



Harrogate Deanery Synod

16th May 2022

All Saints' Church, Kirkby Overblow, North Yorkshire, HG3 1HD

MAIN SPEAKER:

The Revd Canon Dr Hayley Matthews – Director of Lay Training

Present 7 Clergy 20 Laity

Apologies 13 Clergy 20 Laity

Welcome The meeting was opened by the Lay Chair, Mr Justin Brett. He welcomed everyone and thanked our hosts, The Revd Craig Marshall and his team for arranging the venue and providing refreshments.

The Meeting Opened in Prayer led by The Revd Craig Marshall.

Apologies for Absence See above

Minutes of the Last Meeting There were two amendments:

- Mr Robert Haskins, St James Church, Wetherby, kindly informed the Secretary via email that a Youth Worker had been appointed in Wetherby in December 2021 and she was already making a great impression.
- Dr Sue Atkin pointed out that her surname had been misspelt.

The amendments have been made and the minutes signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising not on the Agenda There were none.

Good News from the Deanery

1) **St James's Church, Wetherby:** Mrs Val Lumsden, informed that Tina Obbard, the Children's, Young People and Families Worker, has been highly successful in gathering people around her and in starting a new 'Forest Church'. This happens once a month and focuses on celebrating our Creator God. Val described a recent service, in which bug houses had been built by the children, to highlight how God cares for all creation, even tiny things. The services are very popular with both children and adults.

2) **St Mark's Church, Harrogate:** Dr Sue Atkin shared the good news that The Revd Liz Resch has recently been appointed as the Children and Families Ministry Leader.

3) **The Church of St Thomas the Apostle, Killinghall:** Dr Sue Macdonald, informed that a new Musical Director had recently been appointed and they are now looking forward to good things from their three existing choirs.

4) **Christ Church, High Harrogate:** Miss Beth Hamer, shared the good news that the Revd Caroline Taylor has been appointed as Curate.

5) **All Saints' Church, Kirkby Overblow:** The Revd Craig Marshall reported how joyful it is that the children and young people who joined in worship via Zoom during lockdown are now actively attending Church services in person.

6) **St Peter's Church, Harrogate:** The Revd Dr Alan Garrow shared the good news that a number of families who have moved to Harrogate from Hong Kong have connected with St Peter's and are regularly attending services and engaging in the life of St Peter's Church.

7) **Walkingham Hill Benefice:** The Revd Claire Renshaw, explained that it has been difficult to appoint Churchwardens, but recently a large village meeting took place at which the need for three key groups was identified: 1) Property, 2) Administration, 3) Worship. The Vergers have taken responsibility for the Worship group, and 20 – 30 non-church goers are actively involved in the Property and Administration groups. There are still no official Churchwardens, but there are many people doing necessary and important jobs and getting involved with the church.

8) **St Robert's Church, Pannal:** The Revd John Smith, reported that the very popular after school 'Crumpet Church', which was postponed during lockdown, has now restarted with approximately 50 children and 35 adults regularly attending. Additionally, a concert and an Arts & Craft exhibition was held to raise funds for the Ukraine. The concert was fully attended and welcomed families from the Ukraine. A prayer was sung in Ukrainian.

9) **St John's Church, Bilton:** The Revd Laura Martin, spoke about the Comfort, Bereavement Café which is held once a month. The café provides a valuable space for people who are experiencing grief and wanting to share the pain of loss. Seventeen people attended last week's café.

Vacancies up-date

1) The Revd Simon Dowson, **Bilton Parish**, explained that initial interviews for a new clergy position – in place of the role previously filled by Revd Andy Patrick – half time Team Vicar, half time Mission Enabler, were unsuccessful. Further interviews will be held on 7th July, with an expectation that someone will be in place by October 2022.

2) The Revd Lisa Holland was licensed by the Bishop of Ripon at St John's Church, Knaresborough, on Thursday 7th April 2022.

3) The Revd Craig Marshall thanked the Revd David Wheeler for his loyal service and described him as being 'much loved'. Craig wished David a very happy retirement. As David has PTO it is possible

that he may help out with future services from time to time. The Craig informed that recruitment for an Associate Priest will take place in September 2022, for January 2023 start.

4) The Revd Dr Alan Garrow explained that the recruitment for a new incumbent in the Washburn and Mid-Wharfe Benefice is ongoing and likely to take some time.

Deanery Finance The Treasurer, Mr Iain Ward-Campbell, reported there was no substantial change in the finances of the Deanery.

Deanery Communications The Revd Garrow announced the launch of the new Harrogate Deanery Website. <http://www.harrogatedeanery.org> The purpose of the website is to provide a central point for information and communication.

Guest Speaker: The Revd Canon Dr Hayley Matthews – Director of Lay Training Diocesan Lay Training

Hayley was appointed Director of Lay Training in the Diocese of Leeds five years ago.

The purpose of her presentation at Synod was two-fold:

- To inform about the range of lay training being offered
- To ascertain what lay training members of Synod would like in their parishes

The Current Offer

Hayley was keen to emphasise that Lay Training has been designed using a blended approach to learning. This blended approach combines face-to-face learning with online technology learning.

