

AXBRIDGE DEANERY SYNOD MEETING NOTES
Blackford Village Hall, 22nd October 2026 18.30hrs for 19.00hrs

Present House of Clergy: Revd Robyn Golden-Hann, Rev'd Cheryl Hawkins, Rev'd Luke Maguire, Rev'd Paul Holmes, Rev'd Christine Judson, Rev'd Richard Neill, Rev'd Joy Hawes, Rev'd Stuart Burns, Rev'd Thea Oliver, Revd Ruth Motion.

Present House of Laity: Sebastian Barkle, Jenny Welland, Alan Eastment, Julia Smith, Jane Kendall, Bronwen Wright, Sue Elsworth, Sharon Black, Gary Orriss, Ruth Orriss, Peter Murray, Michelle Hacker, Margaret Howell, Catherine Lord, Karen Moncrieff, Yolanda Patten, Dawn Hill, Eleanor Motion, Honor Neave, Julie Wigginton, Tim Hind.

Apologies House of Clergy: Rev'd Sue Hoskins

Apologies House of Laity: Johnny Torrens-Spence, Mike Day, Penny Cooke, Katharine Leach, Angela Inger, Sue Painter, Mike Brownbill, Ann Cripwell.

Others in attendance: Annemarie Sampson, Debbie Holmes, Mark Saunders, Louise Trott, Kelton Black, Sharon Black, David Lemon, Melissa Wall, Verity Boulger, Andy Goddard, Pam Williams, Linda Mogford, Caroline Bruce, Ronnie Crossman, Claire Gelder, Pat Morgan, Mary Clark.

Aim of meeting
To commence the new triennium of synod this meeting was a celebration and affirmation of the many and various ways in which lay ministry contributes to the life of the Church.

Refreshments were available from 1830hrs.

Welcome – Gary Orriss (Lay Dean) welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the format.

Gathering – to set the scene Paul Holmes led us in a Bible reading and exercise to reflect on the ways in which we contribute, using stars and pictorial feedback form about how we experience the ministry. Information from this will be collated and made available after the meeting.

Carousel of Lay Ministries – representatives of the following lay ministries circulated around the table to present their work:

- Using technology in church, to assist worship and aid communications
- Running a group for children/young people
- Organising and facilitating a women's fellowship group
- Offering pastoral ministry
- Offering worship ministry
- Managing a large project, both in amount of work and finances



Information about these presentations will be available on the deanery website in due course - https://axbridgedeanery.com

Closing worship – this was created to reflect the theme of the evening.

Meeting closed at 2100hrs.

Date of next meeting: Saturday 27th February 2027 venue tbc