



The Church of England in Essex and East London

# 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”

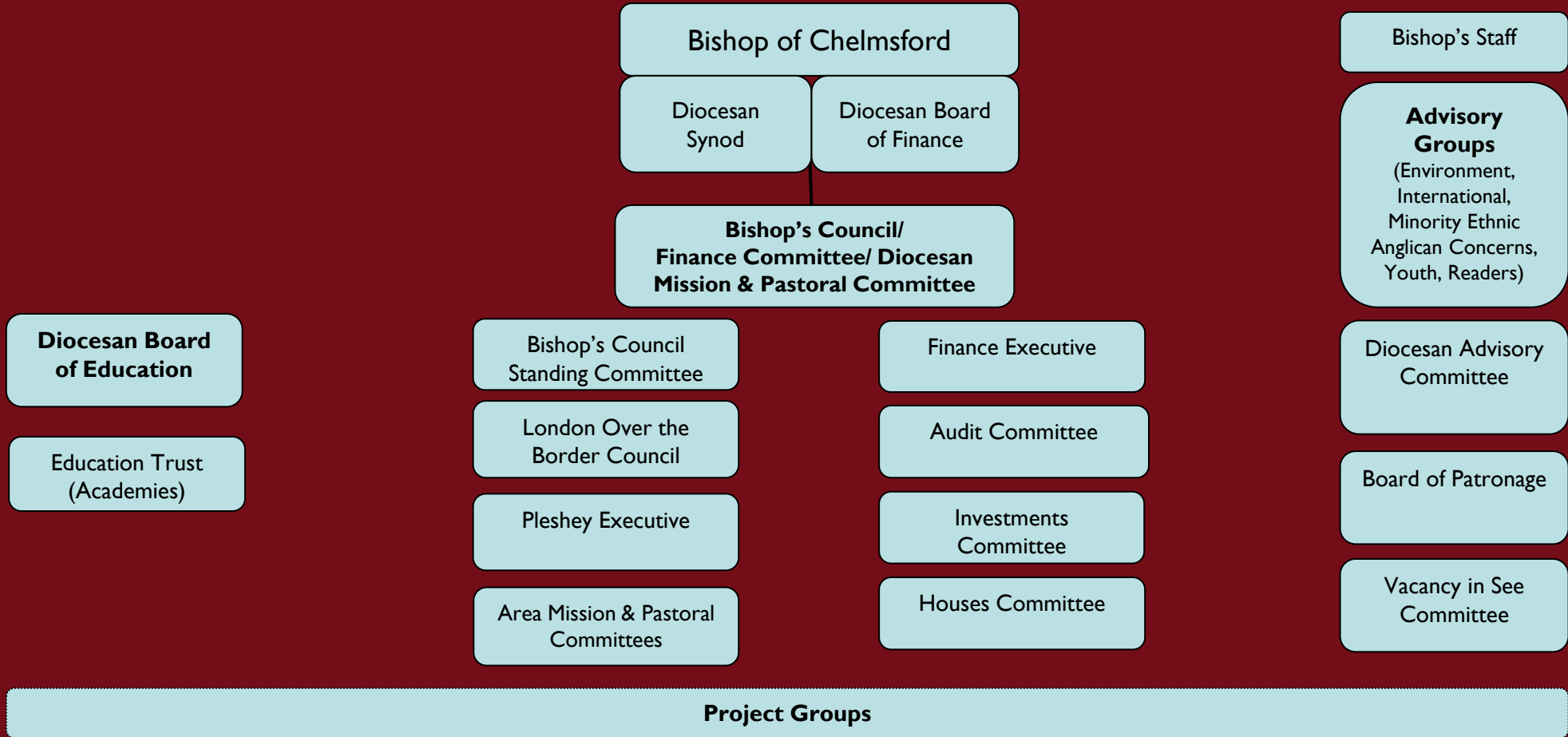


# Different hats

- Synod sits as Synod
- But also three houses:
  - Laity
  - Clergy
  - Bishops
- And the Board of Finance



