

Report on Deanery Synod Meeting 31/03/22

Theme – Safeguarding creation.

Mary Goodfellow.

The Rev John White of Hazelnut farm and worshipping community (churches and communities flourishing in the ecological crisis))

This is a community farm which also does worship and invites people to join its community. Both John and his wife are Anglican priests. They invite people to work in the farm. The produce then goes to foodbanks. At the end of each session there is a worship element.

Rev Becky Waring invited us to consider in groups how we as churches could safeguard creation. John White suggested that each church could grow some wheat and this could be ground and used in a service at the Cathedral. He has the seeds/grain and means to grind the wheat and would distribute it to parishes. Other suggestions were supporting local ecological projects such as community gardens and farms financially. Holy Nativity could have a raised bed in the new garden and involve the kids club in the growing of the wheat. Another suggestion was buying more sustainable cleaning products.

The evening was completed by a prayer session themed on ecological issues.

The motion voted for by the deanery, to be put to synod, concerning checks on diocesan expenditure, has been withdrawn in consideration that there being a new leadership team.