

Deanery Synod Report for St Michael's APCM Sunday 9th May 2021

Kenn Deanery Synod's Meeting on Wed 21st April was held by Zoom, instead of at Powderham Church.

After the Welcome and opening prayers, the Rev Pete James was welcomed to the Deanery. He has been licensed for a Rural Church Plant, called St Basil's, in a barn on a farm near Tedburn St Mary.

Speaker. Time was then given to our Archdeacon Andrew Beane, who was interviewed by the Rural Dean with lively answers to questions such as 'What books and films do you enjoy?' He claims to be quite a visual person and enjoys fantasy adventures like Star Trek, Avengers and other Superhero fare on Netflix!

After school Andrew joined the Electricity Board, eventually becoming a Finance Officer, but a change happened around age 26. He was visiting the Taize Community with his Church group and felt the call, and so gained a place at Nottingham Theological College and his new path began.

Over the 18 months he has been in post he has learned to find his way around the tiny Devon lanes, and discovered many lovely places – including Castle Drogo, Haldon Forest and Dartmoor..

The Big Issues for Archdeacon Andrew are 3 Key Things :- Relevance, Re-invention after the Pandemic, and Re-focus - find what's important but without rushing. His message is that the church's future should be about radical hospitality, like Jesus, giving a wider welcome to all, and also to make church life Simpler, Bolder and Humbler.

The Finance report noted that they will be keeping a similar budget for 2021 and 2022. The search is on for a new permanent Deanery treasurer.

Devon Historic Churches Trust (DHCT) reported that they hope to have Ride and Stride events on Sept 11th, with films made available to promote it in the parishes.

Overseas Officers . A letter of thanks is being sent to Brian and Jane Inwood, who have moved away from Devon, but have kindly provided an update on the Thika Project. News and updates are available on the Overseas Links page at www.exeter.anglican.org

An item was then discussed, a **Covenant for the Care and Well-being of Clergy**, which is a 'Document for Reflection and Action by Local Congregations' from General Synod, pub. Feb 2019. It seems this will need consideration in our church congregations and PCC's, with time to respond to the questions in the document, so that the replies can be collated by Jane Richards, our Lay Chair.

The meeting finished with prayers. Next meeting 7th July 21

Di Perryman and Liz Whitty