



# SEVERN VALE DEANERY

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at St George's, Brockworth

Present:

Clergy: Canon R Mitchell, Revds. D Gill, J Walden, A Lomas, J Longuet-Higgins, P Phillips, S Mason, P Donald, S Dangerfield, A Jones,

Laity: Mrs K Carpenter, Mrs M Barnes, Mrs R Cottell, Mrs H Cotton, Mr R Ashenden, Mr J Myrans, Mr G Davies, Miss E Castle, Mr R Cook, Miss F Pearce, Mr C Hill, Mr R Parker, Dr A Nicol, Mrs C May, Mrs M McGhee, Mr D Sanderson, Mr A Hawker-Bond, Mrs M Mitchell, Mr H James, Mrs E Frampton, Mrs J Smith, Mr D Wright, Mrs S Hargreave, Mrs C Hitchins, Mr P Cotton, Mrs F Down, Mrs S Padfield (Chair)

Apologies:

Clergy: Revds: J Perkin, C Ingram, C Sterry, S Skepper, S Taylor, S Hobbs, I Gobey

Laity: Mrs F Croxon-Hall, Miss M Swinley, Mr N Langstone, Mrs R Clowes, Mrs B Fellowes, Mrs M Richardson, Mrs J Corless, Mr C Thomson, Mrs R Blandford, Mr C Jakeman, Mr S Riddick

**Opening Prayers:** Prayers were led by Revd. Jane Walden

**Minutes:** of the Meeting 3 March 2015 were approved and no matters were raised.

Sue welcomed David Sanderson from Highnam to his first meeting and wished Sarah Dangerfield, for whom this was her last synod, well for the future. She also welcomed Alistair and Liz Wasey to the meeting. She issued a stern reminder that Synod had unanimously agreed to support the Christian Aid project but that many parishes had not yet sent in any contribution. Synod members should encourage their churches to send in their contributions.

## **Journeying Together: Developing Discipleship**

1. Sarah Dangerfield introduced Table Talk which is a means of starting conversations with a small group of people. The concept is for a host to invite a few others for a meal or a drink and play this as a type of game which has a selection of cards each posing a question based around a chosen theme with the idea of simply starting conversations. Some of the questions have a spiritual slant but most do not. There are many different versions of the game available both as a pack and for ipad. (See [www.table-talk.org](http://www.table-talk.org) for more details). The diocese has purchased one pack of Table Talk for Friends for each benefice and these were handed out to those that were represented. Synod then played the game for a short while to get the feel of it.
2. Modulo – Roger introduced a course that he is in the process of writing as a series of modules which is intended to be a more basic introduction to faith than courses such as Alpha and he handed out the sheets for module 1 as an example. This course can be downloaded free of charge from [www.dymockchurch.net](http://www.dymockchurch.net)

3. Richard introduced Alistair and Liz Wasey, a young couple from St John's Churchdown, who have tried to address the question of how Christians develop as disciples from a very basic knowledge of Christianity to fully committed and serving members of Christ's body. Alistair presented their 'Draft Framework for Continuous Christian Development' as a work in progress but asked that we consider it and give feedback on anything that could be changed or improved. The synod then discussed this for a while and there followed a short question and answer session with the Waseys. The general feeling was that this was a useful approach to something not normally tackled in such a clear way.

**Parish Share Report:** Roger handed out sheets showing the status of Parish Share giving for the current year and gave a résumé of the new means of allocating Parish Share that had been approved at the recent Diocesan Synod and of the new funds that are shortly to be set up to support active mission. (This is more fully explained in the Diocesan Synod report already circulated).

**Treasurer's Report:** Hazel gave the current balance in the Synod account as £1511.03 with a further £2125.78 in the Christian Aid fund.

**Diocesan Synod Elections:** Only six nominations (out of eight) for the House of Laity and three (out of six) for the House of Clergy had been received by the closing date so there would not need to be an election.

**Diocesan Synod Report:** A report on the meeting which took place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June had already been circulated by Robert.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October