

Axmouth Annual Church Meeting

May 10th 2021

Deanery Synod report

The meeting in March was well attended, with over 40 people present, both clergy and laity, gathered together on zoom.

The first half of the meeting was taken up with reports from the various Mission Communities in the Honiton Deanery - Axe Valley, Coastal, Dunkeswell, Holyford, Honiton, Offwell, and 5 Alive (Kilmington).

Archdeacon Andrew then talked us through his slides on Moving on in Mission and Ministry ([here](#)). The Deanery Plan was started 2 years ago, and has now moved on to use the Hub model as a focus, with a minster/central church and surrounding satellite churches.

There was a time for questions afterwards and several concerns were raised - including the viability of such large groupings, the place of PTO's and the risk of clergy exhaustion.

Rev'd Tracey Voysey commented that there is an abundance of generosity in our diocese through SSMs, Readers and PTOs; she said we also need to remember that the Holy Spirit is important.

The Rural Dean, Cate Edmonds, mentioned recent diocesan initiatives including Living in Love and Faith, Clergy Care and Well-being, and the introduction of Anna Chaplainces.

The Treasurer Tony Nixon reminded everyone that many churches were struggling to pay their common fund, but that even if they could not meet the full amount any contribution would be welcome.

Hilary Harron