

# BRISTOL CITY AREA DEANERY

## Report of Synod held at Holy Trinity Church, Wellington Hill, Horfield, on Tuesday 27 September 2011, at 7.30 pm

### Opening Prayers:

The Rev John Hadley led with a short service of worship.

### Welcome:

The Rev Mat Ineson, Area Dean, thanked John and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Apologies, Minutes of last Meeting and Matters Arising:

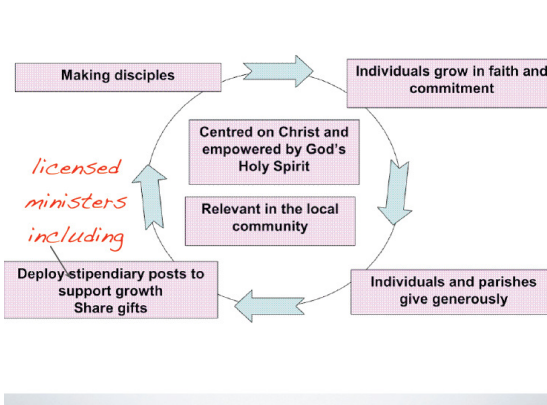
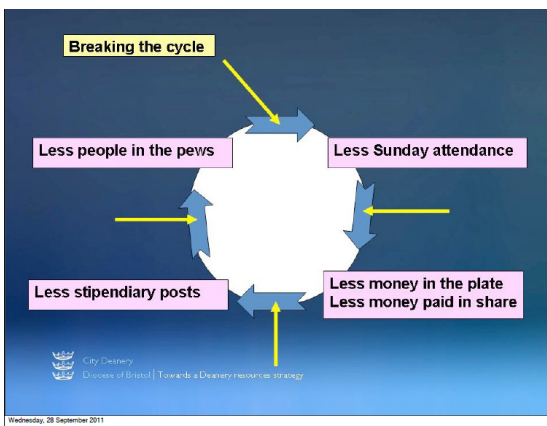
There were 40 recorded attendees and 16 recorded apologies for absence.

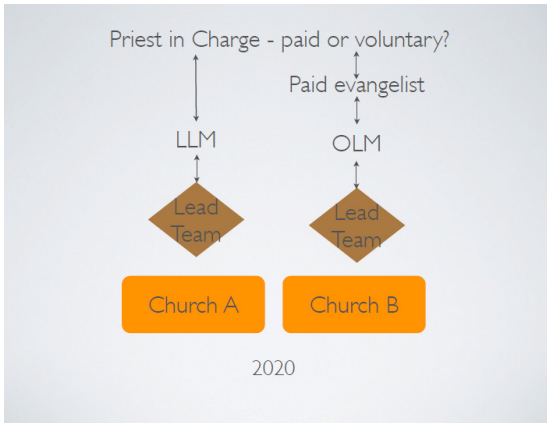
Mat said that in the minutes it had stated that the DLT would send out a letter before this meeting date explaining the Deanery Leadership Team's deployment proposals including stipendiary deployment to 2015. Mat said that compiling the letter had proved to be a very difficult task and although a letter has been prepared, Mat intended to trial the letter at the St Matthew's PCC meeting this weekend before circulating to the whole Deanery shortly afterwards. He would, however, make a short presentation this evening on that subject to prepare Synod for the letter.

Mat then asked if those present would accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 7 July 2011 as a true record. The minutes were accepted by a show of hands.

### Deployment of Licensed Ministers – Mat Ineson:


Mat presented the following slides to the meeting. Hopefully, Synod reps will know how to respond to PCC members in their parishes and Mat added that he hoped that PCCs would feel free to invite a member of the DLT to PCC or partnership meetings to answer questions.





|                    | 2015           |                  |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Churches           | 27             | 27?              |
| Stip ministers     | 24 (2006 figs) | 16 (agreed 2009) |
| LLMs               | 41             | 40               |
| OLMs               | 6              | 9                |
| SSM                | 8              | 10               |
| Total ministers    | 79             | 75               |
| Diocese Budget Def | £500K          | 0                |

Some figures.

