

**Minutes of Islington Deanery Synod meeting held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 22nd November 2017 at
St Andrew's Thornhill Square**

	<p>Present: Clergy: Jess Swift, David Allen, David Bird, Liz Clutterbuck, Ted Fell, Alexandra Lilley, Tania Witter and Paul Zaphiriou.</p> <p>Laity: Adrian Arthur, Jill Courtneil, Fola Faleti, Nigel Fletcher, Joy Himsworth, John Irwin, Odelle James, Jane Jellis, Nathan Lyons, Patience Ohabuiro, Clement Provencal, Sofia Schaffgotsch, Manuel Schmucki, Susan Sorenson, Vera Taggart, Lorna Walker, Lara Whatley, Heather Wood.</p> <p>Parishes Represented: Christ Church Highbury, St Clement King Square, Barnsbury Team, St Stephen Canonbury, Tollington Parish, St Andrew Whitehall Park, St Mark Clerkenwell, St John the Evangelist Upper Holloway, St Augustine Highbury New Park, Hope Church, St Mary Islington, St Jude and St Paul Mildmay Grove, St Thomas Finsbury Park, St Silas Pentonville, St James Islington, The Barnsbury Team</p> <p>Apologies: David Ainger, Revd Gabriel Anstis, Steve Clarke, Revd Andrew Baughen, Revd Peter Bernhard, Christopher Burdin, Revd Stephen Coles, Revd Ted Fell, Sophie Castell, Rowan Howard Michael Dark, Diana Faber, Sarah Gammoh, Revd Sam Haigh, Revd April Keech, Jackie Mair, Revd Sarah McDonald, Revd Pauline Nashashibi, Sam Neville, Debbie Onyekwuluje, Revd Tamsin Merchant, Revd Peter Nicholson, Marcia Sinclair, Revd Christopher Trundle, Revd Rayner Wakeling, Matt Way.</p> <p>Jess opened the meeting with Evening Prayer.</p> <p>1. Melanie Griffiths, Susan Sorenson and Catherine Ross gave an update presentation which covered Cloudesley governance; Health & welfare grants; Church grants; 500th anniversary; and Sustainable Church Buildings project (attached).</p> <p>Susan spoke to the meeting about the Charity Commissions emphasis of the diversity of board and in response Cloudesley had set up a new Governance Committee who were looking at the diversity of the board.</p> <p>Melanie reported that there is an annual budget of £450,000 for Health and Welfare (H&W) grants and £450,000 for Church grants.</p> <p>Melanie emphasised the H&W grants as these were very rarely applied for. The grant is split between <i>Individuals</i> and <i>Organisations</i> and allow for small grants up to £10K. These can be accessed either through a Cloudesley partner (Crisis grants) who are able to distribute up to £500 in any one year, or through a Catalyst fund through the Cripplegate Foundation who are able to distribute up to £2500 per year.</p> <p>The Islington residency test was pointed out as being a potential barrier in terms of the above criteria and Melanie confirmed that Cloudesley were generous in terms of this test in order to help as many people as possible.</p> <p>In terms of applying for Church grants, there are two application rounds; one in Autumn and one in Spring, but there were also opportunities to access small grants in-between those two rounds.</p> <p>Grants can pay for: Repair & upkeep of buildings used for worship Maintenance of services Can be for the works themselves, enabling works, or capacity-building</p>
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Melanie encouraged all to contact either her or David Vincent with any ideas they may have for projects which would benefit from these grants, or if they wanted to ask questions.

During the 500th anniversary year, there has been over £1million of additional grant-making. With Commemorative Grants of £5,000 going to individual churches.

In the run up to the anniversary, research was commissioned and a commemorative booklet produced along with a touring exhibition of all the deanery churches, and guided walks which start at St Mary's and finish at the Cloudesley estate.

Catherine introduced and spoke about **The Sustainable Church Buildings Project** which was made up of Cloudesley, London Diocese and Islington Deanery working together, to make the churches of Islington more energy efficiency.

AECOM had completed an energy efficiency audit, for each eligible church, identifying key recommendations for the highest environmental benefit. Reports are currently being sent out and there will be Deanery-wide report by the end of January. From those reports special grants will be available as long as they are linked to the recommendations in the report and have a clear benefit. There will be two different grants:

1. Small fast track, up to £10K
2. Larger grants up to £50K for projects with most environmental benefit

Catherine finished the presentation with information about a number of future events which all were encouraged to attend and advertise:

- Tuesday November 28th – “From Audit to Action”
- Thursday January 25th – launching the grants
- Tuesday June 12th - the way forward
- Saturday April 28th - Stepney Eco Conference at St Paul's Old Ford

2. There were no **matters arising**. The **minutes** of the last meeting were agreed and before the **elections** for the Deanery Standing Committee took place all present were asked to introduce themselves to each.

The two house split off in to two rooms to run the elections for the Deanery Standing Committee. The House of Clergy was led by Jess and The House of Laity was led by Jules.

The new Deanery Standing Committee are:

Jess Swift (Chair and Area Dean)
David Allen (Sub-dean)
David Bird (Cloudesley and Tollington Parish)
Tamsin Merchant (St Mary Hornsey Rise)
Jill Courtnell (Lay Chair)
Fola Faleti (Treasurer and St Stephen's Canonbury)
Jules Soanes (Secretary)
Vicki Davies (St John's Upper Holloway)
Heather Wood (St Augustine's Highbury New Park)

3. David Bird introduced the candidates who had been nominated for the **Cloudesley Trustee** vacancy; **Sam Prabhu Rubandhas, Lydia Mutare and Paul Brenells** and each gave a two minute precis. The members present were asked to vote using proportional voting. The votes were counted and ratified immediately after the vote. The candidate voted for was Sam Prabhu Rubandhas. (*David confirmed Sam's appointment in an email to the deanery on 23rd November 2017*).

<p>4.</p>	<p>David Allen proposed a revised dis-investment motion (attached). In collaboration with Brian Cuthbertson and Richard Nicholson, this would bring the Deanery's motion in line with that of the Diocese of Oxford. This was seconded by Jill Courtnell.</p> <p>There were 17 in favour, one opposition and seven abstentions</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>David apologised for the last minute addition of a nomination for the re-nomination of Norma Dews to the governing board of St Andrew's Primary School. This was fully endorsed by Jess and all present were in agreement.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Jess said that what she appreciated and admired was the collaborative nature of Islington and her hope was that that would continue over the next three years to enable flourishing. She acknowledged the huge pressure that there is on churches about how we 'do church' and how we grow and develop, but was confident that if we support each other we would be able to face the challenges to come.</p> <p>The meeting closed with The Grace at 9.00pm</p>	