# Governance



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

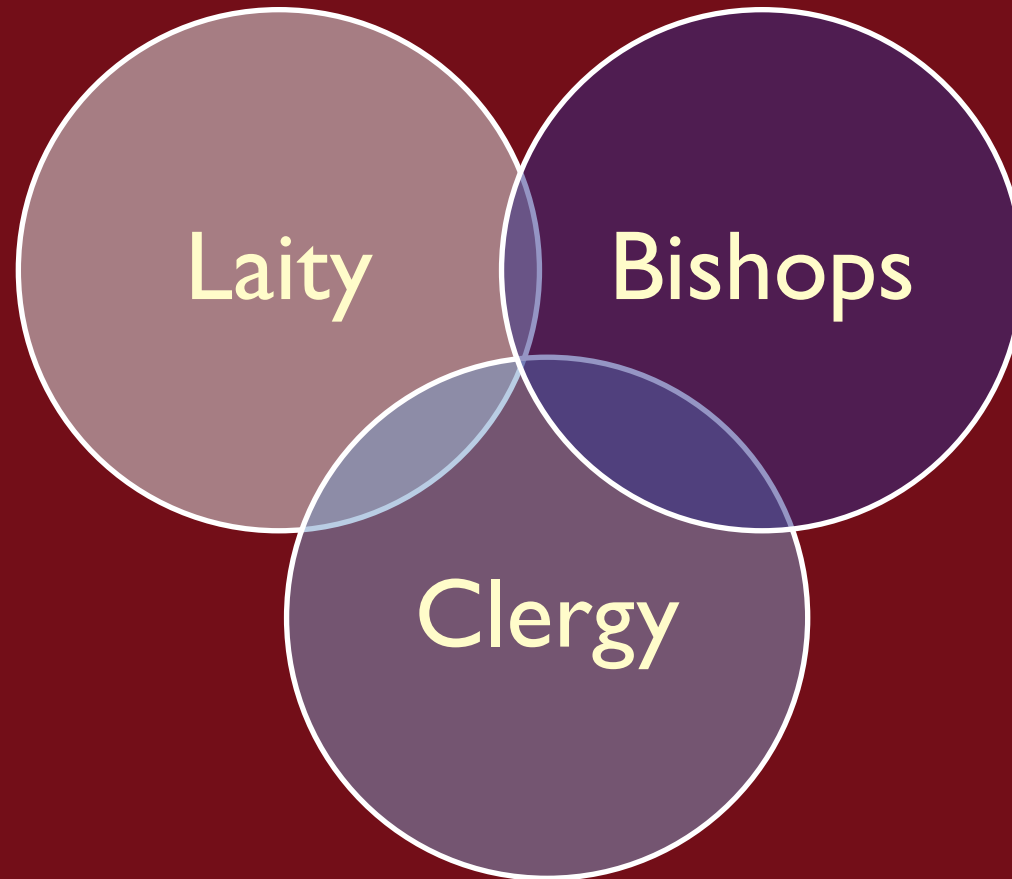


# Synod: who we are

- 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

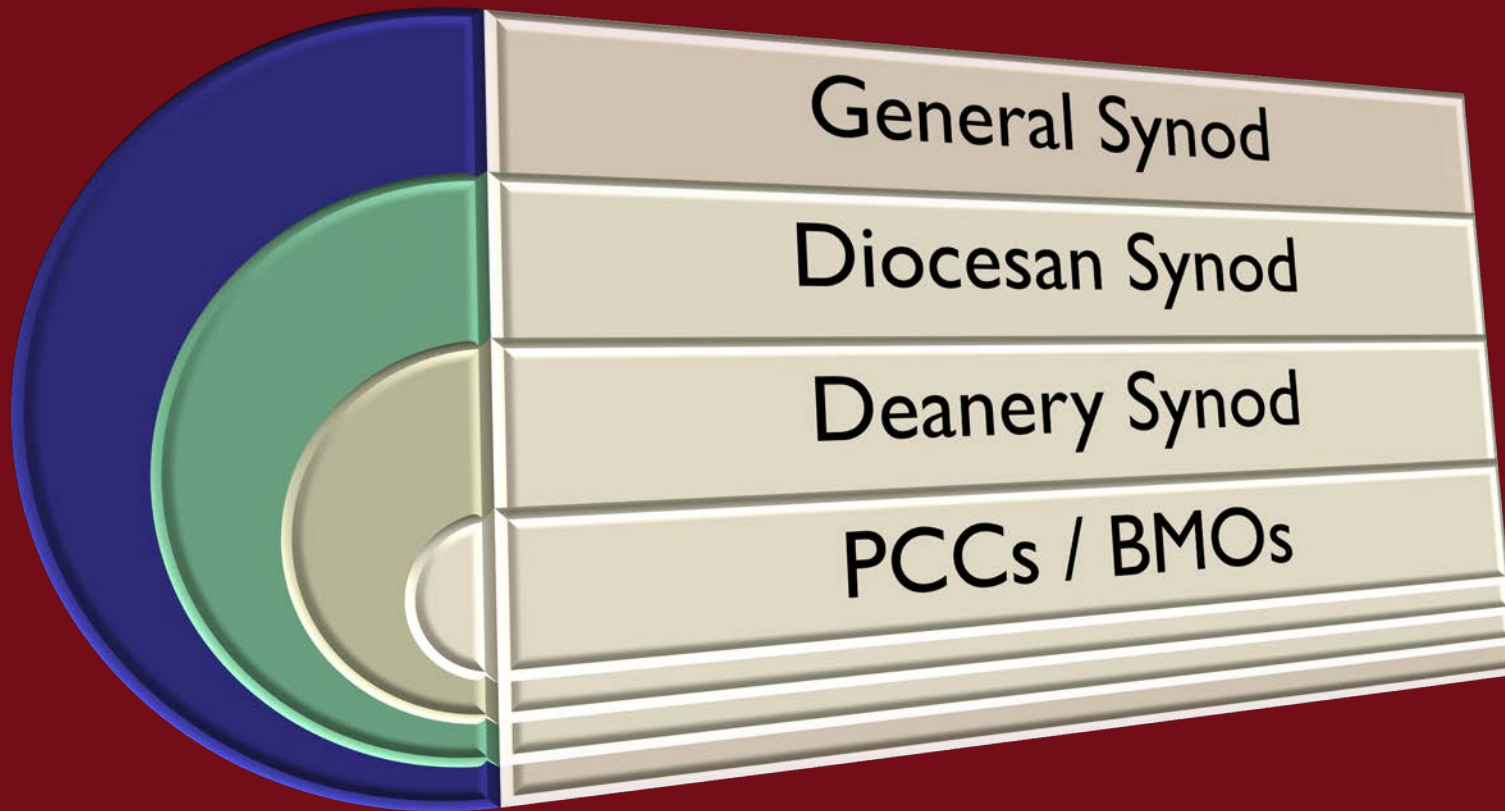


# Seeking His Way Together





# Seeking His Way Together





# Why we do it

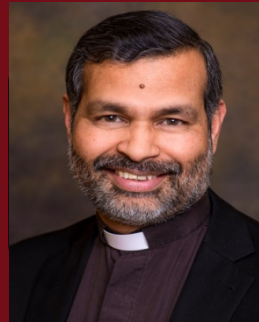
- Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony (Colossians 3)
- The apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church decided . . . (Acts 15)
- When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth (John 16)
- Where two or three are 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  
**Roger Morris**  
Bishop of  
Colchester



Rt. Revd  
**Norman Banks**  
Bishop of  
Richborough



Rt. Revd  
**Trevor Mwamba**  
Assistant  
