**DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2019-2020**

The deanery met three times in 2019 and once so far this year. The first meeting at Harden considered the role the Education team plays and learnt a lot about church schools. The second at Ingrow concentrated on the diocesan strategy, the third at Cottingley looked at nurturing Lay Dicipleship hearing about lay training and the PGL course. The first meeting of 2019 at Keighley looked at a second strand of the diocesan strategy hearing about different ways of engaging with young people.

All these events were challenging and interesting but in the main poorly attended. They are key events that allow elected members to interact with members from other parishes and often sparks interesting ideas.

The Deanery as a whole contributed well towards the diocesan share achieving the highest percentage return of all deaneries.

Mike Moss
March 2020

**DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT 2019-2020**

Diocesan Synod has met three times in 2019 with another due on 14th March.

The March meeting of synod in Harrogate focussed mainly around the diocesan strategy that was brought back with modifications that had been requested at the previous meeting. It also discussed the environmental policy and received a general synod report. The meeting was generally positive and the strategy was agreed.

The June meeting of synod was also held in Harrogate and contained various items of business. Initially the accounts for 2018 had to be received, then the annual reports were presented. There was a presentation by Revd Dr Hayley Matthews, Director of Lay Training explaining the focus on lay training. Unfortunately her reference to the ad clerum (which is a document sent only to clergy) and the fact we would all have read it fell on rather incredulous ears amongst the laity. The rest of the meeting felt to be full of fillers with a presentation by Bishop Nick on the Five Guiding Principles and a short discussion and debate on the unique opportunities that Brexit might give the church.

I was unable to attend the October meeting where the 2020 budget was presented discussed and agreed.

There is a planned meeting on 14th March which will have presentations on a couple of the strands of the strategy and a debate on “Mission of the Church in Contemporary Society”

Mike Moss
March 2020