

## **Hinckford Deanery Plan**

### **An introduction by the Rural Dean Revd John Blore**



The Bishop of Chelmsford has challenged the Deaneries of the Diocese to undertake a thorough renewal of their Deanery Plan documents, to ensure that the local church is visionary about its call, inspired by its faith, challenged by its context and informed about its resources. The response of the Hinckford Deanery was to call Synod together one Saturday for discussion of the four main areas given us:

1. Guiding Principles for our Response to God's Mission (Theology)
2. Your Deanery Context - People and Places
3. The Vision for Mission
4. Resources for God's Mission

As a result four working groups were set up, each to consider one of these topics. Parishes in turn were asked to submit their own Vision. A report was then compiled for Deanery Standing Committee who in turn recommended this Vision Plan to Deanery Synod in October 2006. I am grateful that a number of people have therefore shared in the production of this Vision Plan.

It is our hope that the Vision Plan will be of value at all levels of the Church in the Diocese, be they Parochial, Deanery or Diocesan.

All Vision Plans, whether for Deanery or Parish, are necessarily incomplete, for vision leads to change and development, and in an ever-changing world our proclamation of our changeless God must continue to adapt. We therefore hope and pray that our Deanery Vision Plan, together with those of our parishes, will be a continuing resource and tool, and will be regularly developed as our vision for God and his Kingdom continues to inspire, challenge and direct us.

For our Vision Plan to be effective, it has to be "owned" enthusiastically by the Deanery and its parishes. On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October you will have an opportunity to add your comments. Do please read this document before you come, as it contains the heart of our Vision Plan. Those of you who have access to the internet may also read a number of supporting documents, maps and tables on the web site of the Halstead Area Team, [www.halsteadchurches.co.uk](http://www.halsteadchurches.co.uk) (follow the small deanery link). There will be 20 minutes at the meeting for you to offer your comments for us to integrate into the Deanery Vision Plan. A few days later the Vision Plan will be presented to the Diocese. Please share this Vision Plan with your parishes for their constructive comments, which we would like to receive in time for the first meeting of Deanery Synod in 2007. We will continue to rewrite the Deanery Vision Plan as our Vision continues to develop in response to changing circumstances.

Now the real work begins, as we join together in putting our Vision into action.

John Blore  
Rural Dean of Hinckford Deanery