- Current Stipendiary figure is 18.6 with three vacancies
  - No redundancies
  - Letter coming to each PCC in October explaining the situation
  - Letter will ask for PCCs and Partnerships to discuss deployment of stipendiary ministers and feedback to DLT.
  - This is a conversation
- 
- So how do we plan for this now?

- Letter will say how many stipendiary posts will be deployed to the partnership and suggest how they might be best allocated.
  - A DLT member very happy to attend partnership meeting.
  - Essentially proposal is that each partnership will lose one stipend except City Centre
  - There may also be a suggestion of re-allocating stipend to a non-priest in charge post.
  - We are suggesting that administrators are *not* paid for through stipendiary allocation
- So how do we plan for this now?
- Wednesday, 28 September 2011

Mat asked if there were any questions.

In relation to the final point ‘. . . we are suggesting that administrators are not paid for through stipendiary allocation.’ The point was made that some administrators, who are paid through stipendiary allocation, play an important role in communication within the partnerships.

The suggestion is that the costs of administrators are borne by the parish or shared amongst the partnership rather than through stipendiary allocation. Stipendiary posts are tied up with housing allocation – ‘whole’ numbers of houses with ‘whole’ numbers of stipendiary to go with them. Houses with no resident priests and houses let out create relative income but to reduce maintenance costs, some houses that are owned will be sold.

A point was also made that perhaps it is inappropriate to pay administrators out of stipendiary allocations.

The point was made that to increase pledges and to pay for administrators is obviously more of a challenge.

‘Is it not possible to have a part time priest?’ Yes it is possible, but housing may come in the form of a housing allowance rather than a house.

### Coffee/Tea Refreshment Break

Mat, on behalf of everyone present, thanked the ladies and gentleman from Holy Trinity for preparing the refreshments.

### Uganda Link:

Mary Ingram read out extracts from an email from Rev David Romans (email attached.)

Mat led Synod in prayer for Uganda.

### Parish Share Pledges:

A finance presentation was made by John Goodgame, Deanery Treasurer.

## City Deanery Finance

Update on our progress with pledge for 2011...  
Look forward to what 2012 might hold...

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### What did we collectively pledge for 2011?

- We pledged Deanery total of £904,063 a 1.9% increase compared to the 2010 Share amount of £887,236.
- The equates to £75,338 per month
- The only Deanery from the 7 in our diocese to increase over 2010.

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### General position

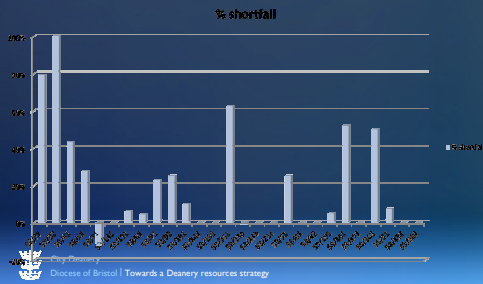
- Nearly half (45%) of all parishes are fully up to date with payments.
- City is roughly 1.4 months worth of pledge behind schedule.
- Some should be timing issues:
  - Some may have been paid just after diocese takes the data.
  - Trust fund pays at set times
  - Major building work needs to be financed pending receipt of English Heritage grants

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### Year to Date to end August

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## Financial pressure and cash is tight



## 2012 pledge challenge

- Deanery mailing in July to inform PCCs as to timeline and remind on the challenges we face.
- Invited PCCs to engage with DLT.
- Requested responses back to DLT by end October.

## Responses so far.

- So far majority that have replied have indicated they will increase their pledge over 2011.
- Next largest group have indicated they will maintain their pledge at 2011 level.
- 3 PCCs have indicated that they would like DLT to attend their deliberations.

## We need to see this through

- Allow PCCs to meet and give the remaining pledges
- Continue to be available to explain, assist in this process.

