

Minutes of Chapter Meeting

held at 12.00 p.m. on 16 May 2018 at The Annunciation, Chislehurst

Present – Katrina Barnes, Roger Bristow, Paul Farthing, Richard Finch, Dave Johnston, Alan Keeler, Angela King, Beth Lewis, Alan Mustoe, Steve Varney

Apologies – Tim Boniface, George Collett, Liz Davis, Lyn Hallam, David Herbert, June Hurn, Napo John, Andrew McClellan, Richard Norman, Ruth Peet

Other – Julie Bowen, Iain Broomfield, Richard Handforth, David Howath, Matt Lloyd, Anne Townsend

Richard Finch – Richard told us that he will finish his appointment as chaplain to Bishop Justus and Holy Trinity schools at half term after serving for three years. He will be talking up the post of Vicar of Leiston with Sizewell in July. Morag will be doing an M.A. The Chapter wished him farewell and every success.

Tanzania – Andrew McClellan's plans are going well.

GDPR – Questions about quite who a church is responsible for e.g. its hall users, prayer lists. A key question is what you can identify about a person e.g. on a prayer list their name may be public but their situation is not.

Safeguarding – There were questions about who needs to do which course and which order e.g. can you just do C3 or must you have done all preceding courses? (see attachments to the March minutes for some guidance) C0 can be done locally and for real (i.e. not online) But the facilitator must be suitably trained. A recent presentation by the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) said all allegations about children and vulnerable adults must be reported to the LADO. This had not been clear at CCPAS and Diocesan training events. There will be a further LADO event in October.

Wellbeing Day – St. Mark's event on 12 May was good with reasonable numbers.

Confirmations – The Bishop asks for diary requests to be provided to the Area Dean by 23 June.

Community Engagement – Steve Varney had raised the issue of political engagement in community work at the Deanery Synod on the previous Monday. There is a need to work with people who hold power not just promote activity. Councillors have attended the Christ Church Chislehurst Dementia Café and the Transform Bromley prayer breakfast. A past Bromley Council chief executive, Doug Paterson had meting with church leaders. But he backed out when they became grievance sessions. Churches do not look diverse enough. What does the Archdeacon do and does the Mayor have a chaplain? The local Three Faiths Forum has looked at joining Citizens UK. There is a task of forging relationships with counsellors and for the church to be more present at community events.

Complaints Policy – Steve Varney raised the issue of bad behaviour that is present in churches. It needs to be addressed and PCCs need guidance. There is a Dignity at Work policy¹. Sometimes action can only be take if a criminal act has taken place. Bridge Builders² have been a useful resource for reconciliation and mediation. Safeguarding has raise the issues of Domestic Abuse and Domestic Violence. These are bullying patterns that can be present in churches. St. Augustine's are hosting an event see pg. 2. Ministers can be viewed as the people to sort out the difficult issues. What is our identity? Are we priests, presbyters, pastors; probably all of them!. Do we have good procedures and guidelines. Having a good eldership team means you do not do it on your own. There will be a diocesan course on this in the Autumn. Walking towards conflict, two day training focus on building resilience in leadership and increasing understanding and creativity in the midst of conflict. 6 September 2018 and 4 October 2018 10am -4pm.

Steve Varney has heard from Geoff Marsh who has said "A revised document (complaints procedure) will hopefully be signed off by Bishop's Council early in June and then will come forward for adoption by Diocesan Synod at its meeting on 23 June 2018. "

Social – There is an outing to Westerham Brewery at 6.30 p.m. on 3 July. Please sign up soon³

Next Meeting – 12.00 p.m. on 19 July at St. George, Bickley.

¹ <http://www.rochester.anglican.org/content/pages/documents/1511965329.pdf>

² <https://www.bbministries.org.uk/>

³ <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bromley-deanery-chapter-brewery-tour-tickets-45006566853?ref=estw>



Not Just in the Playground: a Workshop on Bullying

Friday
08 June 2018
10:30am - 12:30pm

Bullying is an area most readily identified with playground behaviour in childhood. However, the last twenty years have seen considerable advancement in the understanding of bullying by adults in the workplace. This workshop aims to bring insights from this area to the church context. It will explore definitions of bullying and how to raise awareness in ministry teams, PCCs and deanery synods. Furthermore, it may be useful for those who want to be able to take their faith into the workplace and support people who experience bullying at work.

Led by Revd. Dr. Lorraine Turner, Vicar of St Mary's Platt. Lorraine trained for the priesthood at St John's College, Durham. Over the course of 13 years Lorraine was a curate, team vicar, rector and rural dean in the Diocese of Lincoln before her recent move to Rochester Diocese. Her early work, 'Good Practice in the Curate/Incumbent Relationship' opened the door to research into how the Church of England could benefit from the insights of the field of workplace bullying. This research led to the award of a doctorate in 2017 and is the basis for this workshop.

Course fee: £15 (including tea and coffee)

To book your place on this course, please contact office@staugustinescollege.ac.uk or ring 01732 252 656



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