

Deanery Synod Report 2023
To the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

At November 2023 meeting:

Rev Nick Scott, Anglican chaplain at HMP Long Lartin, gave a short talk on his role in the Category A high security prison which holds 600 highly dangerous men. Nick explained his challenging ministry there which he considers to be a privilege to fulfil. The Synod were extremely interested to hear about Nick's work and keen to ask further questions, including about 'The Welcome Directory' which Pershore Abbey has signed up to, and there were questions about personal safety. Nick explained that he is hoping to set up a chaplaincy clothing scheme and was asked to let the Deanery Synod know if it can help. Nick explained that there is a volunteer chaplaincy which runs the prisoner visitors programme and a Sunday friends scheme, where people can join in with the worship and fellowship, which has an enormous impact on the prisoners who attend. However, vetting is very slow.

Rev Katryn Leclizio asked parishes to consider raising funds for the Morogoro Bible College Scholarship Fund which trains Ordinands and Evangelists. Katryn spoke of her visit as part of the Diocesan partnership link and asked if parishes could ask for donations, maybe as people attend a course or event.

At March 2024 meeting:

Simplifying the Parish

Revd Alison Maddocks, Dean of Smaller Churches, was invited to present suggestions for making the governance of parishes less onerous. Consider the current situation where there can be many governing bodies (PCCs) per incumbent, Clergy are too stretched and Lay roles are duplicated. An aspiration would be to have one governing body per incumbent. Alison offered to speak to PCCs about how this might look in the context of their specific locality.

New Housing

A paper prepared by Jack Hegarty emphasised that this deanery will be taking the greater share of the new housing planned for South Worcestershire, some of which will include significant numbers: Worcester Parkway 10K, Throckmorton 5K, Mitton 1K and Rushwick 1K. Work is anticipated to start within 2 years at Worcester Parkway. These large developments will have huge social impact. Archdeacon Mark Badger is having meetings with developers and is looking at what could be done ecumenically.

Deanery Eco-champion

Many churches have now achieved Eco awards. The Deanery would like to have someone who can be a conduit for information and be the key person to meet with other Eco-champions across the Diocese. Please contact Rev Sarah Dangerfield if interested, or pass on to others who may be interested in this role.

Deanery positions

Appointments are for a period of 3 years.

Rev Sarah Dangerfield has been appointed by Bishop John to continue as

Area Dean for Pershore & Evesham.

Robin Lunn as Deanery Chairman and Alison Sandham as Deanery Secretary have been re-elected for a further period.

The position of Deanery Treasurer has not previously been filled and is currently vacant. This is an important role who will also be part of the Deanery Leadership Team.

Diocesan Elections to Diocesan Synod

Elections to choose deanery representatives on the Diocesan Synod are due to take place. There are 3 meetings a year. There will be 10 House of Laity positions and 8 House of Clergy representative places for this deanery. If there are fewer nominations than places, then nominees will be automatically elected.

Future Deanery Synod meetings will take place on Tuesday 23rd July 2024, 7:30pm Deanery Synod at St Andrew's Centre, Pershore, and there will be an Open Deanery Service with Archdeacon Mark Badger at All Saints, Evesham on Tuesday 12th November 2024, 7:00pm

Sarah Beasley
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