

**Heytesbury Deanery Synod
7th March 2013
Let Us Talk**

The Best Thing About Our Church Is.....

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| Thriving Christian community (Upton Lovell) Community Friendliness of community (Mere) Community (Cley Hill Villages) Welcoming – Active in community (Christ Church) (Mere/Mere-West-Knoyle) Community (Upton Lovell) | God (Sutton Veny/Upper Wyllye) Hopefulness |
| Friendship Mutual support (The Deverills) Caring Welcoming (Christ Church) Fellowship (Mere) Friendship (West Knoyle) Friendship and fellowship (The Deverills/Horningsham) Friendly (St Denys) | It's used (St Denys) Growing (Christ Church) Active members of the congregation (Upper Stour) Energised outward-looking people (St Denys/Upton Scudamore) |
| People (Upper Wyllye) Friendly and Inclusive (Cley Hill Villages) Inclusive (White Horse) Accessible to a broad range | Community involvement (Maiden Bradley) Holiday at Home Strong links with the wider community (White Horse) Centre of community |
| Teaching - Schools (Bishopstrow/Boreham) | Our Parish Priest (Bishopstrow/Boreham) |

Our Greatest Challenge Is.....

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| Get the younger children into church Reaching out to the young and young families Renewal of congregation – young and their parents To attract a younger population Reaching unchurched 18 – 30 year olds Work with children. Encourage people to get actively involved Reaching young adults (18 – 30s) Attracting the young (mission challenge) Church has become irrelevant to the young 20's – Keeping them and attracting them | Building relationship with those parts of the community who would not dream of entering the church Increasing the congregation People New members Church growth Expanding the congregation Increasing the number of regular worshippers Age – numbers Displacement Encouraging people to join in ancillary church activities |
| Poor organisation of the parish. Lack of <u>relevant</u> support for the Vicar Inflexibility and unwillingness to try different things - and PEWS Style (of service/worship) Inertia – We've always done it this way! Old fashioned clergy Possibility of schism between new/modern and the traditional members Keeping unity within our diversity (of worship and numbers) Church unity | Finances (Practical challenge) Getting finance Resources Finance |
| Spiritual growth | The church building Location |