

Dorchester Deanery Synod

Minutes of the first meeting of the eighteenth triennium held on Tuesday 24th November 2020 by Zoom

Present: List kept by Secretary.

Apologies: Jim Burg

1. **Opening Prayer:**

The Revd Jonathan Still opened with a prayer, 'The Field'. He welcomed all to the meeting including those newly elected via zoom meetings from their APCM's. After five years as the Rural Dean he has decided to step down and Revd Sarah Hillman (Asst Rural Dean) will swap places with him.

2. **Licensing of Officers:**

Bishop Karen thanked Jonathan for all his work for the Deanery and proceeded to licence the Revd Sarah Hillman as Rural Dean and the Revd Jonathan Still as Assistant Rural Dean. These posts are for 7 years. Sarah thanked Jonathan for all his support.

3. **Election of Officers:**

Sarah explained that Alan Neades is, after 21 years as Secretary, stepping down. Alan's organisation, comprehensive minutes and connections to all has been much appreciated and he received a gift in the post today. Jane Pridmore was the only nomination for Secretary and was elected unanimously to the post. Margaret Morrissey and Michael Clarke are happy to remain as Chair and Treasurer respectively and were also unanimously elected as there were no other nominations.

4. **Standing Committee/Pastoral Committee Members:**

Sarah invited six persons other than the elected officers to come forward for this Committee which is a mixture of clergy and laity. Heather Smith (Minterne), Charles Hodgson (Sydling St Nicholas), Roger Holehouse (West Knighton), Jill Minchin (Dorchester), the Rev Mark Phillips (Charminster and Stinsford) and the Rev Roger Butcher (Piddlevalley, Hilton, Anstey) were happy to stand and duly elected.

5. **Minutes of Meeting of 1st October 2019:**

These were accepted with a thumbs up and will be signed when we next meet in person.

6. **Matters Arising:**

Sarah updated on the Renewing Hope for Rural Ministry and said Alice Farnhill has resigned and Margaret Preuss-Higham has now taken the post.

7. **Introduction of New Team Rector of Dorchester:**

The Revd Keith Magee was welcomed at the new Team Rector. He was formerly Vicar of St Peter, Braunstone Park in the Diocese of Leicester and moved here on 26th October. He is keen to bring Parish and Benefice into the church. We also welcome the Revd Cora Yarrien, appointed to the Team Ministry in Dorchester for St George's Fordington.

8. **AOB:** None.

9. **Closing Prayer**

The Revd Sarah Hillman gave the closing prayers from Evening Prayer passages.