

ELECTIONS TO DIOCESAN BOARDS, COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES, 2018-2021

May I please encourage you to stand for one of the Boards and Councils, and to encourage others to do so. We need as wide a range of people as possible to take part in forming the direction of our Diocesan Life.

*Bishop Steven
Bishop of Oxford*

There are many specialist Boards, Councils and Committees of the Diocesan Synod which will be looking for new members in the 2018-2021 triennium. The contribution of elected members is essential in bringing experience, insight, skill and enthusiasm to our work. Through this involvement, Diocesan Synod members can contribute to the continuing development of policy and good practice.

Could you get involved and make a difference?

The work of those Boards and Councils that have representation from Diocesan Synod is described briefly here, together with information about the number of vacancies, and of who may propose and second nominations in each case.

The details of how many vacancies there are, and which Diocesan Synod members can propose and second a nomination, are given in italics.

Elections to Diocesan Boards and Councils are governed by Diocesan Synod Standing Order 88. The timetable for the first round of elections is this:

28 th September	Deadline for Nomination Forms to be received at Diocesan Church House
1 st October	Results announced where places are uncontested
3 rd October	Ballot papers issued for contested places
26 th October	Deadline for ballot papers to be received at Church House Oxford
29 th October	Results of ballots announced

A Nomination Form is enclosed in this pack, which can be copied. It can also be downloaded from the Diocesan website at www.oxford.anglican.org/diocesansynod

Occasionally a second round of nominations is necessary, and this will take place in November and December.

The Diocesan website www.oxford.anglican.org carries more information about many of these groups.

1. Diocesan Synod elects representatives from its membership to serve on these Boards and Councils

Bishop's Council

The Bishop's Council is responsible for advising the Diocesan Bishop, considering matters of policy, and determining how matters should be taken forward to the Diocesan Synod for further consideration. As the Standing Committee of both the Synod and the Diocesan Board of Finance, it handles a wide range of financial and strategic business, and considers issues raised by Diocesan Boards, Councils and Committees, Deaneries and the national church. Members act as Directors and Trustees of the Diocesan Board of Finance, a limited company and registered charity, and the Council is responsible for the management of finance, subject to the direction of the Synod. Bishop's Council also acts as the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee. Elected members are also ex-officio members of their archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committee.

In addition to Ex-officio and nominated members, elected membership consists of:

2 clerical and 3 lay Diocesan Synod members from each of the Berkshire, Buckingham and Dorchester archdeaconries.

1 clergy person and 2 lay Diocesan Synod members from the Oxford archdeaconry.

People with a broad range of interests, committed to the principles, priorities and values of Common Vision (being a more Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world), are welcome.

Bishop's Council: Meets typically on 5 afternoons a year, usually these are Wednesdays. Some years there is an extended evening meeting in addition to a 24-hour residential meeting.

Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committees: These usually meet 3 times per year. Dates will be provided by the Mission & Pastoral Committee Secretary on appointment.

Interested to know more? Contact Rosemary Pearce (01865) 208202

Buildings Committee

Sets the policy for buying, repairing, maintaining and disposing of all parsonage houses, team vicarages and houses owned by the Board of Finance. Policies are implemented through the Archdeaconry sub-committees. Currently operating as the Buildings Management & Strategy Committee we consider reports from the Glebe Committee and have a strategic overview of the whole property portfolio, including rented property. Common-sense and an interest in the well-being of our clergy and their families are required.

2 clerical and 2 lay Diocesan Synod members elected from the archdeaconries of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Dorchester. 1 clerical and 1 lay Diocesan Synod member elected from the archdeaconry of Oxford. Members are to be elected by the clerical and lay Diocesan Synod members respectively of each archdeaconry.

Meets 3 times a year. Archdeaconry sub-committees also meet 3 times a year.

Interested to know more? Contact David Mason (01865) 208230

Council for Partnership in World Mission (PIWM) <http://pwm.oxford.anglican.org>

The Council for Partnership in World Mission (PIWM) includes elected Synod members, co-opted members and representatives of Anglican Mission Agencies. It exists:

- to encourage all members of the Diocese of Oxford to recognise, use to the fullest potential, develop, and seek to increase opportunities to join with other Christians, Churches, and institutions within and outside of Great Britain in seeking to serve Christ through partnerships in world mission.
- to commit to prayer for world mission and to encourage others in the same, and

- actively to promote Partnership in World Mission as a living reality

It has a particular focus on our partnerships with three specific link dioceses: Kimberley and Kuruman in South Africa, Växjö in Sweden and Nandyal in India.

PIWM is a working council, so we are particularly interested in people who are willing to contribute talents and time not only to giving guidance on our future course, but also to implementing the Council's plans.

9 members, either clergy or lay, elected by the Diocesan Synod from among its membership ensuring all four archdeaconries are represented. When the votes are counted, those with highest and second highest votes in each archdeaconry will be elected, the remaining 3 positions being filled with the next highest number of votes irrespective of archdeaconry. If an archdeaconry does not put forward any candidates, vacancies will be kept and a by-election held.

