

# Minutes 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 7pm

## Navigation Meeting - Sefton

Date:	17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Time:	<b>7pm</b>
Place:	<b>St Lukes</b>
Attendees:	Amanda Bruce (chair) Laura Pilgrim, Louis Johnston, Paul Beardwood, Sue Green, Laura Heywood, Jim Stewart, Helen Hunter, Karen Stark
Apologies:	

Prayer: Jim Stewart

	Who by	When by
<p><b>Church visits planning:</b></p> <p>Amanda has let the CLT know that the navigation team will be aiming to attend all the churches' services between them to answer questions.            Christ church Waterloo: Karen and Laura H            St Nicholas: Paul            Christ Church Bootle:</p> <p>This visit will likely take place following Easter.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Georgina, the new project admin, will share the address and clergy contact information to the relevant team members attending each church.</p> <p><b>Joint worship service:</b></p> <p>Poster has been updated with clearer font and accurate information. The team confirmed they're happy for this to be shared. <b>Action:</b> This will be shared with Laura P and she will distribute them to the churches.</p> <p><b>Response to church concerns:</b></p> <p>Laura reintroduced the document of compiled church concerns and distributed a copy to the team. Some of the replies will come from the navigation and some will be from other change teams.</p> <p>Laura introduced the approach of writing a letter to share responses and timelines for other decisions with all churches.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Some responses can be taken from the pre-existing FfM FAQs and run by the team. Laura P and Georgina will prepare this.</p> <p>Once this has been compiled it can be shared amongst PCCs, but Laura and Amanda will also attend some PCCs of churches</p>	<p><b>GA</b></p> <p><b>LP</b></p> <p><b>GA/LP</b></p>	

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who may need additional support to run through the concerns. For example, St Michael's concerns surrounding their clergy appointment.

St John and St James: concerns expressed surrounded inclusivity under an LSP, securing the leadership to sustainably move forward and understanding Fit for Mission. Laura suggested that as their concerns seem quite minimal, providing them with a large amount of information could be overwhelming.

The team discussed whether all feedback should be shared with everyone, or specific information sent to the relevant church based on their concerns.

A discussion was had surrounding how weddings and the banns process would change as an LSP. Amanda advised that banns would be held at the church holding the wedding rather than having to be in the couple's parish, and a qualifying connection to a church would still be required.

### Coaching

Laura P spoke to Ann, the coaching lead and previous change facilitator. Ann confirmed that she thought coaching would be positive for this navigation team. There isn't specific budget available for navigation team funding but if they can provide a venue and their own lunch Ann can attend. This will be revisited around September when the coaching needs of the team will become more apparent.

Laura confirmed that the first technical building survey was done by Craig independently and the next phase will involve team involvement.

### Information sessions

In Winwick (who are at the same stage in the process as Sefton), Saturday morning info sessions have been held on comms and buildings. This involved a briefing on the process, Q&As and buildings team volunteer call outs with representatives from other cohorts to talk about their experiences with the right buildings process.

The team discussed the way that they would like to share this information across the LSP. They agreed that a buildings session would be good so that people can directly ask questions to Craig. **Action:** Laura will ask Craig what his availability is.

Digital and physical expression of interest forms for the buildings team will be made available at the event and afterwards.

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<p>Concern was raised on sensitivity surrounding the discussion of buildings sales. Laura advised that complete candour and clarity is needed, particularly around sensitive subjects. <b>Action:</b> Laura will discuss the phrasing on the buildings documentation with Craig surrounding the description of staff.</p> <p>There is also information to be shared on comms, cultivate and support services, which can also be done as information events. The team agreed that brief information should be given on all these change teams at each to ensure people understand all their volunteer opportunities before committing to one.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Laura P will ask Clare about her availability for a future comms session.</p> <p>Frank Hinds from Cultivate is meeting with the CLT to introduce himself and the cultivate process. <b>Action:</b> Laura will request for him to also attend a navigation team meeting.</p> <p>Clare Coombes, the FfM comms advisor has an extensive comms workshop plan that can be used as a base, edited to be specific to the needs of Sefton.</p> <p>Once dates are confirmed, a venue will be decided.</p> <p>The sessions can also be recorded and shared on the website, or minutes of the session prepared alongside any documentation referenced to ensure that anyone who can't attend still has access to the information.</p> <p><b>Churchwardens</b></p> <p>Helen Mckenzie will be working with Churchwardens. They will be assessing their capacity and building their understanding of their role so they can work sustainably with support from Helen. A decision will be made about how many churchwardens are needed in the LSP in a later date.</p> <p>A lead churchwarden will be chosen who will liaise with the navigation team. Helen will help to identify who this could be.</p> <p><b>Deaneries</b></p> <p>There is deanery synod on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. A conversation surrounding the two deaneries of Sefton North and South will not be prepared in time for this meeting. Amanda is eager not to rush the process.</p> <p>There will need to be in depth discussion about every possible scenario and its implications, including FfM being successful and unsuccessful, the LSP growing or reducing in size, other</p>	<p>LP</p> <p>LP</p> <p>LP</p>	
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<p>parishes requesting to move deanery etc. Discussion will happen with Kim, Amanda, Laura, lay-chairs, clergy etc.</p>		
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**Website**

The website is live with navigation team minutes attached, a brief summary of what has happened so far, and contact information. Useful documents and news will also be added, and the minutes kept up to date.

**AOB**

**Action:** In the weekly roundup, Laura will add any dates for upcoming meeting or events.

The next meeting will be March 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm, with no meeting for the following two weeks over easter. The following meeting will be April 14<sup>th</sup> 7pm, though this is subject to change.

**Next meeting:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 3:30pm at St Lukes

**Summary to share with churches:**

As a navigation team, we are prioritising addressing the concerns raised in the voting stage and starting to ask people to step into the change teams. The dates to find out about this will be sent out in the next few weeks.

There will be a website ready soon where people can see minutes from meetings and documents they might find useful.