

*These minutes don't include items the Board identified as confidential.*

MINUTES of the Leeds Board held at 6.30pm on 23 January 2018 at Church House, 17-19 York Place,  
Leeds LS1 2EX.

**Present:**

The Rt Revd Nick Baines (Chair), The Ven Paul Ayers, Mr Simon Baldwin, Mrs Marilyn Banister, Major Geoffrey Berry, Ms Kay Brown, The Ven Dr Anne Dawtry, Mrs Jane Evans, The Rt Revd Jonathan Gibbs, The Rt Revd Toby Howarth, The Ven Bev Mason, Mr Andrew Maude, Canon Ann Nicholl, The Rt Revd Tony Robinson, The Rt Revd Paul Slater, The Ven Peter Townley, Mrs Jane Wardman and The Revd Nigel Wright.

**In Attendance:**

Mr Ashley Ellis, Mrs Debbie Child, Mr Peter Foskett, The Revd Canon Andrew Norman and Ms Alison Bogle.

**1. Opening prayers.**

Bishop Paul Slater led the opening prayers.

**2. Welcome and Apologies.**

The Bishop of Leeds welcomed the members of the Board to the meeting. The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop of Ripon (designate) was also welcomed.

Apologies had been received from The Ven Andy Jolley, Dean John Dobson, The Revd Canon Simon Cowling, Mrs Judith Calvert and Mr Chris Tate.

The Board noted The Revd Martin Macdonald's resignation from the Leeds Board and its ancillary committees and groups.

**3. Declarations of interest.**

Members were reminded of the need to declare any conflict of interest on matters on the agenda.

None was disclosed.

**4. Minutes of the Leeds Board held on 15 November 2017 for approval.**

A copy of the draft Minutes of the Leeds Board meeting held on 15th November 2017 had been circulated to the members and were for approval.

Judith Calvert has sent an amendment to the Item 7 minute: The wording "a review of the EAM&PCs by the DMPC was to be carried out not less than every three years" should read "a review of the membership of the EAM&Ps.....". In addition the Item of Any Other Business had

been added.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes of 15 November 2017.

There were no matters arising.

6. Minutes of the meeting of the Episcopal Areas Mission and Pastoral Committees for noting and report from the DMPC Secretariat.

A diocesan website link to the draft minutes of the Bradford Area Mission & Pastoral Committee Minutes 08/11/17, draft Leeds EAMPC Minutes 21/11/17 and draft Ripon EAMPC Minutes 16/11/17 had been circulated to the Board members. These were for noting only. A report from the DMPC Secretariat had been circulated. There were no questions on the report.

7. Structure of the Leeds Board meetings 2018 (for noting).

A list of the proposed themes for each of the Leeds Board meetings in 2018 had been circulated for noting. It was agreed that the meeting scheduled for 12 November 2018 would be cancelled and any items of business would be considered at the Residential meeting on 9 - 10 November 2018.

8. Diocesan Strategy Review.

Members had been circulated with LB18-01-06 "5 Year outcomes" and LB18-01-06-1, LB18-01-06-2 and LB18-01-06-3 reports from the Purposeful Resourcing and Clergy and Lay Together working group and an interim report from the Dynamic Partnerships working group. Bishop Paul Slater gave an overview of the Strategy Review process so far. The Revd Canon Andrew Norman and Mrs Jane Evans gave a Power Point presentation on this item. Six strategic goals for the period 2019 – 2024 had been identified: Re-imagining Ministry; Building the Leadership Pipeline; Nurturing Lay Discipleship; Promoting a culture characterised by Loving, Living, Learning; Thriving as a large diocese and Growing Young Christians. The Board members discussed the six goals in small groups. Feedback was received from the small groups and was collected by members of the Strategy Group to inform the strategy process.

9. Diocesan Peer Review meeting report.

A copy of the Diocesan Peer Review report had been circulated to the Board members. The Bishop of Leeds and Debbie Child reported on the Diocesan Peer Review process. The Peer Review meeting had been on 13 December 2017. The process and report were to be seen as a critical friend, enabling the Diocese to ensure it works strategically. The report was positive but also outlined some key areas of challenge and development eg the financial situation, communications, education and training. The Board members gave feedback on the report including the timetable for implementing the report's recommendations, publication of the report on the diocesan website and the development of Reader ministry.

