

Standing Committee of the St Davids Diocesan Conference

Meeting 19 December 2018

in Board Room Abergwili

MINUTES

Present:

Right Revd J S Penberthy (Chair)

Very Revd Dr S Rowland Jones

Ven M A Farah

Mrs E Thomas

Sister V Legg

Ven P R Mackness

Ven D P Davies

Revd Canon A M Chadwick

Revd C A Mansell (Secretary)

Mr H Llewellyn

Ms T A Briggs

Mr NCP Griffin

Apologies:

Mrs E E E Thomas

Ven Dr W A Strange

Mrs S G Jones

Mr N D Roberts

Mr A Jenkins

Revd Canon L L Richardson

In Attendance:

Revd Canon Dr Rh M Johnson

Revd M Osborne

The meeting opened with prayer.

1) **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from those listed above.

2) **Minutes of the Last Meeting (25/09/2018)**

It was proposed by Mr N C P Griffin and seconded by Sister V Legg that minutes of the last meeting should be accepted as a true and accurate record. This was passed, and the Chair signed the minutes.

3) **Elections**

Names of those who may be interested in being co-opted on the Governing Body were suggested: Revd Marianne Osborne, Ven Mones Farah, Mr Tim Llewellyn, Mrs Helen Booklass, Amy Lewis (under 30 years old) and that Ven P R Mackness be co-opted on to the Provincial Standing Committee. It was suggested that Revd V Jones could be approached for other names for those under 30.

Action 1: CM to submit names.

4) **LMAs**

Progress report by Revd M Osborne

It was reported that there are 6 LMAs inaugurated to date. There are escalating worries though about the need for each member of the LMA council to be a Trustee of the registered charity which every LMA will likely become. There was further discussion around this topic and it was agreed that there is a requirement for someone to be a point of contact for these concerns, a Diocesan expert of sorts.

Action 2: PRM and HL agreed to do more research on the process of charity registration and will be the Diocesan focal point for this.

It was also reported that there is much scaremongering and negativity around the LMA plans. There was a plea made to standing committee members to take responsibility wherever possible and turn the conversations around.

Regrouping and Boundary Changes

Boundary changes were proposed ahead of the formation of the new LMAs of Narberth & Tenby; Bro Dyfri; Emlyn; and South West Pembrokeshire in March and April 2019.

Parishes and LMAs to be merged....

The Parishes of Narberth w Moun-ton w Robeston Wathen & Crinow & Minwear w Templeton; the Parishes of St Issell's & Amroth (w historic parishes of Crunwere & Marros); Parishes of Jeffrey-ston w Reynoldston w Loveston (United Parish) & Martletwy w Lawrenny & Yerbeston; The Caldey LMA: - The United Parish of St Florence & Manorbier and the Rectorial Benefice of Tenby (including St Mary's, St Lawrence, St Julian's, St Anne's, St Nicholas); The Kilgetty LMA (part):- Parishes of Begelly w Ludchurch & East Williamston.

That the United Benefice of Narberth & Tenby becomes a Deanery, known as the Deanery of Narberth and Tenby. Revd Martin Cox will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge, Area Dean and LMA Dean at the inauguration.

From the current Bro Dyfri Local Ministry Area:- Cilycwm & Ystrad-ffin w St Barnabas, Rhandirmwyn & Llanfair-ar-y-Bryn (Cynghordy); Cynwyl Gaeo w Llansawel & Talley & Abergorlech; Llandingat (Llandoverly) w Myddfai; Llansadwrn w Llanwrda & Manordeilo. From the Tywi Cothi Local Ministry Area:- Llangadog w Gwynfe w Llanddeusant (of Tywi Cothi Local Ministry Area.)

That the current Local Ministry Area of Bro Dyfri continue in name as the (expanded) Bro Dyfri LMA. That the United Benefice of Bro Dyfri be known also as the Deanery of Bro Dyfri. That the Tywi Cothi Local Ministry Area be dissolved. Revd Ian Aveson will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge, Area Dean and LMA Dean at the inauguration service.

Llandysul w Bangor Teifi w Henllan & Llanfairollwyn w Llangynllo, Llanfihangel-ar-arth w Capel Dewi, Llangeler w Pen-boyr. Grouped Benefice of Newcastle Emlyn & Llandyfriog & Troedyrur & Cenarth & Henllan & Cilrhedyn

That The United Benefice of Emlyn becomes a Deanery, to be known as the Deanery of Emlyn (replacing the Deanery already in existence by the same name).

Revd Canon Dewi Roberts will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge, Area Dean and LMA Dean at the inauguration service.