Meets We meet 4 to 5 times a year: meetings are generally from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in Oxford: one meeting, usually in the summer, is a 24-hour residential focusing on a major theme relating to world mission.

Interested to know more? Contact the Chair, the Bishop of Reading, bishopreading@oxford.anglican.org or (0118) 984 1216 or the PWM Project Officer, Maranda St John Nicolle, maranda@ccow.org.uk or (01235) 851763.

Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Works with deaf and hard-of-hearing people to meet their spiritual, social and general needs, and to give them a voice and full participation in church and society. Synod members with some financial experience or experience with the young deaf or hard of hearing are particularly welcomed.

2 members of the Diocesan Synod, either clerical or lay, to be elected as representatives by Diocesan Synod members

Meets 3 times a year to support the work of the chaplaincy team.

Interested to know more? See our web site: www.odcd.org.uk or the Revd Tim Edge (01993 773438)

The Board of Mission

As a Diocese we are shaping our shared vision '*to become a more Christ-like church for the sake of the world*'. Diocesan Synod and Bishops Council are currently determining key Diocesan priorities, 'what we are called to do together'.

Within our Diocesan Common Vision process, the Board will play a key role in the next 3 years, particularly:

- Holding accountability for the monitoring of impact of a number of the Diocesan priorities including potential development of 'project evaluation meetings'
- As learning from the vision and priorities emerges, exploring the shape of future accountability structures for the Board
- Overseeing the 'business as usual' of the department and how this aligns with our vision and strategy

The Department of Mission serves the 'local church' and is responsible for:

- Turning vision and strategy into plans
- Implementing plans in partnership with the people, clergy and churches of the Diocese
- Deploying resources effectively
- Monitoring the progress of implementation
- Listening to people and churches in the Diocese and feeding back to Board.

The Board of Mission is chaired by the Bishop of Oxford oversees the work of the Department of Mission which includes a significant budget. Currently the Board meets formally 3 times a year, usually daytime, during the week, although again this needs to be explored going forward.

A major task for the department will be balancing the implantation of new work, re-aligning existing work to the Diocesan vision and maintain a significant volume of 'business as usual'. Therefore, in order that members of the Board can have informed discussion on these various elements of the work, it is expected that members will take a particular interest in an aspect of the work of the department. You will be contributing to the development of strategy, practice and policy as appropriate and this could take a number of forms, for example:

- Participation in the continuing work of one of the Diocesan Working Groups, particularly 'Making a Difference in the World', 'Growing the local church' (with its focus on evangelism) and 'Children and Young People'
- Meeting with the Continuing Ministerial Development team on a quarterly basis to support and enable the development of the programme
- Advising and supporting pilot initiatives around generosity
- Being a member of the Initial Ministerial Education (IME) 2 oversight group or the Local Ministry Programme committee responsible for local learning opportunities

1 clerical and 1 lay member of the diocesan synod from each archdeaconry, proposed, seconded and elected by the clerical and lay members respectively of the archdeaconry

For more details on the scope of the work of the Department: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/mission-ministry/> or contact Andrew Anderson-Gear, Director of Mission (01865) 208251

i-church <http://www.i-church.org/gatehouse/>

i-church is an online Christian community based on Benedictine principles. It is a Registered Charitable Company. *i-church* was founded by the Diocese of Oxford in the UK but has members all over the world.

There is currently a vacancy for one lay member and one clergy member of Diocesan Synod to join as a Trustee.

Interested to know more? contact the Chairman of i-church, the Bishop of Dorchester (01865) 208218 bishopdorchester@oxford.anglican.org

2. Diocesan Synod elects people *who need not themselves be Diocesan Synod members*, to these Boards and Councils

Please give some thought to people you know in deaneries and parishes who might be interested in these vacancies

Diocesan Board of Education <http://www.oxford.anglican.org/schools/>

Diocesan Boards of Education (DBE) fulfil an important role in education and are expected to be able to play a full and effective role in support of Church of England schools.

Our Board structure creates a sharp and effective body capable of responding to the considerable external pressures in education and one which continues to hold the oversight of the church character of our schools close to its heart.

There has been a period of significant change in education and we are now working in a landscape which is more complex but also provides greater opportunities. The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education oversees the work of a large team of experienced officers who take responsibility for strategy and implementation of a range of key issues covering school effectiveness, buildings and premises, finance and human resources. Board members are also expected to play a role in one of our committees (School Effectiveness, Development or Finance).

The Board, incorporated in 2010, has responsibility for 283 church schools and academies with approximately 60,000 pupils, working with 9 Local Authorities and 16 multi-academy trusts across the

diocese. The DBE is increasingly responsible for educational standards within our schools, particularly where there is under performance, and is frequently asked to contribute to strategic decisions regarding academisation, effective school groupings or deployment of funds on school building projects, for example. The staff team provides practical help with school improvement, governance, buildings, finance, HR, admissions, appeals and trust issues, together with pastoral support for school leaders. As a corporate member of all diocesan academy companies, we also share responsibility with local stakeholders for the direct running of academy schools.

