

Diocesan Synod – 28th June 2023
Standing Committee Report

25th May 2023

- Opening worship was led by the Revd Jeanette Hartwell. Simon Hudson welcomed members to Shallowford House.
- Julie Jones paid tribute to the work of John Naylor on the occasion of his last meeting as Chair of the DBF.
- John Naylor introduced the finance section of the meeting, making his opening comments around the need to continue to work to reduce costs and posts to balance expenditure and income, despite encouraging collection rates at the moment.
- He then spoke to the minutes of FAM meetings held on 8th March and 4th May, which were noted.
- The Finance Director presented in detail the Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022, which had been circulated to members. These were approved unanimously to go forward to Diocesan Synod.
- Bishop Michael introduced the Bishop's Council section of the meeting and welcomed Amanda Robbie and Malcolm Maclean as newly elected members. The Revd Matt Beer had also been elected in the recent by-election but was unable to attend.
- An extract of the Risk Register showing items scoring 20 and over had been circulated. Bishop Michael said that Bishop's Staff had recently spent a day looking at strategy, direction and forward planning with an external consultant. This work must be underpinned by the right culture and much work had been put into this, and the aim was to develop a series of guiding principles. A key in doing this was the results of Shaping for Mission (SfM), bringing mission and finance together in deployment. Julie Jones then gave an update on SfM, and spoke about how this discussion might be approached at the upcoming Diocesan Synod.
- In their capacity as the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee, members noted a Schemes and Orders update and a Suspension report.
- A proposal relating to Oakengates, Priors Lee and Wrockwardine Wood was unanimously approved.
- A proposal relating to Burton St Aidan and St Paul; Horninglow was approved, and approval was also given for the advertisement of a joint incumbent role.
- Bishop Michael closed the meeting in prayer.