

WAKEFIELD DIOCESAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman	:	The Reverend Canon John L. Hudson
Members	:	The Venerable Robert J. Freeman - (Archdeacon of Halifax) The Venerable Jonathan D.F. Greener - (Archdeacon of Pontefract) The Reverend Jon A. Booth Mr. Stuart Beaumont Mr. Robert Craggs Mr. T. Malcolm Cruise - Organ Adviser Mr. Peter N. Hirschmann – Joint Amenity Societies’ Representative Mr. Brian Pearson Mr. Ian Roberts – Archaeological Adviser Mr. James Gibson - Local Authorities Representative – (Kirklees Council) English Heritage – Representative - Vacant
Secretary	:	Mrs. Julia H. Wilding
Advisers not full members	:	Mr. Bob Middleton – Heating Adviser Mr. David R. James - Sound and lighting Mr. David Barker – Clocks Adviser Dr. Arnold Smith – Deputy Bells Adviser Mr. P. Evans - Station Commander, Wakefield Fire Station - Fire Safety

The DAC is a statutory body which advises the Chancellor in respect of each application for a Faculty submitted by a parish and the advice provided can cover aesthetic, technical and pastoral issues.

Our DAC is very well served by invaluable voluntary contributions from specialist advisers covering all fields. The Chancellor, Chairman, Archdeacons and Committee members are grateful to those advisers for their continuing work and dedication. Yet again, 2006 has proved a busy year for the Committee and has seen a change of Chancellor and of several members and advisers. The Committee very much look forward to working with the new Chancellor, Judge Paul Downes who was installed at Wakefield Cathedral on 26 November.

Following the resignation of David James during the year due to his relocation in the South, Rev. Geoff Garside was appointed as Sound Adviser and Roger Hellewell as the new Lighting Adviser. In December members were very saddened to learn of the death of a long serving member of the DAC and its Bells Adviser, Mr. Wilfrid Moreton. Wilfrid’s detailed knowledge of the bells of the Diocese and his commitment to the Committee will be a great loss but is hoped that a new Bells Adviser will be appointed in early 2007 as the current deputy adviser, Dr. Arnold Smith is also due to emigrate in the new year.

The Archdeacons are pleased to note that the Diocesan website is proving a useful tool to parishes as a first reference point and the Chancellor’s De Minimis Provisions which came into effect in 2005 have continued to enable the approval by the Archdeacons of minor works without the need for a Faculty, although it is still necessary to consult the Archdeacons – preferably by e’mail – before commencing any work.

This year 151 Faculties have been granted and as at 31st December 2006 there were matters pending. The DAC have also undertaken a substantial number of site visits throughout the year which have proved useful in advising parishes either before or after the submission of a Faculty Petition. The DAC urge parishes to consult them at as early a stage as possible and parishes should contact the Secretary in order to invite an advisory visit from the DAC. In addition, parishes should ensure that early consultations take place with the Amenity Societies in order to have the smoothest passage possible through the Faculty process.

John Hudson
Chairman