

SAINT LEONARD'S PARISH CHURCH
CLENT
(A Benefice Church)

SYNOD REPORT

The Stourbridge Deanery Synod had meetings planned for **June 10th** and **October 22nd** in **2009** and **Tues. February 9th** in **2010** with the newly elected Clent representatives: _

Anne Lockett

Liz. Piddock

Harry Grove

.. Clent's latest (2009) Electoral Roll total now entitling the parish to three representatives, each with a three year term at the Synod (and an ex-officio seat on Clent PCC).

Within a short time, Liz. Piddock withdrew from her position and a replacement was sought. **Dr. Helen Pennock** volunteered and was adopted by the PCC as the alternate representative.

The Synod has formed a sounding-ground for the views and opinions within the Deanery to re-organisation plans - which encompass the entire Stourbridge Deanery and are not restricted to 'our' rural area.

The initial concept was for there to be _

The Town Team:

The town parishes would be paired in the following way:

Oldswinford and Wollescote;

Pedmore and Lye;

Wollaston and Norton;

Amblecote and St Thomas

Each with one priest sharing 2 churches.

The Country Team:

This would consist of:

Hagley (both churches), and Churchill with Blakedown, & Broome, Belbroughton with Fairfield and Clent, - All to be served by 2 clergy.

This would leave 2 clergy "spare", giving a measure of future-proofing .. since it was thought that we would not want to have to re-organise the deanery again in 2016.

These two clergy will allow us to make the most of the many mission opportunities in the deanery, provide lay and clergy training, and allow 'cover' for services.

The "discovery" of the two 'supernumerary' clergy by those attending a recent meeting comes as a surprise, since i) their Synod representative(s) ought to have reported this plan back to them for consultation, & ii) this information has been available on Parish and Deanery internet sites since the November 19th 2008 Synod.

All Synod meetings are planned (*surprise, surprise..!*) by a Standing Committee who arrange for guest speakers and presentations, and who organise a 'rolling programme' of locations around the Deanery - for variety and convenience.

Our other 2010 Synods will be held **Wednesday June 9th** - at **Clent Parish Hall**, and on **Thursday October 14th** - at a location to be announced. Reports of Synod activities are given to PCC meetings and some topics are selected for discussion - with reporting-back of our views and opinions.