

## **Powder Deanery**

Open Synod Meeting - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 10am

### **Questions and points raised by Synod members:**

(responses are precis in brief)

- How do you avoid overloading Oversight ministers?
  - By building, supporting and enabling local/focal ministers to work effectively
- What training and support will Focal/Local ministers have?
  - Formation of guild – bedrock of support and challenge; provide signpost to local and national training and also provide some local training; initial pump-prime for set up
- What price communion?
  - Many local/focal ministers will be ordained. Local leaders will determine their forms of service
- What is your plan for governance?
  - Oversight Minister has overall authority and responsibility
  - Level of Governance will be determined locally. In order to be most effective, we believe a high level of sharing and trust will be necessary and would encourage this to be as integrated as possible
- What is the plan for administrative support for the guild?
  - We plan to pump-prime the guild with the necessary set up costs by a bid for Diocese funding
- How might restricted funds be dealt with?
  - These would be honoured and ringfenced e.g. legacies which are intended for specific churches
- How would 'sharing' work out?
  - We believe a high level of sharing is the best model – we have seen the beginnings of this in the coming together over the Bishop's Mission Order across Truro. Churches can and should work together and support each other, and we have a lot of churches for a relatively small population in Truro.
- How would you avoid burn out amongst stipendiary clergy?
  - This is a risk for all leadership. We believe collaborative working, sharing in the guild, mutual support and challenge will produce good leadership. At the moment, some may say that this is not always the case.
- What contingency have you made for no post-COVID financial bounce back?
  - The plan is built on certain assumptions. We would hope the Diocese would give us time to prove that growth in the church spiritually will lead to the necessary sacrificial giving. This is a financially responsible plan – we are losing a full stipend in Truro and would not want to lose more unless Synod asked us to explore this.
- How might 'Living in Love and Faith' be worked out?
  - This is being worked out in the national church at present. Churches will want to make their own responses once the process is complete and this is not specifically related to the On the Way process.

- What is the role of the stipendiary priest?
  - They will be an Oversight Minister and a Local/Focal Minister for one particular church
- Are you rethinking the allocation of MMF?
  - This will be reformatted – each mission area (Probus/Roseland/Truro) will be responsible for deciding how to pay/allocate its MMF
- What account are you taking of the loss of disposable income and how this might affect your financial plans? **And**
- What account are you taking of the increase of costs of heating etc and how this might affect your financial plans?
  - We realise that there are substantial financial uncertainties. We believe this plan is sustainable but it may have to be revisited if this is not the case over time. The greater risk is that the church continues to decline and giving steadily reduces over time
- Is it realistic to amalgamate all church wardens/treasurers in one mission area?
  - This is actually a better option to stop duplication and share best practice across church communities. It will only be done if PCCs agree.
- Will we need administrative support?
  - Some administrative support will be needed. But there will be an overall saving of administration if churches agree to work together