## Lets keep talking...

- DLT does not want the process to start and stop with pledges for 2012.
  - Circumstances change and we need to be able to 'bend' with them.
  - We are mindful that the pledge is just part (albeit a very large one) of the overall financial process and are committed to engaging robustly with the diocese on the wider issues.

The question was asked 'How much is it to run the Deanery?' Currently approximately £1M per annum.

In relation to the Diocesan shortfall of £500K, how does that affect the capacity of the Diocesan to pay its way? The money comes out of Reserves but the Reserves can only last so long. The £5.5M deficit of money coming in, we need to reduce £5.2M at sometime for a much smaller deficit.

Is not the present system of pledges wrong – should you not be telling us what our share should be and we would pay it? Mat replied that he would be happy to debate this on a wider scale on behalf of the Deanery but it is felt that parishes are more likely to pay 100% of what they have pledged. The Diocesan budget process fits with the Strategy and we are part of this process.

### Any Other Business:

At the next meeting, community engagement will be the main topic and what that means in respect of our strategy. May asked that if people have concerns about anything mentioned tonight, deployment or share please let us know – we are here to share as well as to do business.

Auriol Britton asked for support from the Deanery for an equality day that she would like to organize at St Stephen's in the City. She plans to end with a service where people with disabilities can take part. Mat said that if Auriol needed resources from the Deanery then we would see what we could do.

**Date of next meeting:**

Tuesday 15 November 2011, St Bartholomew's, Bishopston, 7.30 - 9.30 pm. Open meeting based around community engagement.

**Close and Thank yous:**

Mat thanked Holy Trinity Church for their hospitality and closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

> On 9/10/11, david serunjogi <centromans@yahoo.com> wrote:  
>> Dear friends,  
>> Please forgive me for this long report but I thought it would give  
>> you a right picture of what is happening here not only in the  
>> ministry but also in the country in general.  
>> The whole year has been marred by numerous strikes both political and  
>> economical, tear gas, lightning or thunders, inflation, food  
>> shortage, high prices of essential commodities, financial  
>> constraints, poverty to mention but a few.  
>> It is therefore very important for us to express our sincere  
>> gratitude to you for your support and prayers. Thank you very much  
>> indeed. {Remembe Matthew 25: 37 "Then the righteous will answer him,  
>> 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give  
>> you something to drink?  
>> .....40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever  
>> you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine,  
>> you did for me.'  
>>  
>> Most of the problems in Uganda have been caused by the deaf ear which  
>> the government has turned to the needs of the citizens hence the strikes.  
>> If I can put it right, Uganda is now a "demonstration state", call it  
>> "a state of strikes" if you like. The state I am talking about began  
>> with the Walk to Work protests also popularly known as W2W. That was  
>> a political movement with Ugandan leading politicians at the fore  
>> front.  
>>  
>> I do not know where the idea came from, but the Activists for Change,  
>> a political movement behind the protests came up one day with an idea  
>> that, in order to show dissatisfaction for the high fuel prices in  
>> Uganda and the high food costs, people where supposed to Walk to Work  
>> [W2W]for two days in a week.  
>>  
>> Things did not turn out as expected, the government did not take it  
>> easily, people were refused to walk to work. That led to many ugly  
>> scenes in the country, many people died, people were tear-gassed,  
>> property was lost, others were jailed, and the most remembered event  
>> of all is when Besigye was sprayed with Pepper in the eyes after  
>> smashing his car.  
>> All in all, the walk to work protests ended, though with a lot of  
>> damage on the economy and the demolition of the image of Uganda  
>> abroad.  
>>  
>> But that was not the end of the protests, though it was the beginning  
>> of a new chapter. Never again have we seen the walk to work protests  
>> but this time, we are seeing the Refuse to Work protests.  
>> It all began when KACITA (Kampala City Trader Association) announced  
>> a Refuse to Work (R2W) protests for two days protesting against the  
>> high rate of the dollar against the shilling, and high taxes among  
>> other factors.  
>> In  
>> this protests, all Traders in Kampala were to close their shops for 2  
>> days from Wednesday through Thursday.  
>> The Kampala Traders R2W protests might have been more severe to the  
>> economy than the W2W. This time the government immediately begged for  
>> a dialogue with the traders and certain measure to appease the  
>> Tradres where put in place including the abolition of the license  
>> fees atleast for a short time.  
>>  
>> Then came another Refuse to Work (R2W), but this time by Taxi  
>> Drivers, we all know that without the Taxi drivers, Uganda will be  
>> brought down to its knees. And that is what happened that Monday.  
>> People struggled to find transport, many businesses remained closed  
>> because the owners did not have the means to reach their work places.  
>> The government still came in quickly to avert the situation  
>>  
>> Right now on the the stage is the R2T [Refuse to Teach] More than  
>> 150,000 Ugandan public school teachers declared an indefinite strike

