Welcome to
Diocesan Synod
Synod Induction
17 November 2018
Today…

• Synod in context: structures of the diocese
• The ‘Why’ of Synod
• What we do at Synod and How we do it
• The Synod as DBF
• Where to find out more
What is “the diocese”…?

- 3 million people
- Across 1,531 sq miles
- Served by 465 parishes and BMOs
- 140 church schools
- 594 Church buildings
- Over 600 ordained priests
- And more lay ministers, volunteers, worshippers than we can count
- A Christian presence in every community
- We are all “the diocese”
Different hats

• Synod sits as Synod
• But also three houses:
  – Laity
  – Clergy
  – Bishops
• And the Board of Finance
Diocese of Chelmsford

Governance

Bishop of Chelmsford

Diocesan Synod

Diocesan Board of Finance

Bishop’s Council

Standing Committee

Finance Executive

London Over the Border Council

Audit Committee

Pleshey Executive

Investments Committee

Area Mission & Pastoral Committees

Houses Committee

Diocesan Advisory Groups
(Envirionment, International, Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns, Youth, Readers)

Education Trust (Academies)

Bishop’s Staff

Diocesan Board of Education

Advisory Committee

Standing Committee

Finance Executive

Area Mission & Pastoral Committees

Houses Committee

Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee

Audit Committee

Pleshey Executive

Investments Committee

Bishop’s Council/Finance Committee/Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee

Project Groups

Diocesan Committee Structures as at 2015—For more information contact Nathan Whitehead, Pastoral Secretary.
Bishop’s Council

- Strategic ‘board’ of the diocese
- Synod’s Standing Committee
- Accountable to Synod
- Members partly elected from Synod
- Also sits as
  - Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee
  - Trustee board for the DBF (more later)
What We Do

• Debates
• Presentations
• Questions
• Deanery Synod Motions
• Private Member’s Motions
• References from General Synod
How We Do It

• Overall approach to business
• Speaking at Synod
• Debates
  – Motions
  – Amendments
  – Voting
• Presentations
How We Do It

Questions

Deanery Synod Motions

References from General Synod

Private Members Motions
Synod: who we are

• We represent
  – Church of England parishes in Essex and East London
  – about **40,000** lay people on electoral rolls
  – c **600** clergy
  – **6** bishops

• We seek, together, to discern the mission God has for His Church in this place
Seeking His Way Together

Laity

Bishops

Clergy
Seeking His Way Together

General Synod
Diocesan Synod
Deanery Synod
PCCs / BMOs
Why we do it

- Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony (Colossians 3)
- The apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church decided . . . (Acts 15)
- When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth (John 16)
- Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them (Matthew 18)
People you might meet around the place

- Rt. Revd Stephen Cottrell
  Bishop of Chelmsford

- Rt. Revd John Perumbalath
  Bishop of Bradwell

- Rt. Revd Peter Hill
  Bishop of Barking

- Rt. Revd Norman Banks
  Bishop of Richborough

- Rt. Revd Trevor Mwamba
  Assistant Bishop

- Rt. Revd Roger Morris
  Bishop of Colchester
The Church of England in Essex and East London

People you might meet around the place

The Ven Robin King
Archdeacon of Stansted

The Ven Annette Cooper
Archdeacon of Colchester

The Ven Elizabeth Snowden
Archdeacon of Chelmsford

The Ven Mike Lodge
Archdeacon of Southend

The Ven Elwin Cockett
Archdeacon of West Ham

The Ven Vanessa Herrick
Archdeacon of Harlow

Diocese of Chelmsford
Synod business last 3 years

- Approved Parish Share Scheme,
- Considered items relating to national debates such as encouraging lay ministry and shared conversation on human sexuality,
- Approved Diocesan Youth Strategy,
- Motions on new housing areas and strategic mission priority areas, education, vocations, stewardship and social responsibility.
- Presentation on the Reformation (500th anniversary),
- Approved annual budgets
- And many “good news stories” from around the diocese.
Synod as the Board of Finance

Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance (CDBF)
The Church of England in Essex and East London

The diocese: legal structures

465 Parishes; 320 Benefices & BMOs

Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance (CDBF)
(Company limited by guarantee 137029; registered charity 249505)
Finance Committee (Bishop’s Council) are the trustees and directors of the company

Operating ‘divisions’
- Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) (Unincorporated)
- The Retreat House, Pleshey
- Bookshop
- Print Unit
- The Asheldham Centre (managed by Hunter Outdoor)

Subsidiaries
- Sparrows (Company 8626895)
- Chelmsford Diocesan Trading Company (Company 8474175)
- Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust (Company 7706638)
- Vine Schools - Multi Academy Trust (Company 8709542)

Other bodies in the family
- St Mark’s College (Charity 1031174)
- St Mellitus College
- Essex Clergy Charity (Charity)
Membership

All members of Diocesan Synod are members of the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance (akin to shareholders)…

… unless remunerated by the CDBF
Business at Synod

• Elect Chair & Vice-chair (from CDBF) every 3 years
• Receive Financial Statements & Annual Reports
• Appoint Auditors
• Occasional other business e.g. Articles of Association
Finance Committee: the trustees

- CDBF a limited company and registered charity
- Finance Committee are the CDBF’s trustees
- Membership is same Bishop’s Council except for those who are not eligible to serve as a trustee.
- Determines & monitors all policy relating to finance including clergy numbers, stipends, budgets, grant-making
Other committees

• **Finance Executive**
  – Oversees routine business (inc budget) and
  – development of proposals for the trustees

• **Houses**
  – Oversight of the operational property estate

• **Investment**
  – Management of glebe and other investments

• **Audit**
  – Preparation of the annual accounts, internal audit and compliance issues

• **Remuneration & Governance**
  – Pay and expenses policies
Diocesan Board of Education

- Responsibility for 140 Church Schools
- Traditional role of support
- New focus on school improvement
- A rapidly changing landscape
Where to find out more

Synod Handbook
• Synod Procedures
• Committee Terms of Ref

Website
• Synod papers and archive
• Policies and advice pages
“We take our business seriously, but we don’t take ourselves too seriously”

Canon Sue Atkin
Former Chair of the House of Laity