

## **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2020**

### **For All Saints APCM June 2021**

The year in Deanery Synod has been no less strange than elsewhere.

Going right back to January 2020, the lay members of Synod elected by All Saints were: Peter Barrett, Anne King, Judith Scott, John Smith and Steve Smith. Steve, John and Judith all resigned when the elections were held in the autumn and John Boylan was elected. This leaves us very short of lay representation – just three (Peter Barrett, John Boylan and Anne King) members out of our entitlement of five.

The biggest changes though were not in the All Saints representatives but in the Standing Committee of the Synod. John Smith resigned as lay chair and Bridget Crossley as secretary, and there were other Standing Committee resignations, including that of Judith Scott, former Lay Chair of Diocesan Synod. These are by no means small roles, and Bridget had been in post for 20 years, as had Judith in a number of roles.

The first meeting of the calendar year 2020 was due to take place in the middle of March but was cancelled and thereafter meetings (in July, September and November) were all held on Zoom. The breakout room format was popular and it was interesting hearing other church's experience of Covid. There were no major strategic decisions taken or policy decisions made. However, there is now (May 2021) a full Standing Committee and the Area Dean has suggested that the Deanery strategy is revisited this year.

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