

Working through it

The Covid-19 crisis has changed the way thousands of charities including the Diocesan Board of Finance operate, in an unprecedented manner. The diocese continues to function, thanks to all those who work tirelessly, on or off site, and the technology available, says Howard Llewellyn, Diocesan Secretary

The crisis has delivered an indiscriminate blow to the Diocesan Board of Finance's (DBF) operations and we have been forced to change how we work amid a continuing series of shutdown orders to help stem the tide of the virus. The primary change was to shift to virtually full-scale home-working and this has enabled us to stay effective.



Howard Llewellyn



Anne Forman



Emma O'Connor

The office at Abergwili closed in March but has continued to function due to the sterling efforts of Anne Foreman and occasional visits by colleagues. The finance and administrative functions have continued operating remotely under the management of Nia Evans and Emma O'Connor. Property issues have been more problematic, but we have enabled safety and security checks and site visits where necessary. Support for LMAs and churches has continued through the work of Jeff Thomas and Jan Every, our Stewardship and Support, and Care of Churches, Officers, respectively.



Nia Evans



Jeff Thomas



Jan Every

Before the crisis, most of us had not heard of Zoom but we could not have survived as effectively as we have without it. Staff, DBF and committee meetings have all been by video conferencing and will continue to be for the foreseeable future.

The Church has, in many ways, lost its usual footing as church closures took their toll on public services and giving. However, many have entered the digital age and Zoom services and prayer meetings have taken off through live streaming of services, community groups, Bible study and quizzes.

Our world is not going to be the same as it was at the beginning of the year, and where it will settle none of us knows. The DBF accepts that working remotely, and using video conferencing, is not going to go away. If anything, it is likely to speed up the adoption of these technologies.

The DBF and its staff had to adapt overnight to find ways to navigate the new normal and it is too soon for us to know what the long-term impact on the diocese will be while this continues.