Bishop



# People you might meet around the place



The Ven  
**Robin King**

Archdeacon of  
Stansted

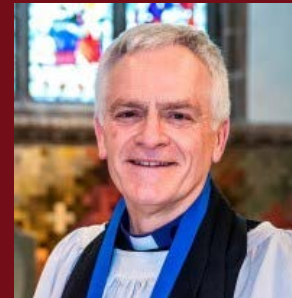


The Ven  
**Annette Cooper**

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

The Ven ???  
Archdeacon of  
Barking



# 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 (500<sup>th</sup> 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 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)

### Other bodies in the family

Chelmsford Diocese  
Educational Trust  
(Company 7706638)

Vine Schools -  
Multi Academy Trust  
(Company 8709542)

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

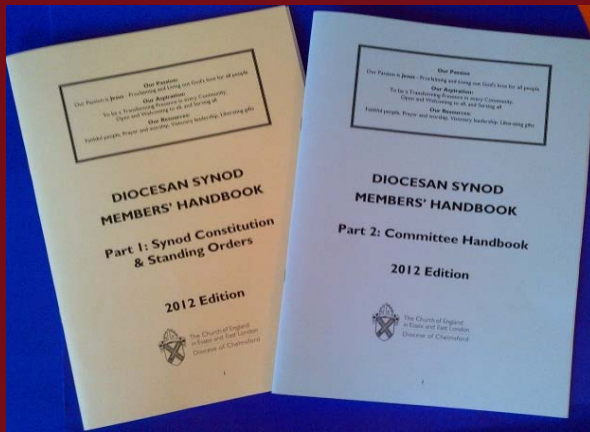


# Diocesan Board of Education

- 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