

West Dartmoor Mission Community Council

Vacancy Newsletter

The Last Leg

The MCC meeting on 30 January had an upbeat feel. Revd Andrew Thomas, our new rector, attended and was given a warm welcome. He described in positive terms what had led him to apply to be our Rector, stressing the sense that we were one community operating out of 6 churches not 6 separate communities.

He explained that his intention was to spend 6 months getting to know us before focusing on any significant changes and that during that time it might be sensible to organise the sort of strategic planning away day we have had in the past to review the Mission Action Plan and agree priorities.

We also discussed plans for his Induction. Further details on this will be circulated but please make sure you have **Tuesday 31 March at 7.00pm at St Paul's** in your diary. Bishop Robert will be leading the service. A party from Andrew's present congregations will be coming and local clergy in the Deanery will be invited.

Detailed plans for Lent, Holy Week and Easter will also be circulated. The arrangements will be very similar to those in recent years. On Palm Sunday there will be a Mission Community Service at St Paul's and no services in other churches.

A reminder to all PCC members that they should have done the C(0) safeguarding training. Please talk to Debbie Delaney if you are unsure.

This was the last meeting of the enlarged Mission Community Council which has been overseeing the Vacancy. The next meeting will revert to the core membership of: 2 representatives from each Parish and the Licenced Clergy. Thanks were recorded for all who had helped the Mission Community through the vacancy: Bishop Nick, Nick Law, the Ministerial Group, additional members of the MCC, notably those who had led deliver such as Nosh, Open the Book and the Website. And a big thank you to all members of the Church for all the enthusiasm, energy and commitment which has seen us through this Vacancy.