

These Minutes do not include the items the Board agreed would be kept confidential in the online publication.

MINUTES of the Diocese of Leeds Board held at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 12th April, 2016 at the Diocese of Leeds office at St Mary's Street, Leeds LS9 7DP.

Present: The Rt Revd Nick Baines (Chair), The Rt Revd Toby Howarth, The Rt Revd Jonathan Gibbs, The Rt Revd Paul Slater, The Rt Revd Tony Robinson, The Very Revd John Dobson, The Ven Dr Anne Dawtry, Canon Ann Nicholl, The Revd Canon Simon Cowling, Ms Kay Brown, Mr Andrew Maude, Mrs Jane Wardman, The Revd Martin Macdonald, Mrs Marilyn Banister, Mrs Jane Evans, The Ven Andy Jolley and The Ven Peter Townley.

In Attendance: Mr Ashley Ellis, Mrs Debbie Child, Mrs Judith Calvert and Ms Alison Bogle.

1. Opening prayers.

The Archdeacon of Halifax opened the meeting with prayers.

2. Welcome and Apologies.

The Bishop of Leeds welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from:

Bishop James Bell

The Ven Paul Hooper

The Ven Beverley Mason

The Revd Canon Tony Macpherson

The Revd Canon Paul Ayers

Mr Peter Foskett.

3. Declarations of interest.

Members were asked to disclose any conflicts of interest concerning any items on the Agenda.

None were disclosed.

Members had been circulated by email with the annual Declaration of Conflicts of Interest form to complete and were asked to return their forms if they had not yet done so.

4. Minutes of the WYAD Board held on 28 January, 2016 for approval.
(WB-16-04-02) (WB-16-04-02-1)

A copy of the Draft Minutes of the WYAD Board meeting held on 28 January, 2016 had been circulated to the members. These were for approval by the Board.

All Agreed.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting.

The Chair gave an update on the item concerning Linda Box and the fraud allegation. The Board was informed that the regulator was now involved in the matter. The Board was asked to pray for all those involved.

There were no other matters arising from the Minutes.

(The non-elected Archdeacons replaced the Area Bishops for the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral matters Items 6 and 7.)

6. Minutes of the meeting of the Ripon, Huddersfield and Wakefield Episcopal Areas and historic Ripon and Leeds Mission and Pastoral Committees for noting.
(WB-16-04-03-1, WB-16-04-03-2, WB-16-04-03-3, WB-16-04-03-4)

The Minutes from the Area Mission and Pastoral Committees were for noting only and were taken as read. Judith Calvert confirmed that the minutes from the Ripon Episcopal area were historic as the meeting had taken place before the new Area Mission and Pastoral Committee was formed. There were no other questions.

7. Report from the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee Secretary.
(WB-16-04-04)

A summary report from Judith Calvert had been circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. Judith asked for comments/questions on the report. The following issues/observations were made:

- The report was exactly in the format the Board needed

- It was clarified that the Board's role was to endorse the decisions made at the Area Mission and Pastoral committees and so it was important that the Minutes from the Area M&P committees were read by the Board members.

At the end of Item 7 Judith Calvert left meeting, the Area Bishops re-join the meeting and the non-elected Archdeacons took no further part.

8. Diocesan Branding; a visual identity and nomenclature.

A copy of the Diocesan Branding document which had been circulated to the March 2016 Diocesan Synod had been circulated to the Board.

Alison Bogle explained that the Diocese of Leeds has been known as the "Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales" but that this was causing confusion, the connection between the diocesan bishop and the Diocese was being misunderstood and the name was too long causing errors in emails. In March, Diocesan Synod's views were sought on what name to use for the Diocese and overwhelmingly Synod members' comments were for using the official title of the Diocese of Leeds. The Board members were asked for their views on what name to use. The members commented that the Diocese should use Diocese of Leeds because of the issues Alison had already outlined and that using a city name was consistent with other dioceses which also covered wider areas. It was confirmed that where parishes and schools had already changed their notice boards to "Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales" they would be reimbursed for changing to "Diocese of Leeds".

It was agreed that the Diocese use its legal name: Diocese of Leeds without reference to the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.

Alison outlined the timetable for adopting the new branding would be: publication of the decision to use Diocese of Leeds; adoption of "@leeds.anglican.org" email addresses; agreeing a new logo from early July 2016.

(Bishop Toby Howarth joined the meeting).

9. Safeguarding – Goddard Inquiry Update.

Debbie Child outlined for the Board the Diocese's involvement in the Goddard Inquiry and the National Church's quality audit on Safeguarding:

Goddard Enquiry:

This is an independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, investigating whether public bodies

and other non-state institutions have taken seriously their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse in England and Wales. The Church of England is one of the institutions being investigated. As part of this, the Diocese had been asked to supply, within a 48 hours working period, evidence of its policies, procedures, practice guidelines and responses to investigations and convictions back to 1940, together with management controls and reporting procedures and recruitment disclosures including for volunteer recruitments. An extension of a week was obtained to supply the information and this deadline was met. It is unclear if further information/action will be required by the Inquiry.

