

Report of the Kenn Deanery Synod – 2024

St James currently has no representatives on the Deanery Synod, since Anna Venables resignation and departure last year.

The Deanery Synod provides the PCC with a link with the churches around us, and with the Diocese as a whole. It also receives reports from the General Synod.

Kenn Deanery Synod met twice since the last APCM, in July and October.

On 17th July the topic for the presentation by Sarah Charker was Land, Nature and Net Zero.

This is following the initiatives from General Synod in Feb 2024 to help parishes focus commitments to Net Zero by 2030, with the help of the Energy Footprint Tool, and Give to Go Green website. Even changing our personal or church energy suppliers and/ or bank can reduce our carbon footprint, there is a league table available, see MotherTree's Carbon Emissions Bank League Table - Updated June 2023 (mymothertree.com)

Management of church Land (churchyards), recording and helping increase Biodiversity, and more involvement with Eco-Church, a nationally recognised award scheme, but especially informing and engaging our wider communities was discussed. There are resources to support projects like beehives and bug hotels, allowing wild areas in churchyards etc, as is already happening in some of our churches. Initiatives are all part of Caring for God's Acre.

At each meeting there is a time for the Deanery Good News exchange, with updates on positive activities, events and developments from the parishes. For example the developments with Mickeys Toddler group, and Family Praise, and with Caring for Gods Acre, how Rev Dave brought Primary school children from Year 4 down to St James churchyard to record the plants, and help remove ivy and weeds, and clear the paths.

On 24 October Deanery Synod met at Christow Community Centre with Ven. Andrew Beane, Archdeacon of Exeter, with questions submitted by members.

Rev Dave Wilkie will be the guest speaker at our next meeting on 1st May, speaking on 'Contact with Families'

Di Perryman
Representative (St Michael's)