- **Face-to-face.** This takes place in person with either a trainer at your church, or at the training Hubs in Mirfield or Bingley
- **Online.** This is either directed or self-paced using the resources on the Diocesan Learning Platform <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org>

Hayley explained that the digital platform allows people to access the learning and resources at a time to suit them, thereby making the learning fit around people's own personal circumstances. She introduced the following Lay Ministry courses:

The Discovery Course

This is a foundation course for Lay Ministry. This on-line self-paced course helps you to discover how and where God is calling you to serve. The course material requires approximately 10-12 hours of individual study. As a participant, you interact with others and the course tutor through discussion forums, by typing comments and questions and 'posting' them in the forum. The outcome of this course is a clearer understanding of how your personal style can play a part in where you would be best placed to serve. <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/self-paced-discovery-course-2021/> An in-person version of this course is also available: <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/resource/the-discovery-course/>

Lay Pastoral Minister Course

Hayley explained that there are three levels of training for those called to pastoral ministry

1) Level 1 – Lay Pastoral Visitor

This is a stand-alone two hour taster course. It is designed for people who have little experience or training in having **pastoral conversations**. It is beneficial for anyone wishing to be a hospital visitor, part of a congregational pastoral care group or undertake home visiting.

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/ministry/pastoral-worker/>

2) Level 2 – Lay Pastoral Assistant

This is a 10 week course. It expands on pastoral conversations and is designed for people who wish to go deeper into pastoral conversations, understand more about grief and loss, have the tools to handle sensitive topics and understand human and spiritual development.

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/pastoral-assistant-training/>

3) Level 3 – Lay Pastoral Minister

This is 10 month course. It is designed to develop advanced skills and leadership skills for those involved in providing pastoral care and support within their parish. The course takes place over three terms. During the final term, Lay Pastoral Ministers are commissioned in their parish during Pentecost season. The following year, Lay Pastoral Ministers are active in their parish and receive an additional six mentoring and training sessions.

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/lay-pastoral-ministry-course-22-23>

Lay Worship Leader

This is 10 month course. It is designed to develop the skills and knowledge required to lead worship in a parish under the supervision of the incumbent. Those who complete the course will have an in-depth understanding of the theology of worship and worship in the Bible. They will also gain practical knowledge of how to prepare worship using a range of resources available within Common Worship. The course takes place over three terms and in the third term, Lay Worship Leaders are commissioned in their parish during Pentecost Season.

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/lay-worship-leaders-course-21-22>

Licensed Lay Minister

This is a 2-year academic qualification. It is designed to provide people with the skills to have conversations with people in their parish, which are grounded in good theology. On successful completion of the course, participants are licensed by their Bishop to preach, teach, lead worship, and assist in many other areas of the mission and ministry of church life. The qualification has three aspects to it, following the recent review of Reader Training (now LLM)

- i) Mission enabler
- ii) Leader in church and society; providing a bridge between church and community
- iii) Preachers and teachers of God; teaching the Word of God

<https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/ministry/licensed-lay-minister>

Occasional Preachers Course

This comprises eight evening zoom sessions, plus one full day of practical preaching experience. This new diocesan Lay Ministry pathway is designed for lay people who are unable to commit to becoming Licensed Lay Ministers but still feel called to be preaching ministry on an occasional basis. <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/course/occasional-preachers-course-summer-2022>

Rhythm of Life Venture

This is designed to develop spirituality in a holistic way. The 'Rhythm of Life' initiative is offered as a way of helping each of us adopt new rhythms of life, as our circumstances change. It is designed to work with and add to the rhythm of any good things we are already doing. It pays special attention to 7 key areas: Praying, Encouraging, Reflecting, Celebrating, Resting, Sharing and Creating. It explores which aspect of our spirituality is God wanting us to develop and grow. <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/rol/>

Supporting Videos

Hayley's presentation was supported throughout by three video clips to illustrate the kind of learning participants have experienced. These are available to download on the Learning Platform.

Helen Jackson, LLM: <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/resource/helen-jackson-llm-ministry-and-training/>

Fiona Pearman, Lay Pastoral Worker: <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/story/fiona-pearman-pastoral-student/>

Nigel Priestley, This Time Tomorrow: <https://learning.leeds.anglican.org/story/nigel-priestley-this-time-tomorrow/>

What does your parish/benefice need?

Hayley concluded her presentation by asking, 'If you could have one lay training course, which one would it be?' She invited email responses Hayley.Matthews@leeds.anglican.org

Question: Dr Sue Atkin, pointed out that there are a lot of volunteers who are already doing some of these roles, and asked how does this align with those how would like to become lay ministers?

Answer: By undertaking and completing the Lay Ministry training modules, participants will have greater understanding, increased depth of knowledge and enhanced skills to perform these roles effectively.

Question: Mr Brian Shipman, St Bartholomew Church, Arkendale, asked where safeguarding fits into the training Hayley described.

Answer: All participants are required to go through the safer recruitment procedure, and everyone engaged in the above ministries is subject to safeguarding training – which is now provided at a national level.

Mr Justin Brett, the Lay Dean brought the evening to a close by thanking the Revd Canon Dr Hayley Matthews for her presentation.

A.O.B There was none.

Closing prayers were led by The Area Dean, who thanked everyone for attending. The meeting finished at 8.50pm.

FUTURE DATES

- **Tuesday, 18th October 2022.** Speaker: Karin Shaw. Fresh Expressions Enabler – Greenhouse. St Wilfrid's Church, Duchy Road, Harrogate, HG1 2EY
- **Thursday, 2nd February 2023.** Bishop's Deanery Event. Christ Church, Church Square, Harrogate, HG1 4SW

ALL MEETINGS SCHEDULED – 7pm for 7.30 pm – 9 pm

Please send agenda items and apologies to Helen Camm, Deanery Synod Secretary
secretary.harrogatedeanery@leeds.anglican.org