

Minutes of Chapter Meeting
held at 12.00 p.m. on 1 November 2016 at St. Mary Hayes

Present - Tim Bonniface, George Collett, Liz Davis, Paul Farthing, Lyn Hallam, Andy Hobbs, June Hurn, Napo John, Alan Keeler, Angela King, Andrew McClellan, Alan Mustoe, Richard Norman, Steve Varney

Apologies - Katrina Barnes, Julie Bowen, Roger Bristow, Richard Handforth, David Herbert, Anne Jablonski, Andrew Jablonski, Dave Johnston, Beth Lewis, Ruth Peet

Other - Iain Broomfield, Richard Finch, David Howath, Matt Lloyd, Anne Townsend

Alan Keeler reflected on the last Deanery Synod where the General Synod report on sexuality was received with an unhelpful discussion on the Bible. One phrase described the Bible being watered down. Would the Deanery Synod be helped with a presentation about the variety of ways in which the Bible is interpreted? The discussion noted the controversial subject but supported the suggestion.

The last Chapter Meeting raised with the Archdeacon the lack of safeguarding training from the Diocese. It was noted that CCPAS are the experts that the Diocese uses. Paul Wright has continued to press for training. Andy Hobbs spoke about his practices of including safeguarding training in all his youth planning meetings.

Alan Keeler said he has planned four meetings for Funeral Directors and the Clergy of the Chapter and is looking forward to some fruitful conversations. He circulated a leaflet that outlines the material the chapter have agreed underlines our commitment to funerals. It was noted that the Funeral Director companies provide training for their staff. May we be able to provide input from a church point of view?

In thinking about Back To Church Sunday Richard Norman had spoken to Alan Keeler about the Autumn as a Season of Invitation. Harvest, Remembrance, All Souls and Christmas are all recognised by many people in the general population. They are opportunities to invite people who do not regularly attend. This could be a focus for next year. Courses could be put on to explain the approach, help people with people skills in inviting people, listening, pastoral care, faith sharing. Andrew McClellan recently ran a course on the Bible advertised through the training department. How can we support training in the Deanery and encourage ministries?

The work on Mission Action Planning has identified the great range of work done in the churches. There will be a comprehensive document available to aid us in our thinking for the next Deanery Synod.

There will be an evangelistic service at St. Mary Bromley with J. John, 7.30 p.m. 1st December. Alan Keeler asked about pianists available for care home services. Steve Varney among others said there are but they would like to be paid. Alan Keeler asked about the use of the words of Binyon on Remembrance Sunday. There are good resources in Times and Seasons. Alan Mustoe will send an email with his practice.

Andrew McClellan shared his encouragement in starting a fortnightly 4 p.m. informal service for young families. He has been getting 2 new families each time.

Future Dates
Wednesday 25 Jan - St. John Bromley Vicarage
Thursday 23 Mar - North Room of Holy Trinity Church Rooms
Monday 22 May St. Mary Bromley Vicarage
Tuesday 18 Jul – The Annunciation Chislehurst, Tower Room
Wednesday 27 Sept – St. Luke Bromley Common
Thursday 23 Nov – St. Augustine Vicarage

Alan Keeler thanked Napo John for his hospitality and the use of his church room.

Date of Next Meeting - 12.00 p.m. on Wednesday 25 January at the Vicarage of St. John Bromley