

## STOURBRIDGE DEANERY



The Deanery Service held on  
Sunday 13th July at  
Pedmore Cricket Club



to give our support to the  
Diocesan Assembly



Please inform your  
P.C.C. about

- #1 New Synod membership
- #2 Diocesan Board of Education
- #3 DOSTI project
- #4 Deanery elections
- #5 Parish Share - Debate and Resolution
- #6 Bishop + John to visit next Synod meeting

\* Next meeting  
**7:30pm**  
**September 16th**  
**St. Michael's,**  
**Norton**

\* This is a change of  
date

# DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

## Notes from the Synod meeting



25th June 2008 Meeting

Issue: August 2008

### Churchill

The Deanery Synod met at Churchill Village Hall and some thirty-five members were welcomed, including



St. James, Churchill (1868)

newly elected laity and recently appointed clergy - the Rev. Paul Harrison and Rev. Alan Williams.

The Synod received a report on the past year's workings of the Diocesan Board of Education from Harry Grove, the Deanery representative.

The visiting speaker was Lorna Prescott, a senior development officer in community projects, whose topic was **DOSTI**.

There followed the Deanery Elections, with Secretary Graham Dyer and Treasurer Stuart Forrest being returned unopposed.

The **Standing Committee** consists of:

3 Clergy (Revs. Williams, Curtis & Harrison) -  
3 Lay members (Mr. Haden, Grove & 1 vacancy) -  
and 4 ex-officio places (Chair, Lay Chair, Sec. & Treasurer),  
The **Pastoral Committee** consists of: Revds. Newton, Cross and Mapley; with Mrs. Truckle, Shirley Stringer and Graham Dyer; plus Chair and Lay Chair.

The new ideas on Parish Share were introduced by the Rural Dean.

There was the need to have an averaged increase of 4.6% although, if all Deaneries emulated Stourbridge and paid in full, no increase would be necessary. A report was circulated which outlined a three-tier scheme (4 parishes

in the top tier, 6 in the middle & 3 at the bottom). The meeting heard a wide variety of responses and reaction, many of which were expressed with vigor. The Resolution: "to accept the recommendation of the working party to add 5% to the 'Share' of the 4 wealthiest parishes, to be distributed amongst the 3 least wealthy" was proposed and passed with 28 votes for - 4 against - & with 1 abstention.



St. James, Blakedown

Rev. Barbara Mapley reminded parishes about the Health & Healing Group survey that was due for return.

### Main Topic

**DOSTI** - Urdu دوستی meaning 'friendship' - covers the local work of the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal (Local Authorities bringing together some 1,500 voluntary and faith-sector organizations) resulting in several collaborative 'networks' - which includes the 'Dudley Churches Forum' and 'Churches Together' in Brierley Hill.

Following a survey of goals for the year 2020, PCC's are being included in working towards

- # a green environment
- # reduced crime rates
- # community spirit
- # respect and care.

Faith groups and churches often find themselves able to take the lead in community issues and provide platforms for shared experience & planning.

Adrian Lowe of Amblecote Christian Centre is Chair of DOSTI in Dudley.

Work is publicized through the newsletter - "DOSTI CONNECTIONS" and via the web-site - <http://www.dosti.org.uk/>

A workshop on Community Engagement is planned for Tuesday 9th September

Lorna Prescott

NewSynod  
membership

**#1**

DOSTIproject

**#2**

DiocesanBoard of Education

**#3**

Deaneryelections

**#4**

ParishShare

Debate and

Resolution

**#5**

Bishop+John to visit next Synod meeting

**#6**

Nextmeeting\_

7:30pm

**September 16th**

St. Michael's, Norton