

Deanery Synod Annual Report 2024

Rural Dean: Revd Bill Britt; **Deputy Rural Dean:** Revd Christopher Bunce; **Lay Chair:** Neil Greatorex; **Treasurer:** Alison Collis; **Deanery Synod Secretary:** Vacant from November 2023 to September 2024. Elizabeth Cranfield (from September 2024).

Elections for deanery representatives at the Diocesan Synod for the 2024/2027 triennium took place during the year. The following were elected:

Six Clergy representatives:

- Rev Christopher Bunce
- Rev Mary Fane De Salis
- Rev Jessica McLaren
- Rev Katherine Little
- Rev Patricia Reed
- Rev Jennifer McQuaid

Six Laity representatives:

- Alison Collis
- Elizabeth Cranfield
- Kavita Dowsett
- Neil Greatorex
- Michael Kershaw
- Bethanie Tranter

Following Diocesan Synod elections, Elizabeth Cranfield and Kavita Dowsett are members of Bishop's Council.

There were five Deanery Synod meetings in 2024.

6th Feb 2024 at St Faith's, Hitchin: Suzanne Clarkson, Diocesan Advisory Service, gave an insight into the workings and services that the DAS has to offer within the Diocese.

17th April 2024 at St George's, Norton: Maggie Dodd the St Albans Anna Chaplaincy Lead, and Peter Curtis, the Anna Chaplain at St Peter's Church in St Albans, gave an insight into the work of the Anna Chaplaincy, a national network of chaplain. It is an ecumenical, community-based chaplaincy promoting the spiritual welfare of older people.

27th June 2024 at St Mary's, Stotfold: The Synod members present formed into small groups and produced a list of topics for future Deanery Synod meetings.

24th September 2024, St Thomas of Canterbury, Wilbury: Richard Jackson, St Albans Diocese Local Church Income Support Officer gave a variety of suggestions on ways of raising money through different uses of church assets.

November 2024, St Mary's, Willian: Jenny Ryder-O'Regan, Senior HR Business Partner at HR Redway, provided an overview of the services that HR Redway can provide to parish churches, in particular the free HR audits for which the diocese pays.

Dates for Deanery Synod meetings in 2025:

- 6th February 2025, St Mary's, Hitchin
- 28th April 2025, St George's, Norton
- 1st July 2025, St Hippolytus, St Ippolyts
- 24th September 2025, Holy Saviour, Hitchin
- 4th December 2025, St Mark's, Hitchin

Elizabeth Cranfield
Deanery Synod Secretary

