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A message from Clive to the Churches of :

All Saints

Axminster, St Mary the Virgin

Axmouth, St Michael

Chardstock, St Andrew

Combpyne with Rousdon, St Mary the Virgin

Axminster, Holy Cross

Membury, St John Baptist

Uplyme, St Peter and St Paul

Good morning / evening everyone

Over the last year or so there have been a series of discussions about the opportunity for the churches of the Axe Valley and Undercliffe Mission Communities to come together to form a new single Mission Community. After much prayer, thought and consideration all of the Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) have now voted to progress with the formation of this new partnership.

Having taken this decision we look forward to working together and to seeking to serve our wonderful God in our worship and mission, to building new relationships and seeing God achieve great things within our community.

The Bishops and Diocesan Office have been informed of this decision and will put in place the initial processes required to make this official – this could take some time to complete. However, as churches we can begin to plan together for the future, and to work on what it means to be part of this new grouping.

There will be a transition period over the autumn where meetings and discussions can take place to agree future ways of working. Service rotas and times, styles and arrangements will remain as already organised during this time - with each PCC remaining the decision-making body on behalf of its own church and congregation. We hope the Bishop will lead a celebration service for the new Mission Community in January 2020.

We will offer as much information as possible as the work of being an effective, Spirit-led team continues. In the meantime we ask for your continuing prayer and support as we seek to be God's people here in East Devon.

With thoughts and prayers

Yours sincerely, Clive Sedgewick (Rector)