

**DIOCESE IN EUROPE  
ARCHDEACONRY OF SWITZERLAND**

**Archdeaconry Synod**

**Saturday, 27 January 2018**

**St. Ursula's Church, Jubiläumsplatz, 3005 Berne**

**Present**

<b>Archdeacon</b>	Revd Canon Adèle Kelham
<b>Basel St. Nicholas</b>	Revd Russell Hilliard, Revd Anne Lowen, Nigel Spencer, Robin Hall
<b>Berne St. Ursula's</b>	Revd Stephen Stuckes, Hector Davie, Donna Goepfert, Richard King
<b>Geneva Holy Trinity</b>	Roy Damary, Mary Talbot, Clare Amos, Ursula Mcgregor
<b>La Côte</b>	Revd Carolyn Cooke, David Bramley, Trevor Davies
<b>Lausanne Christ Church</b>	Angela Fall, Vahe Jebejian
<b>Lugano St. Edward's</b>	Revd Nigel Gibson, Linda Denkinger, Sandra Pianezzi
<b>Neuchâtel</b>	Jenny Veenendaal
<b>Vevey All Saints</b>	Revd Clive Atkinson, Revd Elizabeth Bussmann, Claire Dalgish
<b>Zurich St. Andrew's</b>	Harry Devonshire, Julianne Funk, Miriam Keller, Joanna Koch Peter Spychal, Nick Leaver, Robert Amstutz (Partner Sein) John Waygood (Treasurer)
<b>PTO</b>	Revd Canon Peter Hawker, Revd Mark Pogson
<b>PTO and OC</b>	Revd Lars Simpson, Revd Sarah Boehm
<b>Visitors</b>	Hans-Karl Pffyer (organist), Maxine Wildhaber (Berne church warden)

**Apologies/Absent**    **Basel** Revd Hilary Jones, Jane Weber-Miller    **Geneva** Revd Canon Alex Gordon  
**La Côte** Revd Julia Chambeyron    **Emmanuel Church** Revd Michael Rusk, Revd Richard Cole, Helena Mbele-Mbong  
**Montreux** Guy Padfield, Mid Squier    **Vevey** Mark Jones  
**Zurich** Revd Paul Brice    **PTO** Revd Canon Alan Amos, Revd Roy Farrar, Revd Hugh Pettingell, Revd Nick Peacock, Revd Maree Wilson    **Old Catholic** Rt Revd Harald Rein, Revd Ulrike Henkenmeier

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Archdeacon Revd Canon Adèle Kelham opened Synod with a prayer and welcomed all present. Apologies as above.

**Morning Session**

**1. Approval of Minutes Synod 24 June 2017**

Amendment to para 6 Old Catholics to read: Revd Mark Pogson added that it is planned to hold **Anglican** services in English in the **OC church** in Biel. The minutes were approved and signed.

**2. Matters arising**

- Youth Ministry: Mary Talbot reported that invitations to youth retreats organised by the American Episcopalian church in Geneva are coming. Contact Mary Talbot or Vahe Jebejian

**3. Diocesan Finance Common Fund**

The diocese proposes a new financial plan with considerable increases in chaplaincy contributions to the Common Fund. The crucial services of safeguarding, financing

archdeacons, communication need funding and at the moment the diocese is using its reserves to cover the deficit. Members were shown a video from Diocesan Office explaining in more detail the reasons for the suggested increases of 6% in 2018 and 10% in 2019. All chaplaincies expect to run heavy deficits if these increases come into force. Generally it was felt that not enough consultation with the chaplaincies had taken place. It was decided to send a letter to the Bishop expressing our views and asking that renewed efforts be made to seek funding both from the Church Commissioners and external sources.

#### **4. Archdeaconry Finance – presented by John Waygood AD Treasurer**

- ***Presentation and approval of accounts for 2017:***

The Treasurer, John Waygood, presented the 2017 accounts. Total capital and funds increased in 2017 by CHF 1'358 to CHF 32'505. An administrative deficit reduced capital by CHF 1'132, but this was more than compensated by a surplus of CHF 2'190 on the Swiss Archdeaconry Ministry Training Scheme ("SAMTS") Fund and by a CHF 300 release of a fund reserve to capital. The administrative deficit was the result of higher than expected travel expenses and of lower than expected billings of synod and chapter costs, for which full details were provided. All questions having been satisfactorily answered, the auditor, Hector Davie, recommended the 2017 accounts to the members for approval, the accounts were unanimously adopted, and the Treasurer and the Auditor were thanked.

- ***Ratification of budget payment***

It had been proposed by the Steering Committee that the monthly support payment to the Athens Anglican Chaplaincy Refugee Programme be reduced from Euros 200 to CHF 200 per month in 2018, and this had been included in the draft budget. The Synod Members, however, resolved unanimously to contribute CHF 250 monthly (CHF 3'000 for the year) in 2018. This represents an increase in AD expense of CHF 600 versus the budget proposal.

