



Midsomer Norton Deanery

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7.30pm

St John's, Church Square, Midsomer Norton, Bath BA3 2HX

1. Welcome & Apologies from:

Robert Law, Julia Neesam, Judy Baker, Derek Livsey, Hilary Denning, Jo Vening, Carol Moore, Leisa Thorne, Mike Davies, Sally Griffiths
Adam Pitt, Julian Davies, Philip Hopper, Stephen Miles,
Louise Wilmot, Catherine Gray

2. Act of Worship (*led by the Benefice of East Mendip Trinity*)

including Lena's story and a modern retelling of The Good Samaritan.

3. The Benefice of East Mendip Trinity shares a little about what it has been doing and what it plans to do:

Holcombe Monday am coffee, Coleford Friendship (Lent) Friday, Kilmersdon Fete and BBQ.
Benefice choir leading 4-5 services each year. School outreach, 5th Sunday benefice service, World day of prayer.

4. Synod prays for the Benefice of East Mendip Trinity.

5. Minutes of the Deanery Synod meeting held on 12th October 2023 at 7.30pm - agreed.

6. Finance - *Barrymore*

Current a/c £3,300 deposit £4,600

7. *Update* from the Somer Valley Foodbank - *Paul Woodward*

Number of vouchers issued has fallen a little but more referral agencies have been signed up. With the Salvation Army closing, the MSN DC has to move. The need for a new project manager and warehouse manager will arise soon. We have a good number of volunteers and are talking to the Wheels Project about a replacement van following problems with the current (ageing) vehicle. The CAB/Wellbeing Hub referrals are working well. We continue to be grateful to all the churches who continue to support the Somer Valley Foodbank and particularly to those who open their doors to the DC's. Finance and Food donations are strong and we are very grateful to the churches for their ongoing support. We are also looking to the wider community via Give Today <https://somervalley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/donate-food-online/>

8 **Main Item** - Deployment of Resources - *Update*

- Implications of proposed new Benefice share system

See attached document Deployment of Resources.

Matthew went through this document which shows the implications for the MSN Deanery if the proposed changes to the Common Fund (parish share) are accepted by Diocesan Synod in the summer. There has been a consultation throughout the diocese and any of those who attended should make sure they have given their feedback and comments. Matthew said he would be pleased to go to any PCC meetings to explain the document to PCC members if it would be helpful.

9. Ministry to Children and Young People - *continued from last meeting*

Nathanael followed up Stephen Miles talk at the last meeting with more about "Mondays in Chilcompton". This event is seen as very much part of church but not a service in the traditional way. The priorities are relationships and building community. Many families find themselves lonely and isolated this gives fruitful opportunities to build key relationships.

Rich Miles brought attention to the audit for children and young people and encouraged any churches who haven't yet completed it to do so

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/2024-audit-of-children-youth-and-families-work-across-the-diocese-now-live-.php>

10. Review of Deanery Alpha Course

This was genuinely a deanery-wide course and lives are being changed. A new course will start in the Autumn - please encourage people to come along.

11. Lay Worship Leader's Course

This course is to train lay worship assistants to lead services where there may not be clergy or readers available to do so. The course starts on April 8th for 8 weeks and is already well subscribed. Do encourage anybody who thinks they are being called to this ministry to look into it.

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/ministry/lay-worship-assistants/how-to-become-an-lwa>

12. Deanery Prayer Group

13 *Update* on Deanery Newsletter - Please continue to send news to Katie Chapman: msn deanery@gmail.com

14. AOB

Diocesan Synod. We are represented on Diocesan Synod house of clergy by Ian Rousell and Esther Smith to whom we are very grateful. Both our lay representatives have stood down so we have two vacancies and with important votes coming up on parish share amongst other things, it would be good to have representation from the MSN deanery. If you, a member of your PCC or a member of the wider congregation on the electoral roll would be interested in standing, please have a word with your Vicar and or Jane Street, Deanery Secretary.

Deanery Timetable of Events for 2024

2024	Event
Saturday February 10th 2024	Deanery Marriage Preparation Day A - St John's - Chilcompton
Saturday May 18th 2024	Deanery Marriage Preparation Day B - HTCD - Combe Down
Sunday July 28th 2024	Annual Deanery Service

Date of the next Deanery Synod Meeting:

Wednesday 12th June 2024 at St John's, Church Road, Peasedown St John, BA2 8AA (*Worship and Testimony from the Timsbury Benefice*)

Dates for further meetings starting at 7.30pm:

Thursday 10th October 2024 at St John's Church Hall, Church Lane, Chilcompton, Radstock BA3 4HP (*Worship and Testimony from Chilcompton*)