



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham

A brief introduction to East Bingham Deanery Synod



**GROWING
DISCIPLES**

Wider Younger Deeper

February 2020

What is the purpose of the East Bingham Deanery Synod?

The Deanery Synod provides a vital link between parochial church councils (PCCs) and the Diocesan Synod, bringing together clergy and lay people from neighbouring parishes in East Bingham Deanery to discuss issues relating to local mission and ministry, to formulate common policies and identify opportunities for growth. The Deanery Synod also considers the business of the Diocesan Synod and matters referred to that synod by the General Synod, giving local views where appropriate to do so.

How often does the East Bingham Deanery Synod meet?

Deanery Synod usually meets three times a year in February, June and October. The meetings are held in one of the East Bingham parishes.

Who sits on the East Bingham Deanery Synod?

The Deanery Synod is jointly led by the Area Dean and the Lay Chair. The Lay Chair is elected by the Deanery Synod to serve for a three-year term, which is renewable. The East Bingham Area Dean and Lay Chair are supported by a Secretary (the Deanery Administrator), and a Treasurer, which is an elected lay-role.

All licensed or beneficed East Bingham Deanery Clergy are members of the Deanery Synod, as are any clergy on Diocesan Synod or General Synod resident in the deanery. Retired Clergy with Permission To Officiate (PTO) may be represented on Deanery Synod as follows: one clerk for every ten such clerks or part thereof, elected or chosen in such manner as may be approved by the bishop by and from such clerks.¹

Every three years (the Triennium), as part of the Annual Parish General Meeting, each PCC is asked to appoint one or more lay representatives to the Deanery Synod. The number of representatives is dependent on the number of people on the Church electoral role. For example, PCCs with 1-29 on the electoral role can send one lay person; 30-100, two people; and 101-200, three people.

¹ Membership of a Deanery Synod is governed by the Church of England Church Representation rules <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/church-representation-rules>

What is the role of a Deanery Synod member?

East Bingham Deanery Synod asks its members to:

- Commit to attending meetings of the Synod;
- Take an active role in helping to shape the future of the East Bingham Deanery and the wider Church, helping to Grow Disciples, Wider, Younger, Deeper.
- Share their vision and passion, working with others in prayer, listening and seeking God's will for mission in the Deanery and beyond;
- Act and think strategically and see the role of individual parishes within the bigger picture;
- Make decisions on local issues, sometimes by means of a vote;
- Engage constructively in Synod discussions and challenge respectfully;
- Ensure that Deanery Synod business is an agenda item at every PCC meeting and that relevant feedback is given to these meetings;
- Commit to providing good communication links between their parishes and the Deanery;
- Lay members vote for lay representation on the East Bingham Deanery Standing Committee, the Diocesan Synod and the General Synod.

What is the role of the East Bingham Deanery Standing Committee?

The Deanery Standing Committee is the elected 'management committee' for the Deanery Synod and it has a key responsibility for shaping future deanery policy. It plans and sets the agendas for Synod meetings. The Standing Committee is made up of five members of Clergy, including the Area Dean, and up to 10 Lay members, including the Synod Lay Chair, ideally one representative from each parish or benefice. All members are representatives of the Deanery Synod. The Deanery Administrator acts as Secretary to Standing Committee.

And remember ...

... The Deanery Synod is an open house and encourages its members to bring any issues before it, whether they are Parish related or more general matters which members feel need airing.

East Bingham Deanery Synod Contact Details:

Area Dean: The Rev'd Dr Stephen Hippisley-Cox
email: s.d.hippisley.cox@gmail.com

Lay Chair: Steve Gelsthorpe
Email: steve.gelsthorpe@icloud.com

The Synod Secretary: Judith Mills
email: Judith.mills@southwell.anglican.org