

The Diocese of Salisbury

Poole and North Bournemouth Deanery Plan 2017 - 2022

God our Father, renew our hope. By the Holy Spirit's power, strengthen us to pray readily, serve joyfully and grow abundantly rejoicing in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Introduction

This Deanery Plan follows that for 2011 – 2016. This earlier plan was a substantial document with considerable detail and data, and remains valuable for reference. Its goal was summarised in this way: *"Before God and under the Bishop, to identify and pursue together those mission, ministerial and stewardship functions of the Church of England in this place which are better shared between our parishes than conducted within them."*

We acknowledge the many positive aspects of the life of the Deanery over the last six years and the ministries, groups and projects set out in the last Plan; these included the Synod and Chapter, Poole Missional Communities, Deanery Youth Workers, The Poole-Wau Partnership, Lay Pastoral Assistant Training, involvement with educational establishments, Church and Society and a wide range of ecumenical programmes and initiatives. In affirming all these we further intend they will be part of our shared future (see below).

This plan seeks to reflect something of the life of the Deanery within its parishes and to be aspirational, setting out what we believe God is calling us to be and do. It aims:

- To help provide vision and focus for our ministry and mission as a deanery in the context of Salisbury Diocese's vision, *"Renewing Hope: Pray, Serve, Grow"* and our parishes own particular visions;
- To inform the senior staff of the diocese and others of our vision in the formulating of policy and partnering in the resourcing of churches in the deanery;
- To facilitate and encourage the sharing of best practice in ministry and mission and draw us together.

Values and Vision

Every deanery plan needs to flow out of a vision of what might be. This vision in turn needs to be informed by shared beliefs and values, a real intention to pray and work together to see it coming towards fruition and actions that we put in place as individual churches and members of those churches.

Thus we wish to affirm our commitment to the one church, Anglican and ecumenical, at every level, and in particular to an expression of church within our deanery as well as within the Diocese and parishes. We acknowledge that this commitment calls us to support one another and work actively together as we seek to pray, serve and grow. We believe we need a Kingdom of God focus and reject a narrow parochialism which protects its own ministry and shows little regard for that which is happening beyond its boundaries.

The Deanery of Poole and North Bournemouth

- The Deanery is the largest in terms of population in the Diocese with around 180,000 people and growing, of which about 20% live in Bournemouth.
- It comprises 21 parishes + Poole Missional Communities offering a diversity of worshipping life and expressions of church. It is served by 24 clergy of incumbent status in addition to many chaplains, curates, assistant ministers, Licensed Lay Ministers and Lay Pastoral Assistants and very many others who contribute wholeheartedly to the life of the church.
- We are particularly blessed with a good number of active retired ministers.
- Information regarding authorised ministry is available from the Archdeaconry Office in Corfe Mullen and can be obtained from the Bishop's and Archdeacon's secretaries who support us well.
- Electoral Roll and Parish Share numbers can be found in other places, as can Parish Returns information. All Church of England PCCs are now charities.

Looking to the future and Deanery Plan for 2017 - 2022

Following consultation and discussion at Deanery and Parish Level and emanating from our shared values and vision for the Church in the Deanery, we highlight five areas. The first is the overview. The following four use the Diocese's Pray, Serve, Grow headings with serve being used first within our deanery and then within the Diocese and wider world.

1. Overview and Intentions

- a) In valuing and affirming the ministry of all the different and diverse parishes and Poole Missional Communities within the Deanery as part of the one church, we will seek to support and encourage each other as partners in the Gospel and in the ministry in which we share.
- b) We place a high priority on working together and our Synod meetings as a forum for discussion and action.
- c) In order to be effective we will build on the links between the Deanery and its Synod and the Parishes and PCCs, celebrating and sharing stories of hope and good practice and encourage communication and feedback.
- d) As clergy we shall play an active part in the Chapter and area cluster groups and support one another in the ministry we share, assisting each other with our responsibilities.
- e) We shall seek to share and offer the resources of people, time and experience to other churches.

2. Praying

- a) We rejoice in the strong focus in all the churches and initiatives including regular prayer meetings, prayer trees, prayer stations and prompts, prayer times for specific groups, prayer as a focus in home groups and other meetings, and the desire from all the churches to develop a strong prayer life that focuses on a deeper relationship with God and the call to serve and grow.
- b) We are committed to praying for our Diocese using the Prayer Resources and for each other in the Deanery, and to this end look to share news and information more effectively.
- c) We support opportunities to share in worship and develop prayer groups in the Deanery and ecumenically.
- d) We shall include a time of reflection and prayer at all Deanery meetings and invite PCCs to do the same.
- e) We would like to enable the training of Lay Worship Leaders and engage in other shared training.

3. Serving - in our communities

- a) We affirm and encourage all ways our parishes are serving our local communities and the many pastoral ministries of the church and groups such as Mothers' Union, community events and meals, breakfast and lunch groups, Messy Church, youth group and cafes, Pre School and Toddler groups, services in local care home, school links, bereavement care, supporting young adults and families, the elderly and vulnerable, and the creative use of our premises.
- b) We commit ourselves to serve our many schools and colleges and work with staff and governors and to support our present deanery and other youth workers and charities including *MARS* and *Respected*.
- c) We resolve to promote social justice and to serve our communities in partnership with other churches, partnering with organisations including *Routes to Roots*, *The Food Bank*, *Faithworks Wessex*, *Prama*, *Liveability*, *Christians Against Poverty* and Credit Unions etc.
- d) We support engagement with the society and statutory and non-statutory agencies, the Borough, Health and Social Services, Education authorities etc along with churches of other denominations.
- e) We will seek to work together to meet the needs of the regeneration of the area.
- f) We will seek to continue to share in training programmes including running Lay Pastoral Assistant training

4. Serving - in the diocese and wider world

- a) We celebrate all parish partnerships and ways we can support the wider church and address world needs.
- b) We value being part of the Diocese and Church of England and will seek to contribute at these levels.
- c) We shall seek to support the Diocese's Environment Policy and the implementation of its recommendations.
- d) We will seek to address issues of national and international importance and play our part in society.
- e) We thank God for the Poole-Wau Partnership and for all that has been achieved, and will continue to share, support and pray for and with the church in South Sudan.

5. Growing

- a) We affirm the mandate to the church to go and make disciples and support all programmes to reach others with the Gospel and to grow disciples including encouraging baptism and confirmation and the development of home and other small groups.
- b) We embrace the Diocesan priorities on vocations and the need to raise up and equip lay and ordained leaders.
- c) Within our diverse communities we will encourage a strong focus on supporting and networking with other, and especially nearby parishes to share ideas and training events to enable growth in all its aspects.
- d) We support fresh expressions of worship and the work of Poole Missional Communities. In particular we value PMC's educational role in helping churches in the deanery develop new ways of thinking and operating.
- e) We shall include the work of local Christian outreach work in our meetings and include presentations to promote growing disciples, mentoring and leadership.