands. There were no votes against, but 2 abstentions.

The AGM of the Amersham Deanery Trust was closed and Amersham Deanery Synod re-opened.

7) Mission Action Planning

Rev'd Peggy Ludlow (Area Dean) spoke about Mission Action Planning and how parish Mission Action Plans (MAP's) are needed and need reviewing.

Rev'd Jonny Rapson, Rector of Amersham with Coleshill, presented how the Mission Action Plan came about. He didn't set out to write one. It started with a PCC Away Day to look at what we do well, and this was Community; Welcome; Worship. We then looked at how to build on this: Pastoral Care;

Outreach; Supporting Young Children. The aim is to have another away day to continue and develop with what has been achieved so far.

Rev'd Peggy Ludlow led prayers of thanks for Rev'd Jonny Rapson and what the parish are doing and achieving.

Rev'd Peggy Ludlow then introduced Rev'd Samuel Thorp, Vicar Penn and Tylers Green.

Rev'd Samuel spoke about the putting together of a Mission Action Plan – make them useful! MAP have a habit of a small number of people being involved with them and then filed away. When looked at again ¾ of the aspirations had been done. Important things to consider: keep the admin consistent; The PCC had four areas of focus: mission, pastoral care and discipleship, worship, governance. The APCM can be the ideal time to look at where we are at with the MAP.

Rev'd Peggy Ludlow led the Synod in prayers of thanks for Rev'd Samuel Thorp and for the work involved with the MAP.

There was a group discussion for 15 minutes and a Q & A time.

The presentation slides from the evening are on the Deanery Website.
https://www.amershamdeanery.org.uk/ddocuments.html

Rev'd Daf Merion-Jones closed the meeting with the Grace at 9.30pm.

Next Deanery Synod Meeting is Thursday 11th September – Venue to be Announced.