>> last Thursday to demand higher pay as inflation continues to  
>> escalate.

>> The strike by the teachers comes as opposition parties--that say the  
>> government isn't doing enough to bring down high food and commodity  
>> prices or to tackle the depreciating local currency--have warned they  
>> may resume the protests that threatened President Yoweri Museveni's  
>> 25-year rule earlier this year.

>> The teachers have staged a sit-down strike demanding a 100% pay rise  
>> saying that their current salaries are not enough to enable them to  
>> earn a living.

>> The lowest paid Ugandan teacher gets around Uganda Shillings 200,000  
>> (\$80) a month.

>>

>> However, President Yoweri Museveni said in a national address last  
>> week that the government cannot afford to increase the pay of  
>> teachers, because they are "too many".

>> Tens of thousands of school children across the country are missing  
>> classes following the strike, while some primary school pupils in  
>> Eastern Uganda held peaceful demonstrations in several towns, to show  
>> solidarity with their teachers.

>>

>> Most schools were to begin their end of term examinations next week [Mon.  
>> 1/Aug/2011] and some secondary schools had already started their  
>> examinations.

>> Yesterday Pupils from our neighbouring government Primary School  
>> demonstrated against their teacher's absence at school and they  
>> marched to the District Education offices demanding for an increase  
>> of their teachers salaries so that they don't miss class.

>>

>> In the past few weeks, public transport drivers, people working in  
>> retail, women's rights activists and lawyers have gone on strike  
>> protesting against steep commodity prices.

>>

>> I now do not know which group will come up next

>>

>> As if all those events were not bad enough just in one school term,  
>> then the country has suffered another deadly 'curse' of LIGHTNING.  
>> Lightning struck the schools killing over 30 students and injuring 77  
>> others in different schools.

>> Most of the children standing on the verandah fell due to shock, but  
>> some did not rise up and were found dead. There was death everywhere  
>> all the over the country at differnt times. Even some schools were  
>> temporarily closed after the tragedies.

>> The latest incident was in the northern Uganda district of Alebtong  
>> on Saturday, where three mourners were killed and scores paralysed..

>>

>> Myths and traditional beliefs about lightning Because of the violent  
>> and sudden way it kills, from the ancient times and in some societies  
>> today, lightning strikes are shrouded in myths. The early Greeks  
>> thought the king of the gods, Zeus, threw thunderbolts down from  
>> stormy skies when angered.

>> Native American tribes believed [please correct me if I am wrong] the  
>> flashing feathers and flapping wings of the mighty Thunderbird caused  
>> lightning. In the African traditional setting, many cultures have  
>> different names and beliefs pegged to lightning.

>> Many of these cultures believe lightning usually strikes people who  
>> have committed crimes, broken oaths or those who have annoyed the  
>> gods. Others peg lightning to witchcraft.

>>

>> So, on the 10th of last month, I invited a qualified doctor from  
>> Mulago National Hospital [Dr. Denis who happened to be also a parent  
>> at Trinity CC and this is the doctor who operated on headmaster Mr.  
>> Lule Talemwa about a couple of years ago.] to come and a give a  
>> lecture about this death.

>> I invited all the parents in our school , the neighbours, local  
>> leaders and everyone addition to all the 1300 pupils to come and hear  
>> free of charge a scientific explanation about lightning.

