

**DIOCESE IN EUROPE**  
**ARCHDEACONRY OF SWITZERLAND**  
**SYNOD 4 FEBRUARY 2017 AT ST. URSULA'S CHURCH BERNE**  
**MINUTES**

**Present**

<b>Archdeacon</b>	Revd Canon Adèle Kelham
<b>Diocesan Secretary</b>	Adrian Mumford
<b>Spirituality Advisor</b>	Revd Canon John Newsome
<b>Basel St. Nicholas</b>	Revd Hilary Jones, Revd Anne Lowen, Nigel Spencer, Robin Hall
<b>Berne St. Ursula's</b>	Revd Mark Pogson, Hector Davie, Donna Goepfert
<b>Geneva Holy Trinity</b>	Revd Canon Alex Gordon, Roy Damary, Mary Talbot Clare Amos
<b>La Côte</b>	Revd Carolyn Cooke, Valerie Geschonke, Trevor Davies Angela Speed (visitor)
<b>Lausanne Christ Church</b>	Philippa King Rojo, Angela Fall (visitor)
<b>Lugano St. Edward's</b>	Revd Nigel Gibson, Sandra Pianezzi, Diana dell'Acqua (visitor)
<b>Montreux St. John's</b>	No representation
<b>Neuchâtel</b>	Jenny Veenendaal
<b>Vevey All Saints</b>	Revd Clive Atkinson, Claire Dalgish
<b>Zurich St. Andrew's</b>	Revd Paul Brice, Sarah Emch-Jones, Miriam Keller, Joanna Koch Nick Leaver, John Waygood
<b>PTOs</b>	Revd Canon Peter Hawker, Revd Roy Farrar
<b>Emmanuel Church Geneva</b>	Helena Mbele-Mbong
<b>Old Catholics</b>	Revd Ulrike Henkenmeier
<b>Partner Sein</b>	Robert Amstutz

**Apologies for Absence**

**Basel** Revd Russell Hilliard, Adam Pyrke **Berne** Richard King **Geneva** Ursula McGregor  
**La Côte** Revd Julia Chambeyron, Betty Talbot **Emmanuel Church** Revd Richard Cole  
**Lausanne** Howard Yu **Montreux** Guy Padfield, Mid Squier **Neuchâtel** Christa McCartney  
**Vevey** Donato Rampa **PTOs** Revd Elisabeth Bussmann, Revd Andrew Livingstone, Revd Hugh  
Pettingell, Revd Nick Peacock, Revd Douglas Pratt, Revd Lars Simpson, Revd Maree Wilson  
**Old Catholics** Rt Revd Harald Rein, Revd Sarah Böhm-Aebersold

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The Archdeacon opened the Synod with prayer and welcomed guest speakers Adrian Mumford, Diocesan Secretary and Revd Canon John Newsome, Spirituality Advisor to the Diocese. Apologies for Absence as above.

**1. Approval of Minutes of Synod 25 June 2016**

The minutes with an amendment notified to members were approved and signed.

**2. Matters Arising**

None

### **3. Update on Diocesan Finances by Adrian Mumford, Diocesan Secretary**

Adrian spoke about the role of the Diocesan Office, which supports the administration of the Diocese: managing chaplaincy sterling funds, overseeing safeguarding, communication, appointments, ministry teams, synods and the Common Fund, into which all chaplaincies via archdeaconries pay proportionate to their members and financial status. See pie-chart attached **Budgeted Accounts for 2017** for how Diocesan funds are allocated.

In answer to questions, Adrian said that the Church Commissioners now have legal power to give money to the Diocese in Europe. However, we received a very minimum £80,000, which at least allows us continue the present archdeacon arrangement. Safeguarding Level 3 is now being developed – Training for Trainers. Some of the small out-of-the way chaplaincies, especially in the Eastern Archdeaconry need additional financial assistance. Website: please keep in touch with the tweets and blogs and weekly newsletters. The Diocesan staff – Safeguarding, Publicity, Staff, Ministry Team etc. are all available to come to our assistance answering questions, or give advice. Don't hesitate to get in touch.

### **4. Presentation and approval of the Accounts for 2016**

The Treasurer John Waygood presented the 2016 accounts. All chaplaincy quotas had been received as budgeted. Support had been given as planned to the Athens Anglican chaplaincy's refugee work, to Partner Sein and to the AGCK ("Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlicher Kirchen"). Expenditure on the Ministry Training Scheme and on the Continuing Education Program were below budget but this was partly offset by higher than budgeted AD share of the costs of synods, chapters and the choir festival. The result was an overall gain of CHF 1,159, compared to a budgeted break-even. All questions were satisfactorily answered.

The Auditor Hector Davie gave his favourable report and recommended approval of the accounts. The accounts were unanimously approved and the Treasurer and the Auditor were thanked.

#### **Ratification of two budget payments**

The continued payment of CHF 4'750 per annum to the Old Catholic Aid Agency Partner Sein for the three years 2017/18/19 was proposed, seconded and duly ratified. It represents CHF 500 from each chaplaincy and CHF 250 from Neuchâtel.

The continued support of the Athens Anglican Chaplaincy refugee programme by payment of Euros 200 per month for calendar year 2017 was proposed, seconded and duly ratified.

#### **Presentation and approval of the budget for 2017**

The Treasurer presented the 2017 budget as agreed by the Standing Committee. The Archdeaconry is no longer paying a chaplaincy for a share of the Archdeacon's salary and travel cost but it is now reimbursing the Archdeacon for office rental costs, which together represents a considerable saving. One new expense which is to be budgeted is the travel and accommodation costs of the safeguarding team (CHF 1'500). There was some discussion of the need for the Archdeaconry to contribute to the annual choir festival (at a cost of CHF 2'000 in 2017 in Lausanne) which led to general acceptance that this should continue. It was pointed out by Hilary Jones that the SACEP budget of CHF 1'000 may well be understated since there is to be a retreat in 2017. The Treasurer apologised for his lack of consultation on this, and it was accepted that any necessary overspend could probably be covered elsewhere. The 2017 chaplaincy quotas, which are a direct result of the 2017 expenditure budget, will in total be CHF 23'050, which is CHF 800 or 3% lower than in 2016, with some variations by chaplaincy since the sharing is based on the 2017 Common Fund allocations.