10. Dioceses Re-organisation Review meeting report.

The Bishop of Leeds reported on a meeting called by the Diocese and held with Archbishop of York and representatives of all the national church agencies involved in the creation of the Diocese of Leeds. Bishop Nick, Debbie Child, Ashley Ellis and Peter Foskett had attended the meeting. A narrative and a financial paper had been produced by the Diocese outlining the experience of the creation of the Diocese: pastorally and financially. The meeting was positive and was an opportunity to outline the practical issues and true people cost and financial costs of the re-

organisation. Hopefully this would inform any future diocesan re-organisations. There had been mention that there should be some recompense for the cost to the Diocese of the re-organisation and Bishop Nick would be following this up.

## 11. Joint Venture Arrangements update.

A copy of the Joint Venture discussion document (LB17-11-07) circulated for the November 2017 Leeds Board meeting, LB18-01-07 Joint Venture Proposal document, LB18-01-07-1 Outline of JV Agreement, CUF Joint Venture Charitable Objects and LB18-01-07-3 JV Articles of Association had been circulated to the Board members. Members were asked to approve the proposal set out in LB18-01-07. The Revd Canon Andrew Norman reminded the Board members that this matter had been introduced at the last Board meeting. The joint venture between the Church Urban Fund and the Diocesan Board of Finance would bring together and supersede the existing partnership arrangements with Wellsprings Together Bradford and Faithful Neighbours. The new joint venture would provide a charitable structure for diocesan community and social engagement, in partnership with CUF. Wellsprings Together and Faithful Neighbours had both agreed the proposals and Peter Foskett had advised on the legal structure. It was proposed that Bishop Toby Howarth be the Chair of the new structure. Bishop Toby emphasised that it was believed that the new Joint Venture structure would provide for a central body whilst also allowing the episcopal areas to have locally appropriate expressions of working. The Board discussed the possible liabilities and any costs connected with the proposals particularly with regard to transfer of undertakings, future contribution of funds and ongoing involvement in the management of the joint venture.

Bishop Toby disclosed an interest in this matter as Chair of Wellsprings Together and Faithful Neighbours.

The Board was asked to approve the Joint Venture proposal as set out in Joint Venture discussion document (LB17-11-07) circulated for the November 2017 Leeds Board meeting, LB18-01-07 Joint Venture Proposal document, LB18-01-07-1 Outline of JV Agreement, CUF Joint Venture Charitable Objects and LB18-01-07-3 JV Articles of Association.

The Board approved the proposal.

## 12. Financial Update.

A copy of the Parish Share reports to 30.11.17 and 31.12.17, Notes from the Finance Advisory Group 24.10.17, 16.11.17, 14.12.17 and 17.1.18 had been circulated to members.

Ashley Ellis spoke to this item. He highlighted that the Risk Register document circulated to members was a work in progress and not a finished document. The Parish Share receipts for 2017 were encouraging as there had been a new share system and an increase of receipts from the previous year. The parish share surgeries had been invaluable as the Finance and Stewardship teams had been able to engage with parishes on a one to one basis. The Annual Accounts were currently being produced. The annual audit would be in mid-March and it was hoped to have a draft of the accounts for the March Leeds Board meeting. The Board asked questions and gave feedback on the report. The archdeacons were asked to consider the non-payment of share by some parishes at their archdeacons' meeting.

13. Any other business.

Deanery motion for Diocesan Synod Agenda

A motion for General Synod from Inner Bradford deanery had been tabled. The Leeds Board was asked to give approval for this item to be considered at the 17 March 2018 Diocesan Synod. After discussion it was agreed that the motion be referred back to the Inner Bradford deanery synod for re-drafting. The Board members expressed concern that the structure was not robust enough to be successful as a Diocesan Synod or as a General Synod motion. The Board members asked that it be emphasised to the deanery that the Board's concern was not the subject matter of the motion, but its format – for example, that the motion would be less vulnerable if drafted as two motions.

14. Close.