- ***Presentation and approval of the budget for 2018***

The Treasurer presented the 2018 Budget proposed by the Standing Committee. This includes necessarily increased budgets for travel & accommodation expenses by AD staff and by the safeguarding trainers, an allowance for the net cost of the retreat in October, and lower recovery of synod and chapter costs, but these higher cost budgets are more than compensated by much lower budget requirement for the Ministry Training Scheme fund. After the revision to the proposed budget in respect of the level of our support to Athens, the resultant 2018 Quotas are in total CHF 22'830, which is very close to the level of 2017 (CHF 200 below 2017 in total). This (amended) 2018 budget proposal was adopted by the members.

- Hector Davie was re-elected as Hon. Auditor for a further year.

Many thanks to the Treasurer and Auditor for taking care of our accounts.

#### **5. Anglican Old Catholic International Co-ordinating Council (AOCICC) & OC Reports**

Revd Lars Simpson, Co-Secretary of AOCICC, distributed booklets explaining the historical relationship and communion of our two churches and how we can work together.

**Willibrord Society** This society welcomes new members. It encourages communion between Anglicans and Old Catholics and looks for ways to promote activities together e.g. participation in the International Pilgrimage to Echtenach, Luxembourg in May 2017.

**OC Switzerland** Revd Sarah Boehm brought greetings from OC Bishop Harald Rein, who had just returned from Utrecht where there was a celebration of the new intercommunion with the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Sweden.

## 6. Reports

- **Archdeaconry Choir Festival:** Hans-Karl Pfyffer gave an overview of the choir festivals in the Archdeaconry, starting in 1982, developing from choral evensong in Berne to the ecumenical service in Lausanne Cathedral in 2017. The Choir Festival budget is CHF 2000.-, which normally covers the expenses of having a choir director from UK and possibly an outside organist. Many expenses are absorbed by the host chaplaincy. Hans-Karl emphasised the importance of upholding the tradition of church music, but recognising that there are other types of music. The Choir Festival offers the opportunity for members of different chaplaincies to meet and promotes the element of outreach. It was agreed to continue with budget coverage of CHF 2000.- (already approved in the 2018 budget).
- **Archdeacon's Report** There are hopes that Lausanne and Montreux will soon have part-time chaplains. Two new trainers for safeguarding are now available for all-day courses in the chaplaincies. Several changes have been made in Diocesan Office following the retirement of Adrian Mumford, plus a new finance organisation. Safeguarding, mission, policy on tolerance and bullying, plans for an ECO diocese are on-going.
- **SACEP** Environment Officer Elizabeth Bussmann invited everyone to come to the meeting on 28 April Creation Care Conference. Our aim is to become an ECO diocese with each church an ECO church.
- **Partner Sein:** Robert Amstutz Presently Partner Sein is supporting 29 projects ranging from Lebanon, Congo, south Sudan, Philippines, Hong Kong. This all takes money and Partner Sein is very thankful to have regular financial support from Synod.
- **Youth Work:** Clive Atkinson informed Synod members of the Project Compassion Youth Compass. This organisation arranges trips for young people to serve people and learn what it is to make a meaningful impact in the lives of others and the community. The trip this year in spring is to Serbia. Information from Youth Compass Europe, Kurt-Schumacher-Strasse 36, D-61267 Neu-Anspach, Germany. Tel: 0049 6081 449 559

**Church and Peace** is an ecumenical European network. Conference and AGM 21-24 June at Hoddeston, Herts. UK. Information from Synod member Julianne Funk ([juliannefunk5@gmail.com](mailto:juliannefunk5@gmail.com)) or <http://www.church-andpeace.org/en>.

## 7. Any Other Business

- **Elections 2018 for Diocesan Synod representative**  
Nick Leaver does not wish to stand again. He passed on some of the very positive experiences he has had as Diocesan Synod representative during the past 6 years. Synod members who would be interested in being nominated should await the nomination forms which will come from Diocesan Office sometime during the year. Get yourself

proposed and seconded and let Miriam Keller have the forms. Our other representative, Mary Talbot, is willing to stand again.

#### 8. Future Dates

- 16 February Archbishop of Canterbury speaking at World Council of Churches
- 20 – 22 April Choir Festival in Basel
- 17 March Willibrord Society AGM in Biel (tbc)
- 28 April SACEP meeting in Berne Creation Care Conference
- 16 June AD Synod with Professor Grace Davie - Venue to be announced
- 30 Aug – 10 Sept Pilgrimage to Israel & Jordan (organised by Hilary Jones)
- 26 – 28 October AD Retreat with Clare Amos at Hotel Kurhaus Grimmelalp,  
Near Spiez
- 26 28 April **2019** Choir Festival in Geneva

#### ***Recommended books***

**Inspiring Music in Worship** published by Royal School of Church Music

**2033 Celebrating 2000 years Resurrection** by Olivier Fleury

**Many thanks to St. Ursula's for hosting Synod. They always look after us well.**

*Miriam Keller*

5 February 2018