

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWELL AND NOTTINGHAM

**NOTTINGHAM NORTH DEANERY
and
NOTTINGHAM SOUTH DEANERY**

**Minutes of the second joint inaugural meeting of
Nottingham North and Nottingham South Deaneries
on Tuesday 23 September 2008 at 19.30
at Bluecoat School, Aspley Lane, Nottingham**

Present: 19 clerical and 31 lay members of Nottingham North and 23 clerical and 41 lay members of Nottingham South.

Members of General Synod: Colin Slater, the Revd Canon Prof. Anthony Thiselton.

By invitation: The Bishop of Sherwood (the Rt Revd Tony Porter), the Archdeacon of Nottingham (the Ven. Peter Hill), the Revd David Jones (Diocesan Officer for Urban Life and Mission), the Revd David McCoulough (Diocesan Associate Director: Partnerships), the Revd Rachel Shock (iChaplaincy Development Worker) and members of St John's College.

In attendance: Malcolm Stacey (administrative support)

Apologies: 6 clerical and 19 lay members of Nottingham North and 17 clerical and 24 lay members of Nottingham South.

1. Gathering

Members assembled from 19.00 for refreshments, a short activity, an introduction to the programme and a time of worship.

2. Reflection on the analysis of parishes' strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats

In 20 groups, each consisting of about half a dozen representatives of different parishes and old deaneries, members reflected on and discerned the priorities from the SWOT analysis carried out on 10 September. A summary appears as appendix 1.

3. Parish share

In the same groups members considered twelve principles which would guide the allocation of parish share in the coming year. They were then asked to rank nine ways in which the allocation could be accomplished and invited to add a tenth. A summary of these results appears as appendix 2.

4. Election of Lay Chairs

Nottingham South: **Robert Cleave**, proposed by Cynthia Jones and seconded by Lawrie Crawforth, and elected unopposed.

Nottingham North: **Peter Munro** and **Anne Walters** as joint Lay Chairs, proposed by Philip Brooks and seconded by Sally Smith, and both elected unopposed.

5. Sharing mission stories from different traditions

Three contrasting speakers outlined how their parishes approached mission. The Revd Jenny Corcoran from Christ Church, Chilwell described their lay-led mission initiatives including Alpha courses, their listening service and a developing Tuesday morning café. The Revd Jonathan McGillivray from St John the Evangelist, Carrington explained how a church in the Catholic tradition met the needs both of a community with a leaning towards the *Guardian* and a much wider geographical area by its emphasis on the Eucharist conducted well. The Revd Mandy Cartwright from St Martin's, Bilborough, All Saints', Strelley and St John's, Bilborough showed how the three parishes each had different emphases: respectively the recent decision to establish Sunday instruction and worship for children, the opportunities provided by a building which attracted marriages and a drawing together of the congregation through social interaction.

6. Next steps

A SWOT Response sheet was circulated to each member of Synod and two task groups were set up to agree Parish share and to plan the next joint Synod meeting.

7. Act of Commitment

The evening closed with a brief address by Bishop Tony who invited parishes to show their commitment to mission by planning initiatives for 2009 and in particular to consider holding a deanery weekend of mission.

8. Inauguration of the new deaneries

The nine new deaneries of the diocese would be formally launched when their area deans and lay chairs were commissioned at a service in Southwell Minster on Sunday 5 October 2008 at 15.30 which everyone was warmly urged to attend.

9. Date of next meeting

There would be one further joint meeting of the two deaneries on Thursday 20 November 2008 at 19.30 at Holy Trinity, Lenton. The two deaneries would then meet separately for the first time in 2009.

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