The Board earns a significant level of income from trading activities which is important to allow it to continue to develop and improve.

We are seeking exceptional individuals with expertise in legal, finance, business, HR or strategic planning, with an understanding of the importance of church schools in the life of our diocese.

The new board will comprise a maximum of 22 members:- in addition to the Bishop of Oxford, there could be 2 members of the Bishop's senior staff, plus a further 1 nominated directly by the Bishop, and up to 8 people co-opted on the basis of their experience and skills in schools and our work. The Board is currently chaired by the Bishop of Buckingham.

The remaining 10 members will be elected by Diocesan Synod from the Archdeaconries as follows:

- *Oxford Archdeaconry – 1 member of Diocesan Synod, Lay or Ordained*
- *Berkshire Archdeaconry – 3 members: 1 of whom must be a member of Diocesan Synod, 1 must be Lay and 1 must be Ordained*
- *Buckinghamshire Archdeaconry – as for Berkshire*
- *Dorchester Archdeaconry – as for Berkshire*

Meets: Main Board meets 3 times a year, with committees sometimes meeting more often.

Interested to know more? In the first instance, contact Helen Mitchell, DBE Administration Co-ordinator on 01865 208217 or email helen.mitchell@oxford.anglican.org

Diocesan Committee for Interfaith Relations

Interfaith matters are relevant in every part of our diocese as never before.

The aims of the group are:

- a) To support, resource and enable individuals, churches and clergy in 'Presence & Engagement' parishes.
- b) To keep members of the Diocese aware of other faith communities, and to enable and encourage constructive engagement with them.
- c) To be a forum in which Interfaith concerns, as they affect the Diocese, can be explored.

2 persons to be appointed by the Diocesan Synod. Any Diocesan Synod member may propose or second the nomination.

Meets three or four times a year in the morning, usually in or near Oxford.

Interested to know more? Contact Martin Gorick (01865) 208263

Diocesan Trustees (Oxford) Ltd (DT(O)L)

Holds property and permanent endowment on behalf of PCC, Vicar & Churchwarden and ecclesiastical/ educational trusts. Local trustees are responsible for the management of trust property but where DT(O)L administers trust income, it ensures that the income is used according to the terms of trust. DT(O)L is the sole trustee for the Church Schools Uniform Statutory Trust (CSUST) which is used for the benefit of Church Schools across the Diocese. A sub-committee, the Trusts Investment Committee, normally meets twice a year to consider the investment of CSUST funds and the capital of other Trusts for which DT(O)L is the sole trustee. DT(O)L is currently also the sole trustee of 35 extant schools and 7 closed school or school house properties. While Directors with legal, surveyor or financial expertise are

particularly welcome, this does not preclude anyone with an interest. It may also be helpful if Directors are not members of Diocesan Synod or Directors of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance, so as to avoid a conflict of interest.

3 Directors to represent the Archdeaconries of Dorchester, Berkshire & Buckingham, of whom at least 2 must be lay and 2 Directors to represent the Archdeaconry of Oxford, of whom at least 1 must be lay. Nominees need not be members of the Diocesan Synod but must be proposed, seconded and elected by clergy or lay Diocesan Synod members of the respective Archdeaconry.

Meets: 4 times a year, with sub-committee meetings as required.

Interested to know more? Contact Caroline Dyer (01865) 208203

Diocesan Board of Patronage

The Board is Patron of 17, and Joint Patron of 19 other, benefices in the diocese and so is responsible for finding a suitable priest to fill the vacancy for an incumbent when it arises. This is done in close co-operation with the Bishop and Parish Representatives.

3 clerical members beneficed in or licensed to any parish in the diocese, proposed, seconded and elected by the House of Clergy of the Diocesan Synod and 5 lay members, proposed, seconded and elected by the House of Laity of the Diocesan Synod; in each case by single transferable vote. Members are elected to serve for 6 years.

Meets informally once or twice a year and formally when there is a vacancy to be filled or other business transacted.

Interested to know more? Contact The Revd Chris Leslie (01189) 888642

3. Groups seeking Diocesan Synod members in a personal capacity as Trustees

PACT (Parents & Children Together) The Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work
<http://www.pactcharity.org/>

PACT, founded in 1911, is a self-governing voluntary organisation. The charitable company has changed and adapted over time but the core objects have remained – to build and strengthen family life to improve life chances, maximising the potential of children, young people and adults by identifying and responding to unmet need. PACT incorporates Adoption, Community Development, support for those affected by Domestic Abuse, Justice and Early Years, Volunteering, and affirms one of the priorities of the Oxford Diocese in making a difference in society.

PACT welcomes expressions of interest from members of the Oxford Diocese especially those with Marketing, Fundraising, Digital, Legal and Communication skills who would be interested in serving as Trustees. Diocesan Synod members are warmly encouraged to explore this for themselves or with appropriate candidates in their congregations.

Meets 4 times per year plus various sub-committee meetings and the AGM.

Interested to know more? Contact Jan Fishwick (07825) 620644

