

Synod Reports - APCM 2022

Deanery Synod

The first meeting of Deanery Synod in 2021 took place at All Saints Church on 13th July. The principal topic addressed was the 'Living in love and faith' initiative, which was led by Rev Jane Winter who also gave a presentation on the initiative.

To celebrate the fact that it was an in-person meeting (plus Zoom) refreshments were provided after the meeting.

The other meeting was held on 18th November, unfortunately back on Zoom. As we had experienced in 2020, there appears little real appetite for those meetings and attendance was relatively poor, perhaps influenced by the absence of a compelling speaker. Good use of the time was made by planning some really interesting sessions for 2022:

- a session to discuss the report 'From Lament to Action', which addresses how C of E should positively encourage people from an ethnic minority to gain senior positions in the Church (that session has already taken place and was very interesting – but more on that in next year's report).

- a session to discuss Eco-Church, with confirmed guest speaker – Lord Deben. It will be held on 25 May 2022 at St Francis, Petts Wood and will be open to all.

It was also decided at that meeting to put on a Deanery 'Living in love and faith' course, so that people from churches who weren't planning their own could still participate.

Steve McCann and Mary Tozer

Diocesan Synod

There were three meetings during the year, in March, June (both Zoom) and November (in person).

At all meetings there are reports about Safeguarding, General Synod and Bishop's Council, plus the major current initiatives - Called Together and Living in Love and Faith being the current matters.

The March meeting received reports about Finance and some fairly arcane, but important, stuff that needed approval.

June contained similar reports, plus the need to approve the 2020 Accounts. An interesting discussion took place on the use of 'Missional Funds' covering several areas such as property and children's work.

November's meeting looked in detail at the 2022 Budget and also received reports from the Diocesan Board of Education.

Finally, I hope you receive the newsletter from Diocese; it's called 'Together' and is sent out quarterly. More details can be found on the Communications page of the (new) Diocesan website: [Diocese of Rochester | Communication \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org)

Steve McCann