

Roles and responsibilities of Diocesan Synod members

Most people serve on the Diocesan Synod as deanery representatives. Other members are the Bishops and Archdeacons, members of General Synod, and a few are co-opted or nominated. The Diocesan Synod is also the Diocesan Board of Finance. Work in all spheres of church life brings its own responsibilities. The members of the Diocesan Synod are there to work in collaboration with each other and the officers of the Diocese to forward the mission of the Church.

This involves seeking to:

- 1 Live and grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ, sustained by word and sacrament within the fellowship of the worshipping Church.
- 2 Represent the perspectives of their deanery and its parishes on the Diocesan Synod by all means available, including turning up to meetings!
- 3 Be a point of contact both ways between the Diocese, the deanery and its parishes, participating fully in the life of all three, and remembering that a prime purpose of the Diocese is to support and enable work in deaneries and parishes, but not to direct it.
- 4 Work to grow cultures of generosity and genuine stewardship within the Church which honour and develop the gifts and ministry resources of all.
- 5 Inform themselves about the work and enterprise of the various Diocesan Boards, Committees and Councils. Consider standing for election to those for which membership of the Diocesan Synod is a pre-requisite. Also consider, or encourage others with particular expertise to explore, membership of other Diocesan Boards, Committees and Councils.
- 6 Support the mission of the Church by prayer and personal example and seek to promote honest and harmonious working relationships throughout the Diocese and the Church of England.
- 7 Inform themselves of issues under discussion at Diocesan and national levels and try to ensure that the achievements of the Church at all levels are widely shared and understood.
- 8 Take an interest in relationships which link what is going on locally into the Diocese and the world church.

(Agreed at Diocesan Synod 2003)