The United Parish of Pembroke Dock (St John's, St Teilo's, St Patrick's). From the Kilgetty LMA:- Carew, Redberth, Cosherton, Nash. Rectorial Benefice of Monkton (Monkton, Hundleton, Pembroke, Stackpole, Bosherton, St Twynells, Angle, Lamphey).

That the United Benefice of SW Pembrokeshire becomes also the SW Pembrokeshire Deanery. The current Deanery of Pembroke be reduced in number to reflect this change, the remaining parishes in this Deanery consist of the Landsker Local Ministry Area.

Revd Peter Jones will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge, Area Dean and LMA Dean at the inauguration service.

Ven P R Mackness proposed that these changes be accepted, this was seconded by Ven D Davies and was passed unanimously.

5) Evangelism Bids

Two Diocesan bids are being developed to obtain a share of the provincial evangelism fund and an overview of each was presented to the Standing Committee.

The Dean presented the Cathedral's bid which aims to build on the history and tradition of Welsh Christianity and make it "a springboard to a living reality". *Interpretation* is the theme of this bid, which is seeking £70k. This project sits alongside Bangor Cathedral's bid as both are being presented together (at the advice of Simon Lloyd).

Ven M Farah and Mr H Llewelyn gave an overview of the second project which has been scoped in conjunction with Church Army, centring on two new centres of mission; one in Llanelli and the other in Cross Hands. The project cost was on the region of £3million (this being a conservative estimate). They received feedback that this project needs to have a bigger narrative such that the project has flexibility to develop Ven M Farah's evangelism work into the future.

There was a general show of hands in support of the projects. One member of Standing Committee did advise after the meeting that he abstained from the vote on the Cathedral bid, having reservations about its qualification as evangelism.

The project overview documents need to be submitted by 11th January and the Diocese will be advised of the outcome on 8th February.

6) Representation

In light of the change to parish structures and the creation of LMAs, the Standing Committee and Bishop had appointed the Archdeacon of St Davids to convene a small working party to look at how LMAs would affect representation on various Diocesan Bodies, especially the Diocesan Conference. A small group has been formed to look at this and will report back fully at the March meeting. The current thinking to date is that each LMA will be treated equally, with representatives sought from worship leaders, youth reps, their Reader contingent and LMA Chairs, as well as ordinary lay members, seeking always to achieve more lay representation than clergy.

As this would require constitutional change to achieve this the Archdeacon of St Davids proposed that the Standing Committee agree to extend the life of the current Diocesan Conference by one year in order to give the time needed for the LMAs to form, rather than holding two sets of elections in quick succession and operating a two-tier system. Mrs E Thomas seconded the proposal. The proposal was agreed by the Standing Committee.

7) Rurality and Resourcing in the Diocese of St Davids

Presentation by Revd Canon Dr R Johnson

This was a very interesting report which drew on clergy numbers, population, ministry share expectations, LMA groupings and geography (urban to deep rural). Some ways forward were suggested in response to the numbers – from church closure to multi church benefices; the minster model to the focal ministry model – with conclusions drawn from the latest work by Bob Jackson. Rhiannon was thanked for the time and effort she put into the presentation. After some discussion it was agreed that the data contained within this presentation is studied further and that the subject of *resourcing ministry* is kept on the agenda of the Standing Committee.

Action 3: CM ensure that this happens

8) Reports of the Diocesan Committees

DCSR report was received in absence of SRO Revd Chris Lewis- Jenkins, who was unable to be present due to ill health

Diocesan Mission Directorate was presented by the Archdeacon of St Davids in the absence of the Archdeacon of Cardigan, who was unable to present due to ill health. The report was received with thanks and points noted regarding the need to have continuity regarding the calendar of intercessions and the need to reflect more on the future provision of children and youth ministry in the Diocese.

9) 2018 Diocesan Conference Feedback

There was generally positive feedback. People enjoyed the variety of presentations and different voices; Ven Will Strange's comparing was enjoyed and commended as was the youth presentation; Q & A was well received. The venue however seemed tired and dated and the catering arrangements left much to be desired. The view was it's time to look elsewhere in future.

Next year, keep Q & A on the agenda. Possibly cover the Diocesan financial situation and ministry share difficulties in more depth, presenting a better view of the reality on the ground; and possibly present the Conference with the annual budget.

10) AOB

There was no other business.

11) Date and Time of Next Meetings:

Tuesday 19th March 2pm
Thursday 20th June 10.30am (all day)
Tuesday 24th September 2pm
Thursday 12th December 2pm

The meeting closed with prayer.