>> I started by asking one of the village elder to volunteer and tells us what he thought was the cause of the lightning. He narrated that when lightning strikes in Buganda, people believe that the god of lightning and thunder called 'Kiwanuka' is unhappy with the family of the victims. The affected family members usually visit traditional diviners who are believed to have supernatural powers to communicate with the angry gods. Usually, the family offers a sacrifice of sheep or goats to appease the god.

>> Finally I introduced Dr. Denis and asked him what exactly causes thunder and lightning.

>> He explained that, "thunder and lightning are caused when air masses (cumulous and cumulus-nimbus clouds) moving in opposite directions generate heat the same way human hands can generate heat when rubbed against each other. The warm air expands in volume and occupies bigger space but rapidly contracts when it encounters cold air. The sudden expansion of air causes an explosion, which is normally referred to as thunder and when the sound waves are being transmitted, they encounter cold air and generate an electric discharge, which comes towards the earth. It is this electric discharge towards the earth (lightning) that has to be managed because it connects to the earth through a high point such as a tree, buildings, human beings and even animals."

>>

>> He further explained that, "the water molecules rub against one another create negative and positive electric charges within the cloud. Lightning,

>> can occur between clouds, within a cloud or between the clouds and the ground. People usually die when the lightning strike occurs between the cloud and the earth's surface.

>> The lightning that occurs between clouds or within the clouds has minimal effect on the ground but is very dangerous to flying objects like aeroplanes and birds. This kind of lightning is known to blind pilots or interfere with the aircraft communication system. That is why pilots usually avoid clouds and thunderstorms during flight.

>> When lightning happens between the cloud and earth surface, it will always strike the tallest object in the area. The high electric currents will hit any other objects within a radius of five metres. The objects hit will form a full electric circuit, unfortunately without a transformer to regulate the amount of current, hence living objects like trees end up drying while humans and animals get electrocuted.

>>

>> Dr. Denis went on to say that, "open areas are particularly risky. Children hit by lightning are usually found in open spaces where they are the tallest objects standing. Lightning will also hit someone with an umbrella walking in an open space because the metallic tip of the umbrella easily attracts electric currents. It is, therefore, safer to keep indoors whenever it is raining, Areas around lakes and large water bodies are among the high risk areas. This is because the water vapour rises after being heated by sunlight rays to form the rain making clouds — cumulous and cumulo-nimbus"

>> He, however, stressed that, "all parts of the country [uganda]are prone to thunderstorms and lightning given the fact that Uganda has an equatorial climate with high levels of moisture in the atmosphere and heat energy.

>>

>> One local chief blamed lightning strikes on massive cutting down of trees.

>> He said, "eople have cut down trees, which used to absorb or provide a channel for transmission of lightning. Most areas are now covered with shrubs without trees."

>>

>> In conclusion I made an observation that in the many wars that Uganda has suffered, many national treasures, among them lightening arrestors, were destroyed. These treasures, which were installed on various high points on the hill tops across the country, also acted as trigonometrical points.

>> It believed that the arrestors were removed because of the high value  
>> mercury and/or lead they contained.  
>> The fact is that these marks were used by surveyors and also acted as  
>> lightening arrestors. The effect of their removal is now being  
>> manifested by loss of lives through lightning strikes.  
>> At the end of the meeting it was resolved that the school buys at  
>> least three thunder arresters and be installed on our school  
>> buildings. The cost of each is 3 million therefore pray for us as we  
>> look for almost ten million shillings for only Trinity Buildings but  
>> what about Centenary H/S and Double Cure Clinic?  
>> Experts have warned us of more lightining incidents in Uganda.  
>>  
>> Once again, I wish to echoe my words of thanks to you for always  
>> standing with us in all our struggles.  
>> May the Good Lord reward you.  
>> Romans  
>> N/B I would love to attend an OAC conference in Mexico next Spring  
>> but I am not sure of the airticket so please remember me in your  
>> prayers fin this regard. Thank you