**Bishop’s Council Update**

*Bishop’s Council 5th December 2018 and 28th January 2019*

The Resourcing Growth Project has rightly been the focus of Bishop’s Council time, when sitting as both Bishop’s Council and the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee, in both of the meetings since the last Diocesan Synod in November 2018. The detail of the process regarding the Resourcing Growth Project will provided in a presentation under agenda item 7.

Other key discussions and decisions in December 2018 were:-

* the continuation of the @CofEPortsmouth magazine in its quarterly format.
* £25k would be moved from the designated mission fund, into the Mission Opportunities fund to bring the total available to £40,000.73 which can be applied in grants of up to £5k to parishes. Since then, a parish in the Havant deanery has made a donation of £500.00 into the Mission Opportunities Fund, bringing the total to £40,500.73. Andrew Hargreaves, the Mission Development Officer, informed Bishop’s Council that applications to the fund in 2018 totalled £63,406 over 23 applications.
* a 6 month trial period until June 2-19 of extra safeguarding resource. This is to include a 0.6 training post to enable a fuller programme of safeguarding training to be offered which will include weekend dates. This is to meet a need expressed by many parishes.

At the meeting in January 2019 Bishop’s Council received the first draft of the report following the Diocesan Peer Review on 10th January 2019. The report has since been finalised by the review team and the final version, along with our Diocesan response will be discussed as part of agenda item 8.

**Victoria James**

**Diocesan Secretary**