

# Deanery Synod

*I'd like to be on Deanery Synod.  
Good! We need you.*

You need the following personal commitments:

- to live and grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ, sustained by word and sacrament within the fellowship of the worshipping Church
- to support the mission of the Church by prayer and personal example; to seek out and support good practice in collaboration between parishes and ecumenically
- to promote honest and harmonious working relationships throughout the Church in the deanery.

## What is Deanery Synod for?

- Considering matters concerning the Church of England.
- Bringing together the views of the parishes of the deanery.
- Acting as a channel of communication between parishes and Diocesan Synod.
- Effecting decisions made by Diocesan Synod and raising matters with Diocesan Synod.
- Electing representatives to Diocesan Synod (next elections 2018) and General Synod (next elections 2020).

## What do Deanery Synod Members do?

Members of the Deanery Synod are there to work in collaboration with the Bishop, diocesan officers, other members, rural/area dean and officers of the Deanery to forward the mission of the Church. They do this by:

- being a point of contact between deanery and parish, participating fully in the life of the PCC, and remembering that a prime purpose of the deanery is to support and enable work in parishes, but not to direct it
- working to grow cultures of generosity and genuine stewardship within the Church, which honour and develop the gifts and ministry resources of all
- collaborating in the development, monitoring and implementation of deanery mission plans, including discerning the appropriate level at which work can most effectively be undertaken. They will help develop forward looking deanery projects to support the parishes in their local mission and ministry



### You need to:

- Ensure that you are on your church's Electoral Roll (or you won't be able to vote at your church's Annual Meeting);
- Your PCC Secretary will have forms for you to nominate yourself or another person for Deanery Synod





- taking an interest in the healthy and effective functioning of sector ministries within the deanery
- taking an interest in relationships which link what is going on locally into the diocese and the world church, and seeking out ways of linking into the structures of society within which the deanery is set, including local government
- participating fully in the corporate life of the area in Christ's name, seeking new ways of understanding and communicating with its communities and people.

## **Who are the members of Deanery Synod?**

A Deanery Synod consists of two Houses, the House of Clergy and the House of Laity.

### ***House of Laity***

- Lay members of the General and Diocesan Synods whose names are entered on the roll of any parish in the deanery.

Lay members will be elected in 2017 to serve for three years.

### ***House of Clergy***

- All Clerks in Holy Orders (clergy) beneficed or licensed by the Bishop who reside or work within the deanery.
- All Clerical members of the General or Diocesan Synods resident in the deanery.



## **What should I do?**

If you are a member of the Church of England who cares about its future, about its mission in God's world and the way in which it communicates and lives out the Gospel, please take seriously this opportunity to bring about change by:

- considering standing for election as a Deanery Synod member
- encouraging someone else who would represent your church well to stand
- attending your Annual Parochial Church Meeting each Spring
- voting for someone who will work to ensure that the breadth of the Church of England is fully represented at all levels of Synod.