
Report from Synod Ministries Committee 18th July 2018

- 1. Supervision as accountability.** The Moderator and Convener have been looking into this. The East Midlands scheme involved a clause in the Terms of Settlement to say that local pastorates should pay for supervision for ministers in the Synod should they so wish. Not all pastorates could afford to pay and not all ministers wished for supervision. It is not in the Plan for Partnership which is why other synods have not taken it up. Since the Revd Richard Church, Deputy General Secretary Discipleship, is actively considering this denominationally, it was agreed to wait to see results.
- 2. Preaching fees.** It was noted that travelling expenses for lay preachers is 35p per mile and not 45p as previously thought. It was agreed that the letter sent after the last meeting to churches asking them to appreciate the value of lay preachers be copied to all ministers correcting the previous figures.
- 3. Scheduled Discussion – Synod Lay Presidency and Authorised Elders Guidelines.** A paper entitled 'Lay presidency and Authorised Elders guidelines' was brought to the meeting from National Ministries Committee. After a lengthy discussion in which it was suggested each church should have an authorised elder to regularise this, and authorisation should be for 3 years, the Moderator said she would amend the paper and will bring it to Synod Together.
- 4. The role of Elders.** General Assembly resolved to add a further question to section B of the Basis of Union. This will be brought to Synod Together.
- 5. People for Mission.** Our deployment number will fall to 37 full-time equivalent ministers by 2022 and so we shall need to be looking at supplementing our ministries. The Moderator brought four resolutions that "ear-mark" money from the Mission Fund for SCM and CRCW posts that are at the application stage.
- 6. Training Officers Report.** The Committee are pleased that Martin Belgrove and Martin Knight have now successfully reached the end of their EM2 period. The Committee is concerned about the number of ministers who had not taken the "Safeguarding for Ministers" training course.
- 7. Candidates and Students.** Four candidates from Southern Synod have recently been called to pastorates, Josh Thomas, Jo Clare-Young, Bernard Fidler and Ted Bellingham. As it was his last meeting, Stuart Dew was thanked for his work on this Committee.

Next meeting is Wednesday 14th November 2018

Revd Bridget Banks
Convener