

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MINUTES of the Leeds Board held at 6.30pm on 4th July 2017 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 Revd Canon Simon Cowling, The Ven Dr Anne Dawtry, The Very Revd John Dobson, Mrs Jane Evans, The Rt Revd Jonathan Gibbs, The Ven Andy Jolley, The Revd Martin Macdonald, The Revd Canon Tony Macpherson, Mr Andrew Maude, Canon Ann Nicholl, The Rt Revd Tony Robinson, The Rt Revd Paul Slater and Mrs Jane Wardman.

In Attendance:

Mr Ashley Ellis, Mrs Debbie Child, Mrs Judith Calvert, Mr Peter Foskett, The Revd Canon Andrew Norman and Mr Chris Tate.

1. Opening prayers.

The Very Revd John Dobson led the opening prayers.

2. Welcome and Apologies.

The Bishop of Leeds welcomed the members of the Board to the meeting.

Apologies from Board members had been received from:

Bishop Toby Howarth

Archdeacon Bev Mason

Archdeacon Peter Townley

3. Declarations of interest.

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

None was declared.

4. Minutes of the Leeds Board held on 8th May 2017 for approval.

A copy of the draft Minutes of the Leeds Board meeting held on 8th May 2017 had been circulated to the members and were for approval.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

It was confirmed that the Strategy group kept the notes from the Strategy item.

Matters which should be kept confidential/redacted from online publication.

The Board agreed no items were to be redacted.

Item of Any other business

The Bishop of Leeds raised concerns about the governance structure and that there was not enough time at meetings to focus on specific issues. It was agreed that there should be six meetings per year and that each meeting could focus on one of the key areas ie two on finance matters, two on Mission and Pastoral matters and two of Strategy/Policy.

All agreed.

The Board attended to Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee business. The non-elected Archdeacons joined the Board and the Area Bishops became observers.

6. Minutes of the meeting of the Episcopal Areas Mission and Pastoral Committees for noting.

A diocesan website link to the draft minutes of the Bradford Area Mission & Pastoral Committee Minutes 05/5/17, draft Huddersfield EAMPC Minutes 15/05/17, draft Leeds EAMPC Minutes 25/04/17, draft Ripon EAMPC Wakefield EAMPC Minutes 09/05/17 had been circulated to the Board members. The Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee Secretary, Mrs Judith Calvert, confirmed that these were for noting. There were no questions raised.

7. Report from the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee Secretary.

A report from the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee Secretary had been circulated to the Board. Judith gave an overview of her report and specifically explained the process and diocesan responsibility in respect of closed churches.

Judith Calvert left the meeting.

8. Strategic Plan Discussion

Members had been circulated with the proposal from the last meeting together with a revised Executive Summary document. Bishop Paul Slater and The Revd Canon Andrew Norman gave a presentation and led a discussion. The Diocesan Strategy group had identified three vision items: Clergy and Lay Together; Purposeful resourcing and Dynamic partnerships. Three sub-groups will look at each of these areas and report to the Diocesan Strategy group. The first group (Clergy and Lay Together) chaired by Jane Evans, will report at the beginning of October and the other two subgroups will begin later in the year. The Board was asked to consider in small groups, seven questions on the theme of Clergy and Lay Together: Discipleship and lay vocation; Licensed and

authorised lay ministries; clergy competence and oversight skills; partnership between clergy and laity; children and young people; ministry for specific contexts and fresh expressions and pioneer ministry. The feedback would be used by the Clergy and Lay together sub group.

#### 9. Communications - Renewing Anglican Connections.

Chris Tate, Diocesan Director of Communications gave a presentation focussing on the communications issues faced by the diocese, particularly around building the Diocese of Leeds identity and attracting people to return to faith/church. The Board members discussed these issues and contributed proposals/ideas to Chris, including sharing stories of what the diocese is doing and what informs these actions, asking current members of the diocesan churches what would attract their friends to return to faith/church; having a robust mission strategy, using social media to share the stories and speaking prophetically.

#### 10. Financial Update and Strategy.

Members had been circulated with the Finance Report and Parish Share report (both to 31.5.17), the notes of the Finance Advisory Group from 20.4.17, a copy of the Budget document circulated to Diocesan Synod (DS2017-06-05) and a Financial Discussion paper (LB-17-07-06-3).

Ashley Ellis reported that a document showing the June 2017 parish share receipts had been tabled. The receipts were 2% higher than at the same time in 2016.

The Revd Martin Macdonald presented the confidential Financial discussion paper. This paper set out extreme parameters for achieving a break-even budget beyond 2020. It assumed no restricted funds were available. Key matters highlighted to the Board were to achieve a break even budget by 2020 by share increase alone there would need to be an 18% increase in share contributions. Alternatives would be to reduce stipendiary clergy numbers by 62 stipends or a reduction in support for parishes and schools or a combination of these proposals. The Board members discussed the questions for discussion on the circulated paper (Parish Share: How do we achieve more parish share income? Deployment: How do we proactively reduce stipend costs? Baseline Studies; Support for Parishes/Schools – How do we reduce costs? Which areas to prioritise? Can volunteers carry out some paid posts? Other Sources of Income? What do other Dioceses do?) and gave feedback.

#### 11. Allocation of Numbers for the Diocesan Synod elections 2018.

Members had been circulated with a proposal for the allocation of elected places on the Diocesan Synod for the 2018 – 2021 term in readiness for the elections in 2018. Ashley explained that it was proposed that for the Diocesan Synod elections in 2018, the same formula as for the 2015 – 2018 triennium be used for the determination of the numbers of elected members allocated to each deanery for election and so the total number of deanery elected members of the Diocesan Synod remain the same. It was also proposed that the method of voting be the same as agreed by Diocesan Synod for the 2015 elections (ie first past the post).

All agreed.

12. Representative for Bradford Cathedral Council.

The Diocesan Board needed to approve a further three year term for a Board member to sit on the Bradford Cathedral Council. Marilyn Bannister had served for three years and was willing to serve another term. It was proposed that Marilyn Banister be the member for the Leeds Board on the Bradford Cathedral Council.

All agreed.

13. Any other business.

Additional items for the Diocesan Synod 14 October 2017.

It was proposed that the additional items of new Deanery Synod Rules and a proposal that the minutes from the Diocesan Synod be posted on the diocesan website be added to the list of items to be considered by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting on 14 October 2017.

All agreed.

14 Close.

The Bishop of Leeds closed the meeting in prayer.