



# Midsomer Norton Deanery

## MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm

St John's Church Hall, Church Lane, Chilcompton, BA3 4HP

1. Welcome to new and returning synod members

Apologies

Clergy: Martin Blewett, Clarissa Cridland, Adam Pitt, Julian Davies, Philip Hopper

Lay: Judy Baker, Julia Neesam, Mary Dolman, Mike Davis, Sally Griffiths, Leisa Thorne, Hilary Denning, Jeannie E-M, Philip Austin, Gay Curtis, Ann Meloy, Paul Woodward, Robert Law, Philip Brewer

2. Act of Worship (*led by the Waterside Benefice*)

3. The Waterside Benefice (*gives testimony*) shares a little about what it has been doing and what it plans to do:

- The benefice has been together for 18 months and is working ever closer.
- Financially it is a struggle with land sales still ongoing.
- St Nicholas boiler has been vandalised so praying for a solution for winter.
- New curate Nathanael and wife Danielle are settling in well to the benefice
- The Deanery Alpha Course has begun well.

4. Synod prayed for the Waterside Benefice.

5. Minutes of the Deanery Synod meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.30pm were agreed & signed.

6. Bishop's Autumn Visit to the deanery is to take place on Tuesday, 28th November to which Church Wardens, Chapter and the DMPG will be invited.

7. **Main Item** - Ministry to Children and Young People

See attached documents. Benefices were asked to provide an audit of the children & youth activity (church and secular) in their villages. This will be continued in future meetings.

Stephen Miles shared some of his experience of encouraging churches to work together to support the youth in Yeovil and challenged synod to think of ways they could reach out in their parishes. Stephen was a youth worker in Yeovil and involved with SWYM <https://swym.org.uk/churches/>

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

In Paul's absence Jane spoke about the huge increase in the number of vouchers being issued, mainly for reasons of mental health & the cost of living. As a consequence, many more food donations are required although the foodbank is grateful to all those who have contributed over the harvest festival season. Volunteers are also needed to help in the warehouse.

<https://somervalley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

9. Finance - *Barrymore*

Current balance is approx £6,000.

10 Deployment of Resources - *Update*

- Plan updated to incorporate 2024 Parish Share numbers (see separate paper)
- Potential joining of Frome and MSN Deaneries - ongoing

### 11 *Update* on Deanery Newsletter

Katie Chapman always welcomes news to share around the deanery. Synod members should share the newsletter with their parishes.

12. Working Together - starting to centralise certain roles for those who need them.

- Book Keeping - Further churches?

13. AOB - none.

### Deanery Timetable of Events for 2024

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

### **Date of the next Deanery Synod Meeting:**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at St John's, Church Square, Midsomer Norton, Bath BA3 2HX - (*Worship and Testimony from the Benefice of East Mendip Trinity*)

### **Dates for further meetings starting at 7.30pm:**

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

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at St John's Church Hall, Church Lane, Chilcompton, Radstock BA3 4HP

(*Worship and Testimony from Chilcompton*)