

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWELL AND NOTTINGHAM

**NOTTINGHAM NORTH DEANERY
and
NOTTINGHAM SOUTH DEANERY**

**Minutes of the third joint inaugural meeting of
Nottingham North and Nottingham South Deaneries
on Thursday 20 November 2008 at 19.30
at Holy Trinity Church, Lenton, Nottingham**

Present: 9 clerical and 24 lay members of Nottingham North and 13 clerical and 30 lay members of Nottingham South.

Members of General Synod: Canon Dr Christina Baxter, the Revd Canon Prof. Anthony Thiselton.

By invitation: The Revd David Jones (Diocesan Officer for Urban Life and Mission).

In attendance: Malcolm Stacey (administrative support)

Apologies: 3 clerical and 9 lay members of Nottingham North and 4 clerical and 11 lay members of Nottingham South.

1. Gathering

Members assembled from 19.00 for refreshments and a time of worship led by the Revd Martin Kirkbride, Vicar of Lenton. There was a pause for reflection on the life of Gilbert Gimson (St Mary and All Souls, Bulwell) who had died since attending the last meeting.

2. The way forward for mission

The exercise to identify parishes' strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats (see the minutes of 10 September 2008 appendix 2) had been followed by an attempt to prioritise them (see the minutes of 23 September 2008 appendix 1). The next task was to explore the most highly rated items further:

- serving the community/social action partnership [details to follow]
- ministry of welcome
- worship in a mission context
- spiritual vitality
- collaborative leadership development
- equipping Christians for mission
- outreach to:
 - the lapsed
 - those searching for spirituality
 - teenagers to 35
 - men

This was approached in several different ways according to the topic and the outcomes are summarised in appendix 1.

3. Mission stories

During the evening members were provided with brief accounts of mission in the parishes:

- *Stella Tyers* described the way in which worship at Bestwood Park was made accessible to those with learning difficulties.
- *Anne Walters* spoke about how her completion of the Bishop's Certificate had led to a re-appraisal of baptism preparation, ceremonies and follow-up at Wollaton.
- *The Revd Karen Rooms* explained how asylum seekers at Hyson Green were assisted with making applications and provided with temporary housing. She also drew attention to the petition to the Home Secretary being circulated in support of a member of the congregation, Julian Singh.
- *The Revd David Jones* recalled how up to 50 people had been provided with overnight shelter and meals over the past two Christmases at Thomas Helwys Baptist Church, Lenton, and also put in touch with appropriate agencies. This was not happening in 2008 because there was no-one to co-ordinate it.

4. Other aspects of the new deaneries' structures

a *parish share*. In the absence of new deanery treasurers and leadership teams the two area deans and three lay chairs had met with some of the officers of the four former deaneries to address the urgent matter of allocating the deanery shares for 2009 between the parishes. The 2009 deanery shares showed a reduction for Nottingham South and an increase for Nottingham North in comparison with 2008. It was decided that for 2009 the two shares should be put together and apportioned in as fair a way as possible. The results of these calculations were presented to the annual meeting of incumbents and treasurers at St George's, Nottingham on 10 November and generally accepted. Negotiations were still in progress over one parish.

b *resource directory*. Anne Walters and Keith Wood volunteered to compile a directory of resources.

c *appointment of administrator*. The diocese had now agreed to the appointment of a part-time administrator for the two deaneries jointly and was working on a job description with a view to an appointment being made early in the new year. It would be possible to provide an office at the Vine Centre, Hyson Green, which was a relatively central location.

d *vacancies*. Members were asked to pray for the parishes facing vacancies. Interviews at Hyson Green were imminent. The Revd Jim Neill would be retiring from St Ann with Emmanuel, Nottingham on 31 December. The Revd Christopher Harrison would be licensed as Priest-in-charge of All Saints, St Mary and St Peter, Nottingham on 22 February.

e *Archdeacon's visitation*. This had been fixed for Tuesday 19 May 2009 at St Mary's, Nottingham at 19.00 (signing in) for 19.30.

f *synod meetings*. There was a short discussion on how members had reacted to the first three meetings of the two new synods. On a show of hands there was a majority in favour of continuing to hold joint meetings and it was decided that the next meeting on 24 February 2008 should be joint. There was also support for a mixture of joint and separate meetings and a suggestion that the two deaneries should meet separately at the same location and join together later in the evening.

5. Date of next meeting

There would be a further joint meeting of the two deaneries on Tuesday 24 February 2009 at 19.00 for 19.30 at St Martin's Church, Sherwood.

Those present received a copy of the deanery diary for 2009 which would be distributed to those not present with these minutes.