National Church audit:

The National Church has also announced a quality audit on safeguarding. The audit of the Diocese of Leeds will take place in October 2016. The audit will be conducted by an independent body: Social Care for Excellence. The Diocese has been fully briefed on what information it needs to supply and the format of the audit. The audit includes parishes as well as the central administration and a lot of preparatory work will be needed before October. A key aspect of the audit will be how the Diocese responds to, supports and manage cases. The archdeacons and safeguarding advisers are involved in the preparations.

10. Parish Share update.

A copy of parish share receipts and the outturn as at February 2016 had been circulated to the Board.

Ashley Ellis reported that the share receipts were encouraging. In the same period in 2015, 8% of share had been collected whereas this year 9% had been collected. The summary outturn showed the current financial situation month by month. It was too early to forecast the final result but, on the current trend, a £1m deficit was forecast. Although a 100% share collection wasn't anticipated, savings to offset the shortfall would be made through vacancies in parish posts. It was noted that many parishes didn't make a regular (eg quarterly or monthly) share contribution. The Finance and Stewardship teams would be working to encourage more parishes to make a regular contribution.

11. New Parish Share Scheme.

At his request, a copy of a letter from Canon Paul Ayers concerning the Parish share scheme had been circulated to the Board for information.

Ashley Ellis reported that the feedback from Diocesan Synod on the proposed new parish share scheme had been encouraging and general support had been given for the proposed

scheme. The revised proposals will be finalised in the next few weeks ready to be presented for debate at the July 2016 Diocesan Synod. The Board members were asked for their views on the proposed new parish share scheme. During discussion the following comments were given:

- The goal was to produce a reasonably simple parish share policy. This meant it wasn't possible to accommodate many different individual parish scenarios.
- Canon Paul Ayers concerns that the original proposal had been diluted were noted. However, the option to introduce changes to the adopted policy after an initial period was a possibility.
- Some rural parishes would not have been able to pay their assessments if the original scheme had been introduced.
- Any proposal needed the support of Diocesan Synod - it wasn't thought the original proposal would have achieved this.
- Canon Paul Ayers concerns about the use of attendance figures were noted - the use of attendance figures did provide a link to those who actually gave in a parish.

The Board members were asked to let Ashley have any further comments by 5pm Friday, 22nd April, 2016.

12. 'Renewal and Reform' programme
- a) RME funding impact
 - b) Resourcing the Future

(WB-16-04-05)

Item 12 a) RME funding impact

Bishop Nick explained that Renewal and Reform was a programme formed by the Church Commissioners and Archbishops Council to address how dioceses are funded. Concerns had been raised that moneys given were not targeting those in most need. The Revd Canon Derek Walmsley, Diocesan Director of Ordinands had produced a paper to outline the implications of these changes for the Diocese. The paper was taken as read. The Board members discussed the paper and the following matters were raised/clarified:

- The bulk of the expenditure would be spent on clergy training but not to the exclusion of lay training.
- The ongoing issue of whether Ordinands were able/willing to serve in any part of the country after training was noted.
- Additional work was to be done to appoint assistant DDOVs
- Resourcing of the department would be reviewed as demand increased
- Lay ministry was currently being reviewed by the national church and a consultation paper was being circulated.

Item 12 (b) Resourcing the Future

Bishop Nick reported that Philip James, Head of the Resource Strategy & Development Unit, Church Commissioners and Archbishops Council, had given a presentation to Bishops staff on the “Resourcing the Future” Strategy funding. A copy of four slides from Philip James’ presentation had been circulated for the Board’s information. The proposal was for a new method of allocation of central funding to replace the Darlow formula. The new proposal was for 50% of the funding to go to deprived areas and 50% towards growth initiatives. Currently under the Darlow formula, the Diocese received over £3m for ministry support.

13. New Diocesan Office – Presentation of floor plans/computer images.

Ashley Ellis gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board showing the proposals for the interior layout of the new diocesan office. The Diocese will occupy three floors with the first floor leased to a third party until 2018. In addition to the open plan office space there would be meeting rooms and a coffee shop run by two not for profit enterprises to serve both staff and the community. The Bishop of Richmond and the Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven would have offices in the building too. The Board members discussed the presentation. It was confirmed that no decision would be made about the use of the current offices until after the move to the new office – with the exception of the Harrogate office where the lease had been extended by one month until the end of September, 2016.

14. Approval of items for the next Diocesan Synod agenda.
(WB-16-04-06)

A list of proposed substantive items for the next Diocesan Synod meeting had been circulated to the Board for discussion. In addition to the items on the list the Budget 2017 was added.

The Board agreed the list of substantive items to be included on the Diocesan Synod agenda.

15. Any other business

Council of Ripon Cathedral

The cathedral statutes provide for one person in holy orders to be appointed by the Bishop’s Council to the Council of Ripon Cathedral. It was proposed that The Revd Veronica James be appointed.

All agreed.

There was no other business.

16. Close

The Bishop of Leeds closed the meeting with the Grace.