

City Deanery Report 2020

The Deanery Synod met 6th Jan 2020 in the presence of the Lord Mayor Rt Hon Alderman William Russell. The main topic for discussion was **The 2030 Diocesan Vision**. (This has developed from Capital Vision 2020 and the City Plan 2036).

Revd Adam Atkinson, Two Cities Area Director for Mission, mentioned three main themes emerging:

Vision – For every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ.

Priorities – Confident disciples, Compassionate communities, Creative growth and Investment in young people

Enablers – People, Finance, Buildings, Partnership working etc

Georgina Graham, Two Cities Operations Manager also spoke, highlighting homelessness and the work of St Katherine Cree.

Synod then went on to discuss responses from a questionnaire circulated earlier. We looked at issues ranging from: raising awareness of Churches (publicity), to sharing of resources – admin, equipment, to reaching increasingly diverse people groups.

The second meeting, usually held in June, with more opportunity for Synod members to interact, was cancelled due to Covid.

The next meeting was held 13th October 2020 via zoom. Catherine McGuinness, Chair of the City's Policy & Resources Committee, spoke on **"The Current and Future Development of the City – towards the City Plan 2036"**. She outlined the City Corporations response to the challenges of Covid19 and the measures taken to speed recovery. The City Plan 2020-2036 seeks to future proof the city via architecture, transport, flexible use of office space, urban greening and reduced air/noise pollution. A lively Q & A followed covering several issues.

When discussing Synod Finance, it was noted that an amount, 14K, from the Burial Ground Income Fund was made available to support City Churches in their Covid Strategy. When discussing LDBS (London Diocesan Board for Schools), it was noted that The Sir John Cass School had been renamed The Aldgate School due to the former's links with the slave trade.

Cheryl Stafford

21st March 2021