Malcolm Stacey
Caretaker Co-ordinator
1 Arnesby Road
NOTTINGHAM
NG7 2EA

0115 978 5718
stacey@arnesby1.fsnet.co.uk

25 November 2008

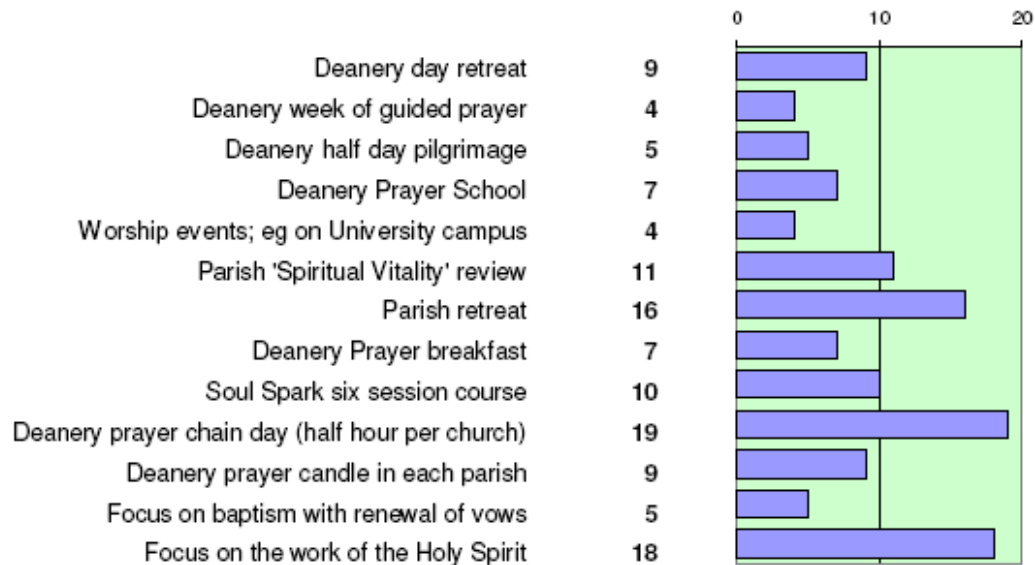
APPENDIX 1 20 November 2008

Ian Tarrant has kindly supplied this analysis:

Spiritual vitality

Analysis of responses made at a meeting of Nottingham North & South Deaneries 20th November 2008

Members were asked to tick three out of 13 possible actions.



A few members added their own suggestions and comments, including the observations that good prayer, preaching and Bible study are essential for every parish; and some of the activities above could duplicate what is already done by ecumenical and other networks.

A couple of extra suggestions were made that would not be hard to implement:

- preparation of a Deanery map, with prayer intentions on the back (this would be useful, for example, in the prayer chain day proposed, but also at other times).
- offering opportunities to visit the 'best' worship of churches of different Anglican traditions in order to broaden mutual understanding and respect.

Ministry of Welcome

Task

We are aiming to develop a Directory of Resource Churches in Nottingham and to run an event next year when we can learn from each other in this area.

What experience could your church offer?

No. of offers	Topics in random order
14 1 1	<i>Welcoming</i> both week by week and specific events involving newcomers in specific groups facilities for away-days
1 2 1	<i>Occasional offices</i> baptism bereavement marriage
2 1 1 1 3 2 1	<i>Outreach</i> open church street stewards Hope 08 and successors schools drop-in occasions Alpha courses tied in with local attraction
1 1 1 2	<i>Worship</i> music all age assembling a large team café
1	<i>Ecumenical</i>
3	<i>Facilities for disabled</i>
1 1 3	<i>Young people</i> students youth toddlers
3 1 1	<i>Pastoral</i> listening pastoral care recognising birthdays
5 1	<i>Groups</i> house groups counselling group

Worship in a mission context

(eg funerals, baptisms, weddings, Remembrance, Harvest, Mothering Sunday)

Task

We are aiming to develop a Directory of Resource Churches in Nottingham and to run an event next year when we can learn from each other in this area.

What experience could your church offer?

No. of offers	Topics
1	Nursing and retirement home worship
1	Sheltered housing
2	Civic
1	Chaplaincy
1	Making choral worship more missionary
1	Worship and prayer in the workplace
1	Christmas with community involvement
1	Uniformed organisations
4	Marriage
2	Fathers' Day
8	Bereavement
1	Well prepared worship
1	Bonfire night
4	Remembrance
1	Re-ordering of church
6	Baptism
1	Youth
1	Mothering Sunday
1	All Saints
1	Back to church
2	Carol services
1	Men's breakfast
1	Tea club for housebound
1	Marriage celebration
1	All age
1	Taizé
1	Use data projection
1	Prayer stations

Collaborative Leadership

Task

What in your experience have been the most effective ways of developing collaborative leadership in your church?

No.	Examples
8	Leadership courses
7	Asking people to help
5	Team-building
4	Delegation
4	Identifying and supporting leaders
4	Discerning individual ministry
2	Involvement beyond church
1	Collaboration in worship
1	Leader who values gifts of others
1	Listening to opinions and valuing them
1	Communications
9	Parish-specific factors

What are you missing?

No	Examples
6	People
6	Team skills
6	Training
3	Youth leaders
3	Trust
2	Young leaders
1	Understanding of authority
1	Extending mission to a wider field
1	Discerning our mission
1	Practical skills
1	Communication
2	Parish-specific factors

Equipping Christians for Mission

Task

What in your experience have been the most effective ways of equipping Christians for mission?

No.	Examples
13	Mentoring
6	Training
6	Groups
4	Clear explanations
3	Observe the gospels
2	Safe environment
2	Worship to enthuse
2	Get people on the streets
1	Recognise calling
1	Christian holidays
1	Growing own faith
1	Building confidence
1	Learning by mistakes
1	Reflection on faith
1	Alpha courses
1	Encouraging love
1	Prayer for unity
1	Nurturing children
1	Encouraging persistence in the faith
1	Explaining mission
1	Go for some quick wins to boost confidence
1	Open church
1	Demonstration rather than teaching

What are the barriers to achieving this?

No.	Examples
13	Attitudes
9	Time
9	Lack of confidence
5	Fear
3	Cost
3	Social and cultural factors
2	People
2	Perception of church
1	Isolation
1	Poor communication