



Reigate Deanery Synod Meeting Minutes

Date:	Tuesday 4 th February 2020, 8pm		
Venue:	All. Saints Church, Merstham		
Meeting Chair:	Revd Anita Colpus		
Note Taker/Secretary:	Judith O'Connell (judith@stlukesreigate.org.uk)		
Attendees:	46	Apologies:	28

	ITEM	Lead/ Action
1	Welcome by Revd Anita Colpus (Area Dean) Thank you to Mark and All. Saints, Merstham for hosting us. Anita introduced Judith (new Deanery Secretary) to everyone.	Anita
2	Review of Minutes of Reigate Deanery Synod Meeting held at St Luke's Church, Church Road, Reigate RH2 8HY on 17 th October 2019. Signed as an accurate record by Anita. All places on Diocesan Synod have now been filled. There is a Diocesan Synod next month and we have a complete representation from within the Deanery. Thanks given to all who have stepped forward to undertake this important role.	Anita
3	<u>Financial Report from the Treasurer</u> The accounts from last year will be presented formerly at the next meeting. Some highlights given from the past year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received grants for Youth Work which has been used by St. Luke's, St. Michael's and St. Margaret's. • TV/Wi-Fi received by refugee families. • Parish contribution requests were very late last year, apologies, hopefully they won't be so late this year. Thank you to those who completed their payments so rapidly. Anita thanked Fiona for all her work as Treasurer.	Fiona
4	<u>A CELEBRATION!</u> Presentations on the following areas were celebrated... <u>Refugees (Chris Elliott)</u> Reigate & Banstead started in 2015 to help refugee families from Syria and Chris & Andrew Cunningham went to see what Reigate Deanery could do to help. There was a list of things that could be provided and television and wi-fi was on the list and Synod agreed this was something that Reigate Deanery should support. Have so far provided 10 televisions and wi-fi for 6 families and this has been very successful and much appreciated. Other refugee families are to be supported by R&B moving forward and this is something the Deanery may well continue to support. <u>Social Justice (Kerry Evans)</u> Reigate Archdeaconry Social Justice Focus (RASJF) has come together and incorporates representatives from Reigate Deanery, Tandridge Deanery and Sutton Deanery. They currently focus on 3 main areas of Social Justice needs: 1. Modern Slavery, 2. Youth Violence & 3. County Lines. A forum was put on to cover the 3 issues above. It became clear that there were crossovers in these areas and also with domestic violence and teenage mental health, so these have been added to the areas to be focused on by RASJF.	



Kerry asked for 2 actions:

1. If you're not already on the mailing list, they will be sending out a newsletter 3 times a year. If you don't want to be on the list as part of the synod mailing list then please let Kerry know, via email: RASocialJustice@gmail.com or you can sign-up to receive it by [clicking here](#).
2. There is a list of help numbers that can be put up in your churches.
[Click here to download the poster](#). Please print off and put up if you can.

Thy Kingdom Come (Alison Elson)

Thy Kingdom Come has been happening across the Deanery for the last 2 years and has four elements to it: The Ascension Day service; A prayer space for the public all week in Redhill Tabernacle; A prayer walk and Pentecost in the Park.

Dates for Thy Kingdom Come this year:

Thursday 21st May – **Ascension Day Service** - Reigate Hill, Wray Lane,
6.30pm picnic, 7.00pm service

Friday 22nd - Saturday 30th May – **Prayer Space** - Redhill Tabernacle, Station
Road, Redhill, 8.00am-6.00pm

Saturday 23rd May - **Prayer Walking** (more details to follow)

Sunday 31st May - **Pentecost in the Park** - Redhill Memorial Ground,
London Road, 3.30pm-5.00pm

Alison would also like to find out what other churches are doing, and to spread the word so things can be done collectively. Please email her on:

alison@stlukesreigate.org.uk

Conferences (Andrew Cunnington)

Our conferences have enabled relationships to grow between the church and local authorities (and other volunteer agencies) and those without church affiliation. We all realise that individually we can no longer meet the full needs of others in isolation and working together is more beneficial. Conferences can be very powerful. Bringing together people from both sacred and secular backgrounds to focus on wider community issues and discover a common passion to make life better for people.

The Deanery have run 3 conferences (2 @ St. Matthews, 1 @ St. Bede's School). Churches have done this working together and been the enabler to bring people together, which has proved really valuable and important.

We also ran a Carer's Conference and more recently the Social Justice Forum (as referred to by Kerry)

We have had great days – but we always need to ask "What Next?".

Quiet Days (Christine Elliott)

We host a Quiet Day on the Saturday before Palm Sunday (this year Sat 4th April) at Wychcroft, near Bletchingly.

