

NORHAM DEANERY SYNOD

MINUTES OF THE 4 JUNE 2013 MEETING

The meeting was held in Ancroft Village Hall. There were 17 members present and 4 apologies for absence. The Chairman welcomed Matthew Jenkins and Cecily Sobey, new members for Berwick Parish Church. Ruth Turner reported on the current situation in Ancroft Church. The small size of the congregation means that finding funds for essential repairs is very difficult and grants have to be sought. But a programme of repairs to the roof, and to one of the stained glass windows is in hand for completion by the end of this year. There will be a Flower Festival in the church 27/28 July celebrating St Anne's Day and commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Battle of Flodden.

1. MINUTES OF THE 11 MAR 13 MEETING

Accepted and signed as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

2. COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE NORHAM DEANERY

Rob Kelsey chaired this session, in which Rev Martin Sheppard the Diocesan Communications Officer participated, facilitating discussion in small groups on this subject. He has provided the notes attached on the many points that were raised.

3. LINDISFARNE GOSPELS EXHIBITION EVENTS

Paul Collins outlined the various events to take place in St Mary's Church Holy Island between July and September to link in with the Lindisfarne Gospels Exhibition in Durham. The intention is to show, by using art in different forms, that faith created this masterpiece: and that this faith is alive today. There will be a programme of concerts, a play, two lectures, and a flower festival (as set out in the Lindisfarne Gospels Holy Island Events leaflet). There will also be a coach trip to visit the exhibition on 6 July, for which there are spare seats.

4. HOLY ISLAND PILGRIMAGE 13 JULY

Paul Collins also outlined the plans for the ecumenical Pilgrimage on Holy Island on Sat 13 July. The aim is to renew commitment to mission, transcending denominational divisions. The theme will be the 'I am' statements from St John's Gospel. Tickets, priced £2.50, are required for entry; full details are available on the Pilgrimage website <http://www.holyislandpilgrimage2013.info/>

5. FLODDEN 500 EVENTS

Rob Kelsey outlined the programme leading up to the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the battle on 9 Sep. There was a very successful concert in Coldstream on 1 Jun and the Ford flower festival took place in April. Other flower festivals linked to Flodden will take place in Norham 16-29 Jun and Ancroft 27/28 Jul. The Northumbria Community is leading a Peace and Reconciliation Pilgrimage bringing walkers and travellers from the places where the English and Scottish troops mustered ahead of the battle. On 10 Sep there will be a Requiem Mass in the morning in Norham Church; and a Solemn Commemoration in Branxton in the afternoon.

6. DPC/DDG/DSSC

Notes of the 14 Mar and 8 May meeting have already been circulated. Peter Middlemiss was confirmed as the lay member of the Deanery Standing Committee.

7. DEANERY BANK ACCOUNT

Since the demise of the Bridge magazine, there has been a need to combine the remaining funds in the Bridge account with the existing Deanery bank account. It was decided that there should be one fund, 'The Norham Deanery Fund', and that payments from it should be authorised by one of either the Deanery Lay Chair or the Deanery Secretary.

8. DEANERY FINANCE MEETING

It was agreed that this will be held the evening of Tues 22 Oct in Tweedmouth Church Hall.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Peter Middlemiss invited others to attend the lunchtime talk to be given in Berwick Parish Church hall on 20 Jun.

10. DATES/VENUES OF 2013 MEETINGS

Weds 2 Oct
Thurs 28 Nov

Holy Island St Cuthbert's Centre
Berwick Parish Church Green Room