The budget was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved, and the Treasurer thanked.

#### **Appointment of Hon. Auditor 2017**

Hector Davie was reappointed Hon. Auditor for 2017.

Many thanks to John and Hector for their care of the Archdeaconry finances.

## 5. Archdeacon's Report

Adèle reported that the Diocesan Strategy is now being implemented in chaplaincies. Safeguarding officers are kept busy with all the formalities required and the various training sessions being introduced. Our Archdeaconry has 3 trainers, who are gradually going round chaplaincies. The Bishop's Lent Appeal supports a shelter for homeless families in Budapest. A new database for the Diocese is being integrated into the website. Questions or problems with the media can be discussed with Paul Needle in Diocesan Office. AGCK is involved in a number of events in connection with the 500 year anniversary of the Reformation. Three Ecumenical labels will be awarded this year in Geneva on 1 April i.e. The Ecumenical prison chaplaincy in Geneva, Ecumenical Lenten Courses near Geneva and Translation of the Bible into sign-language.

## 6. Reports

- **SACEP** Hilary Jones brought Synod's attention to the Clare Amos talk in Zurich on 13 May on Israel-Palestine Relations. Retreat: 8 – 10 September. Venue and cost not yet fixed. She hopes to find a venue in central Switzerland, not too expensive and reachable with public transport. Former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Carey will be the speaker.
- **OC/Anglican Relations** Ulrike Henkenmeier from the Old Catholic Church brought greetings from Bishop Harald Rein. She reported on the Agreement for Full Communion signed on 23 November 2016 between the Old Catholic Churches in Utrecht and the Church of Sweden. An international youth pilgrimage of Anglicans and Old Catholics to Echternach, Luxembourg will take place from 25 – 28 May.
- **Partner Sein** In addition to the written report already circulated, Robert Amstutz thanked the Archdeaconry for its continuing support of Partner Sein. He would be grateful if more individual chaplaincies could make some contribution, in addition to the quota paid directly to the Archdeaconry. He himself is very readily available to come to any chaplaincy to talk about Partner Sein projects.
- **Resource on Ecumenism** Clare Amos is Director of Lay Discipleship for the Diocese in Europe. She is now working on a booklet focussing on ecumenism in the Diocese of Europe. Ecumenism in continental Europe is rather different from ecumenism in England, covering as it does Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, Reformed, Pentecostal and migrant churches, Old Catholic, Spanish Reformed, Lusitanian, Episcopal Convocation and others. The Reformation also differed in the big Swiss cities, Geneva, Zurich, Berne, Basel. She hopes to draw in lay people to work on the booklet.
- **Seminar with Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, "Come Holy Spirit" University of Fribourg 19 – 21 June** Information under <http://www.glaubeundgesellschaft.ch>

## 7. Any Other Business

- **Consideration of 2-day Synod** Members were asked their opinion of having one 2-day synod a year instead of the present two 1-day meetings, the idea being that there would be more time for discussion. There was little enthusiasm for the proposal, but it was decided to keep it in mind, in view of the next 3-year session with new representatives beginning after chaplaincy AGMs in spring.
- **Reminder of synod elections at chaplaincy AGMs** Miriam Keller asked chaplaincies to inform her of their elected synod representatives after the AGM.

- **Emmanuel Church Geneva** Helena Mbele-Mbong expressed the pleasure of her church to be represented at the Archdeaconry Synod. Like us, they support Partner Sein and Athens. Their new Rector, Revd Canon Michael Rusk, will soon be taking up his duties.

#### 8. Future Programme 2017

- Saturday 25 March Willibrord Society AGM in Winterthur  
Service at 11.00 with Bishop Harald
- Fri.-Sun 5 – 7 May Choir Festival in Lausanne
- Saturday 13 May SACEP in Zurich with Clare Amos on Israel-Palestine Relations
- Thurs.-Sun. 25-28 May Int. Anglican-Old Catholic young adults meet in Echternach, Luxembourg
- Monday 19 June Archbishop of Canterbury at Univ. of Fribourg
- Saturday 24 June AD Synod in Zurich
- Fr. – Sun. 8 – 10 Sept. AD Retreat
- Saturday 18 November Willibrord Outing to House of Religions in Berne

**Eucharist** During the Eucharist the licence of Revd Mark Pogson, Assistant Chaplain in Berne was renewed.

#### **Address by Revd Canon John Newsome, Spirituality Advisor in Diocese in Europe**

“What is spirituality?” It’s a very elastic concept. In a brainstorming John asked us to say how we would describe it. Very varied ideas emerged: God moments, my inner life, becoming as children, let go to let the other in..... John’s interpretation would be the process by which we become more aware of the gift of holiness and increasingly conform to it. We are called to share fully in the life of God, to be aware, to focus 100%, to see things with different eyes and recognise them consciously. When did you last have a “God moment” good or bad? He would encourage people to have a spiritual director, someone who could help you, to accompany you on your way to see how God is there every day and everywhere. Is there any suitable person in your own chaplaincy? The Diocese runs courses in spiritual direction. Contact John for information. [Jknewsome49@gmail.com](mailto:Jknewsome49@gmail.com)

The Synod closed at 15.30. Many thanks to St. Ursula’s for hosting us.

Miriam Keller  
10.2.2017