

## **SOUTHERN RYEDALE PLANNING TEAM PROGRESS REPORT 1**

**10 March 2022**

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The Planning Team met for the first time in person last night, having had an introductory session on Zoom. All benefices except one have a representative and we hope to have a full team very soon; with the exception of Rev Nicky Penn-Allison all the representatives are lay people and we are ably supported by Rev Veronica James who acts as a listener, support and critical friend for Nicky and I.

In our meeting each representative reflected on the deep listening meetings Nicky and I have been holding across the Deanery; we have one more visit to make, which is to West Buckrose on the 15<sup>th</sup> as sadly illness meant our original meeting date had to be rescheduled. Through these meetings and our reflections as the Planning Team we were all able to gain a better understanding of everyone's current situation, their strengths and challenges as well as their hopes for the future seen through the lens of our current reality as a Deanery.

There are many wonderful things happening to give us hope but the Planning Team know we face a lot of challenges as we move forward and we heard about how things feel in each part of the Deanery to give us an overall picture and a sense of cohesion.

Before our next meeting all the representatives have been set the task of collating the critical and incredibly valuable roles played by all those who are not stipendiary clergy in each benefice so we can gather a complete picture of our resources (human and otherwise) as we start to get into the practicalities of creating a way forward that serves us in the places where we are but also lifts our eyes to plan for the Deanery as a whole.

The Planning Team meet again on March 16<sup>th</sup> - please do hold all of us in your prayers as we work to give life to God's plan for us in our parishes, benefices and Deanery.

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