Wychcroft is a Southwark Diocesan Training Centre set in a Victorian country house which is an ideal place for a Quiet Day and generates an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity. The day is from 9.30am – 4pm with 3 sessions, Eucharist and an appointed speaker. There are quiet times in between for reflection or wandering around the beautiful grounds. It provides a lovely time to be peaceful. Refreshments & lunch are provided. A quiet day is an excellent way to lead into Holy Week. Speakers always give everyone lots to think about and take away.

[The form for this year's Quiet Day can be downloaded by clicking here.](#)



Youth & Children – Parish Reps (Rachel Gardner)

5 years ago Southwark Diocese had an idea to have Parish Reps and a “Deanery Champion” for Youth & Children working together.

Having active Parish Reps for children and young people from all churches would be really useful. The meetings and community are very valuable to enable joined up and focused work.

Rachel put out a plea for a contact within each church. Can be a job share.

Would like to have a rep from each church to be part of the Youth/Children network. For more information, please contact Rachel on: spcwcfm@gmail.com

Deanery Financial Support of Youth Trips (Amy Reeves)

Amy is a youth worker at St. Margaret’s, Chipstead. Last year the Deanery helped fund a youth group sailing week to the Norfolk Broads, led by Amy. The Deanery funded the mini-bus so they could all travel up together and paid for two of the young people who otherwise couldn’t afford to go.

Twelve young people went along for sailing and did lots of fun activities and shared worship. Was a great learning and growing weekend for the everyone involved. The trip is happening again this year with 9 booked so far and hopes for 2 more.

This trip is only possible because of the support of the Deanery for children within the wider church family (so thank you to everyone who supports this!).

Wholeness & Healing Services (Libby Green)

In 2015 a small group of interested people within the Deanery explored the possibility of a Healing Ministry. They wanted to offer periodic services within the Deanery to churches where healing services were not necessarily part of what they would do.

The first service was held at All Saints, Merstham in July 2016 and since had many other services. The services are described as “a time to rest and worship in God’s presence”.

They involve music, bible readings, sometimes eucharist and each service has a time for quietness and reflection and bringing hurt and pain to God. A major part is seeking (and receiving) individual prayer at a prayer station.

Next Service is at All Saints, Merstham - 29th March – “Come and See!”

Courses We Run (David Keiller)

Ran a course 2 years ago which arose out of Synod discussion around the 5 marks of mission.

The course was around “How Can I Tell?”, which is sometimes quite difficult, but important. The course had two parts: 1st part – “What should we tell?” and the 2nd part – “How should we go out and tell people?”

People tend to come to courses run in their own church – so be good to do the courses in different churches to draw in different people to learn together.

Make Lunch (Alison Elson)

At Feb Synod meeting last year we heard about the issue of “holiday hunger”. This is something over past year looking at what our response should be as a Deanery. Meeting being held on Monday 10th Feb at St. Luke’s Church, 7.30pm as a next step at setting up Make Lunch this coming Summer 2020 to provide lunches for those in need. Anybody interested come and speak to Alison or email on: alison@stlukesreigate.org.uk – be good to have lots of people involved physically, through prayer, financially. Any ideas or offers of help would be great.

Anita summed up the Celebration of the last 3 years and congratulated everyone.



5	<p><u>Feedback and Suggestions for future Synod meetings</u></p> <p>The DLT has a date in the diary for a Vision meeting to explore “What’s Next” for Deanery life. Would love your thoughts and feedback from your term on Synod.</p> <p>Would love to have more forms returned. Spare copies available.</p> <p>Please respond to judith@stlukesreigate.org.uk with anything you would like to share.</p> <p>Constructive criticism also gladly received. We want the group/meetings to be really valuable.</p>	Anita
6	<p><u>Notices</u></p> <p>Sue Weakley – Gatton Community Theatre (formed in Year 2000). Planning to perform The Passion again this year. Workshops taking place and everyone from the local community is welcome to take part. Taking place in Merstham with opportunities to perform or work backstage. It will be performed in Gatton Park and joining in is a great experience from anyone aged 8 – 85! If anyone is interested, you should be receiving leaflets in the post, so please advertise. Contact Sue: revsueweakley@btinternet.com</p> <p>Huge Thanks were given to Chris and Christine Elliott by Anita and Andrew Cunnington for their help with the Reigate Deanery in their roles as Lay Chair and Secretary (respectively). They are stepping down after many years supporting the Deanery. They have done lots of work and completed this with enthusiasm and expertise. They were presented with gifts and a card.</p>	Anita Andrew
7	<p><u>Dates of Future Meetings:</u></p> <p>Weds 10th June (St. Francis, Horley) & Thurs 22nd October (St. Mark’s, Reigate)</p>	Anita
8	<p>Sermon – on Celebration</p> <p>Worship with Holy Communion</p>	Anita

Enclosures:

- Feedback/Suggestion form