

RIPON & LEEDS DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE
HOUSING FORUM MEETING FOR RICHMOND ARCHDEACONRY

Minutes of the meeting held at Hoppus House on Tuesday, 18 January 2011.

Present:	Ven Janet Henderson	Archdeacon of Richmond
	Mr Richard Thomas	Chair of Housing & Estates Committee
	Dr Sue Proctor	Diocesan Secretary
	Mr M E Lindley	Diocesan Surveyor
	Revd Stan Haworth	Area Dean – Richmond Deanery
	Revd Philip Smith	On behalf of Ripon Deanery
	Revd Brendan Giblin	Area Dean – Wensley Deanery
	Revd Tessa Stephens	Curate
	Mrs Teresa Dixon	Clergy wife

Minutes:	Mrs Kath Hinchcliffe	Property Assistant
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1. The Archdeacon opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies – there were no apologies.

3. Diocesan Surveyor – Actions since last meeting on 24 November 2009

The Diocesan Surveyor gave background information as to why the meetings take place – to ascertain if the clergy had any problems regarding housing.

- a. Housing & Estates have had to make savings in the region of £50,000 during 2010. More savings may have to be made in the coming year.
- b. Environment Policy – Environmental issues have been addressed with the completion of the Cavity Wall Insulation programme to those properties which were suitable. Other environmental improvement work is to be incorporated into the capital programme.
- c. New build
 - (i) Kirkby Malzeard – planning permission was granted before Christmas. The Chair of the Housing & Estates Committee thanked the Diocesan Surveyor for all his dedicated hard work in achieving this.
 - (ii) Startforth – looking at working up details for new rectory.
- d. Dioceses Commission Boundary Report – The Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Surveyor and the Chair of the Housing & Estates Committee are to meet to discuss the issues of concern. The Diocesan Surveyor

agreed to speak to his opposite number in the Diocese of Durham, and the Archdeacon is to speak to the Archdeacon of Auckland.

4. Points for Discussion

- a. Installation of multi-fuel stoves to parsonages with oil-fired central heating – this point was raised because of the increase in oil prices; since May 2005 the cost per litre of oil has almost doubled. It was suggested that multi-fuel stoves be installed. The Chair of the Housing & Estates Committee and the Diocesan Surveyor agreed to look at the cost implications and the possibility of coming up with a viable solution. The Archdeacon said that if anyone was experiencing problems in meeting costs for fuel they should contact her as she has access to trusts which provide grants for specific needs such as heating.

The Diocesan Secretary suggested that the corporate procurement of oil, gas and electricity should be investigated.

- b. Emergency contacts – this point was raised because some clergy had not been able to get emergency repairs carried out by diocesan approved contractors during the recent bad weather when the diocesan office had been closed. It was agreed that a list of all approved contractors would be sent out annually to clergy.

5. Any other business

- a. Curates Housing – generally, problems with rented accommodation are in the minority; however Revd Tessa Stephens reported that she had had some problems with the Letting Agents regarding her property. The Archdeacon asked that any problems be reported back to the Diocesan Surveyor for him to action.
- b. Housing Forum meetings – the future format of these meetings will be considered by the Housing & Estates Committee at its next meeting.