

28 present and 16 apologies

Lay-chair, Mrs Angela Scott, welcomed people and Area Dean, Revd Alan Keeler, opened with worship.

Minutes - of the previous meeting were carried and there were no matters arising

Dementia – Following from the presentation at the last meeting there was a short video of the Dementia café at Christ Church Chislehurst which was followed by three brief presentations: *Miss Diana Patterson*, the Bromley Churches dementia hub coordinator, has recently opened a ‘Forget-me-not’ café in Bromley Common. In line with a recent BMJ article she emphasised the benefit of cafés and lunch clubs for those living with dementia, especially the carers. Diana also introduced the NHS Bromley support hub who are looking for volunteers to act as befrienders for those who have been diagnosed with dementia and who have not got the immediate support of family or friends. Diana is qualified to ‘train’ groups/individuals to become Dementia Friends and ‘Live Ability’ gives top tips for making churches Dementia friendly – she would gladly help any church interested. *Dr Keith Nye*, is the most recent member of the Bromley churches hub and gave a personal story of his journey into helping those with Dementia. It began whilst he was working as a research scientist into treatment for AIDS when he became, by default, a ‘buddy’ or listener at the bedside of his patients who were terminally ill. On retirement Keith became a volunteer at the Cathedral with a particular focus on helping those who had special needs. He recommended three books: John Swinton ‘Dementia’; Thomas Baggio ‘Losing my Mind’; Robert Davis ‘It’s my Journey into Dementia’. *Revd Anne Jablonsky* briefly outlined the work of the newly appointed part-time employed Anna Chaplain, *Revd Sophie Sutherland* who has a wider remit than dementia. She is chaplain to the elderly which involves visiting, working with the whole family and supporting people in transition from home to care-home. Finally *Mrs Angela Scott* read out the Bromley Deanery Synod Motion (previously sent with the Agenda) which is to be presented by her and Chris Bostock (Dementia specialist for the Cathedral) to Diocesan Synod on Saturday 24th March. She reported that the Bishop is very excited about the motion and expects that it will be passed and so go forward to General Synod in due course. Angela Ivey asked what Bromley Council do for those with Dementia. She works for the Richmond Council who has a good Dementia policy and she is going to forward some information to help give meat to the presentation. Angela Scott hopes to meet with Bob Neill before the presentation to get the government slant and is also attending the ‘meet the counsellors’ at Chislehurst Methodist Church on Thursday 8th March at 20:00.

Bromley Council is involved with the Dementia Action Alliance

https://www.dementiaaction.org.uk/local_alliances/13685_bromley_dementia_action_alliance

<https://www.facebook.com/BromleyDAA/>

Richmond Council has been working with <http://mylifefilms.org/> to create films for those that are suffering from dementia

Communications – *Revd Alan Keeler* met with a small group on November 29th 2017 who compiled a set of questions to ask Deanery Synod members about communicating between themselves through Facebook and Twitter. 11 people expressed an interest in further training which represented 8 out of 13 churches in the Deanery. A training date on Social Media is to be organised, building on the things we do naturally; the interchange of information and getting new and fresh ideas.

Training - Various events were brought to the attention of Synod members:

- “*Embrace Women’s Conference*” – 10:30 Sat 10th March at CCChislehurst - MP Sarah Hyde
- “*Closer*” (Rochester Diocesan Spirituality Course) - 7 sessions between 5th May and 16 Feb 2019 at CCC

- “*British Museum Tour with the Bible*” – CCBromley 10:30 Sat 10th March – Revd Clive Anderson
- “*The Story of Easter through Art*” – Sat 24th March at St Mary’s Hayes
- “*Christian Comedy*” – 13:00 Sat 11th April at St Mary’s Hayes – Tom Elliott
- “*Data Protection*” – Details of Diocesan training is on their website.
- “*Called Together*” – A reminder of the Diocesan initiative for Mission and Ministry. The Archdeaconry Day is to be held at St Olaves on Sat 3rd March from 10:30. The final event is to be held in Rochester on Sat 10th March. The event at St. Olaves was postponed due to inclement weather.

General Synod and Diocesan Reports: Previously circulated. *Mrs Angela Scott* answered a question relating to the debate on the Methodist Covenant which was focusing on the similarity between the role of the Bishop in ordaining clergy and that of the Methodist President. There is give and take on both sides but it is recognised that up to now the Methodists have had to give more! *Revd Roger Bristow* emphasised the importance of the presentation from the Christian charity ‘HOPE for Good’ at Diocesan Synod in October. More people are being called to offer and be trained to become foster and adoptive parents.

Refugee Crisis – *Revd Steve Varney* presented the written report from *Revd Angela King*. A three faiths forum (Christian, Jewish and Muslim) has been meeting for some time in Bromley. This forum covers Theological discussion and the meeting of Social needs from Mothers and Toddlers groups to Refugee work, initially with the Calais Jungle and Croydon. As Bromley Borough declare they have no refugees this continuing work is being done in partnership with Lewisham where 14 families were helped over Christmas and support in accessing services and language is being given.

Treasurers Report – *Mr Richard Latteman* reported that in 2017 there was no need to ask churches for further income as the balance stood at £729:09. In 2017 £40 was spent on gifts and expenses to invited speakers bringing the balance at the end of the year to £689:09. The account has been audited and Synod accepted them unanimously.

Rochester Diocesan Mothers Union - *Mary Margaret Yates* informed Synod that the MU is on a hunt for their property...the banners each church may have. Could they please be photographed and sent to Mary for their records.

Diocesan Board of Education – *Revd Roger Bristow* gave a brief update on the current situation. Following the retirement of the previous Chair, Archdeacon of Tonbridge Ven Clive Mansell, there is a temporary chair who claims that it is a 3 day a week commitment (which is currently undertaken voluntarily). With the resignation of the previous Director of the DBE the current vice-chair is taking a lead in that role. It is hoped the new Bishop of Tonbridge (to be announced at Easter) will take on the role of chair and only then will the post of Director of the DBE be advertised. Legally the board has to be reconstituted by January 2019. Currently it is too large a body and the new arrangements will limit the elected representatives to 6, rather than one from each Deanery. Each Deanery will have the opportunity to put forward one candidate **from** their Synod and from this pool Bishop’s Council will select 2 to represent each Archdeaconry, based on the particular needs of the Board at any one time.

AOB – *Mrs. Liz Carter* informed Synod that there is the need for new member on the Aquinas Advisory Council. This is not a governor to Bishop Justice secondary school but an advisor to the head teacher and a critical friend for the school. There are 3 meetings a year.

Prayer – The Synod finished at 21:30 with the grace and refreshments were offered after the meeting.

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 14th May at St Mark’s Bromley

N.B. There is still an urgent need for a Secretary!

Bromley Deanery Synod
Accounts for the year 2017

Balance Sheet

<u>Income</u>	<u>£</u>
Balance brought forward	729.09

	<u>729.09</u>

<u>Expenditure</u>	
Speaker's expenses	20
Gift to Speakers	20

	<u>40</u>

Excess of Income over Expenditure carried forward 689.09

Deposition of Funds MetroBank account 16512807 689.09

Hon. Treasurer

A. Catterton

Examined and found correct

Hon. Auditor

Cathryn A Mitchell

Agreed at Synod 27th Feb 2018