## <u>Diocesan Synod - Thursday 24th October</u>

- 1. Discussion about the future role of the Chancellor. The next chancellor is to be Gavin MacEwan who is a specialist in Charity Law.
- 2. Synod, the Bishop noted that it was taking place during conflict not just internationally such as in Gaza but also within the church involving the Bishoprics of Orkney and Aberdeen.
- 3. Financial planning was discussed including the availability of various grants.
- 4. Agendas for various Area Councils.
- 5. Ian Lawson spoke about the finances including the UTP for 2024 and 2025. It showed a deficit of £34K with expenditure up by 1.5%.
- 6. Changes in the rules relating to pension contributions which will reduce staff costs. Inflation remains on average at 3%. But the Diocese is hoping to return to break-even budgeting partly due to reduced pension contributions.
- 7. Funds will be made available for charges unable to afford the increase in contributions.

Malcolm McVittie
Holy Trinity Lay Representative