

Chaired by Roger Smith (RS), Chair of the House of Laity

Minutes taken by Kate Cortez (KC)

	Item	
1	Introduction and welcome by RS	
2	<p>Election of Secretary</p> <p>RS explained the role.</p> <p>Martin Saunders proposed Andrew Prince, Charlotte Irwin second.</p> <p>Andrew Prince introduced himself.</p> <p>The members approved the election of Andrew Prince as Secretary of the House of Laity. No vote was taken as Andrew stood unopposed.</p>	
3	<p>Decision to appoint a Vice-Chair of the House</p> <p>RS explained the role and stated that he supported having a Vice-Chair.</p> <p>Robert Perry, outgoing Chair of the House supported Roger’s suggestion.</p> <p>RS proposed Mike Sturgess as Vice-Chair. Charlotte Irwin seconded him.</p> <p>RS asked if anyone else wished to stand for the role or if anyone would like to nominate another. No one did.</p> <p>The members approved the election of Mike Sturgess as Vice-Chair. No vote was taken as Mike stood unopposed.</p>	
4	<p>Consideration of co-options to the House of Laity</p> <p>RS explained that co-options can be useful to increase representation from a deanery or bring a particular set of skills or experience.</p> <p>RS asked members to bring any suggestions for co-options to him or KC.</p> <p>Mike Sturgess proposed David Leswell, who was the 5th candidate for West Wivelshire.</p> <p>Caroline Attwood stated that she believes co-options should be for specific reasons, skills, experience and representation.</p> <p>Robin West proposed asking anyone who might be co-opted to write a short summary about themselves for the House to consider.</p> <p>5 co-options are allowed.</p> <p>Mary Cooper Brown asked how we would discern what skills we need.</p> <p>RS suggested reading the Diocesan Plan for Change & Renewal to see if people might align with.</p>	

	<p>Abigail Kirby Harris suggested that people who will speak up challenge.</p> <p>KC suggests to email all members of the House, explaining how someone might be put forward as a co-opted member.</p> <p>KC suggested looking at the diversity of the membership, and increasing it.</p> <p>Patrick Newberry suggested a skills audit to identify skills.</p> <p>Simon Cade suggested circulating a simple matrix around occupation, areas of interest, protected characteristics and other matters.</p> <p>The members agreed this approach.</p>	<p>KC</p> <p>KC</p> <p>KC/Simon Cade</p>
5	<p>Communication</p> <p>RS explained that he is proposing to set up a Whatsapp group with all the lay chairs in the deaneries.</p> <p>Charlotte Irwin supported the idea but said she would prefer email, as a Lay Chair. Kerstin Lewis supported this.</p> <p>Charlotte asked for a short summary of Diocesan Synod business that can be shared with deaneries.</p> <p>Michael Thomas supported using Whatsapp.</p> <p>Jackie Adams stated that the role as members is to report back to deaneries.</p> <p>Sue Dickinson said that the Deanery Secretary should send out information to the Lay Chairs.</p> <p>Martin Saunders asked that the minutes of Diocesan Synod are issued within 1 month of the meeting.</p> <p>Sarah Vinson stated that the members have a duty to feed back to the Deanery Synod. And it should be on the agendas for Deanery Synods.</p> <p>Mike Sturgess noted that getting information to the PCC does not mean it gets to the people in the pews.</p>	<p>KC</p> <p>KC</p>
6	<p>Matters of concern, items for future meetings</p> <p>Members can submit suggestions in writing.</p> <p>RS and KC will communicate with the members, so they have RS's email address.</p> <p>Abigail Kirby-Harris raised a concern about not having a Rural Dean for a long period of time.</p>	

	Jeremy Stuart suggested we remind the deaneries that they have a responsibility to decide how PCCs receive information from Diocesan synod.	
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