

## **Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod**

For 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meetings:  
Church Representation rules: M5(1)(e)

The South East Derbyshire Deanery Synod met formally on three occasions in 2022.

In February we had to meet through 'Zoom'. Our guest speaker was Kevin Curtis from the Canaan Trust – a Long Eaton based charity that supports homeless folk. There followed a more general discussion about the best way to support homeless people who approach churches for help.

We had hoped to hold an 'open-air meeting in June at Stanton-By-Dale but the weather forced us indoors. Two members of Synod shared their experiences. Phil Selby, Rector at Stanton-By-Dale spoke about his role as a church leader during and after the pandemic. Anne Veale from Swanwick also spoke about the 'pandemic' experience but from the point of view of a parish in vacancy. At this meeting it was suggested that Synod discussed environmental issues and this will shape our 2023 meetings.

In October, we met at St John's, Long Eaton. We welcomed the Ven. Karen Hamblin the newly appointed Archdeacon of East Derbyshire, returning to the church of her curacy. Jason Kennedy, the Diocesan Missioner spoke about Mission Action Plans.

We are fortunate having Sue Cavill from Sawley as a member of our Synod. Sue also sits on the General Synod and has been able to brief us on some of the issues being considered at a national level.

In addition to the formal work of the Deanery Synod, a number of other meetings and support had been offered across the deanery.

Chapter meetings for clergy and readers were held regularly. The clergy held a quiet day at Locko Park and also discussed a variety of topics including safeguarding and 'Living in Love and Faith'.

Regular meetings were held for representatives of parishes without incumbents, to support and update them with worship resources and advice.

On 1 December, we held an Advent Carol Service at Swanwick.

Amanda Sandland joined us as our Deanery Administrator at the start of 2022 but moved to a role within Church House by the year end. Helen Bridger has been appointed as our Deanery Administrator from the start of 2023 and is available to offer a range of support to parishes.

*Karen Padley- area dean*  
*Brian Parker- lay chair*