

Minutes 24th March 2026 7pm

Navigation Meeting - Sefton

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| Date: | 24 th March 2026 |
| Time: | 3:30pm |
| Place: | St Lukes |
| Attendees: | Laura Pilgrim, Louis Johnston, Paul Beardwood, Laura Heywood, Karen Stark, Georgina Abram (Minutes) |
| Apologies: | Jim Stewart, Sue Green, Amanda Bruce, Helen Hunter |

Prayer: Louis led prayers

| | Who by | When by |
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| <p>Introduction and updates:</p> <p>Churchwardens:</p> <p>The churchwardens meeting was positive but there are some fears and misunderstandings that the team and others will have to take time to guide and support. The team discussed how flexibility in the process should be emphasised to the wardens and they should be made aware of the support available to them.</p> <p>The churchwardens will be nominating a lead who will liaise with the navigation team and other change teams as needed as a point of contact. Action: The next churchwarden meeting will be May 21st, potentially 7-9pm but to be confirmed. Some navigation team members will attend to support and answer queries. LP will share more details, and a plan will be confirmed at a later date.</p> <p>Concerns continue about buildings. Clarity can be continually given that the diocese and the buildings team will not be directly closing buildings as the process sits locally within the LSP PCC. The buildings team will give guidance and suggestions with no guarantees about what these may be, but they will all be focussed on building a sustainable parish model for growth with functional buildings that serve congregations well.</p> <p>In Winwick, the buildings information session included representatives from previous cohorts' buildings teams which can be carried forward to Sefton.</p> <p>The team expressed confidence in the buildings process and the need for it.</p> <p>Buildings information session</p> | <p>LP/All</p> | |

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| <p>Craig has shared potential dates of 11th, 18th or 25th of April for a right buildings information session. This session will be minuted and potentially recorded. A presentation on the process will be shared with an opportunity for questions.</p> <p>The team agreed on April 18th at 10am for this session. Action: Laura H will confirm if St Oswalds can host this event. Laura P will confirm this date with Craig.</p> <p>A volunteer buildings team will begin to be formed from this session. This will ideally be formed from a mixture of people with different relationships to the buildings and how they experience a church, e.g. people with accessibility needs or prams etc. The report made from this can be revisited as needed with additional sessions added upon request.</p> <p>The team discussed what refreshments will be made available which will be revisited once the venue is confirmed.</p> <p>Action: A poster can be made to promote this, as well as a PowerPoint slide and some copy written to promote the event. Georgina will prepare this and then share with Paul to format.</p> <p>Communications</p> <p>A discussion was had on a future comms information event and the goal of communications for now. Laura P emphasised that the focus for now will be establishing consistent and effective internal communications to share the process of change.</p> <p>A suggestion was given for May 9th for the comms info session. Action: Laura P will check this date with Clare.</p> <p>Action: Laura P will confirm the minutes sharing on the website with the diocese comms team.</p> <p>The team confirmed that they're happy for Laura P and Georgina to put together communications for the time being.</p> <p>The team discussed a monthly bulletin with updates on Fit for Mission. Laura P suggested pulling together a bulletin from the minutes of the months and the verses discussed.</p> <p>PCC secretaries are currently the point of contact to share communications, but this is not the ideal use of their time.</p> <p>There have been delays in the prayer newsletter, but it is being developed.</p> <p>Louie suggested that Carol Anne is a good contact for communications as she works on a newsletter.</p> | <p>LH/LP</p> <p>GA/PB</p> <p>LP</p> <p>LP</p> | |
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Georgina shared the comms system in the Toxteth and Wavertree LSP: there is one HPL newsletter which is general updates, events and news from the LSP and a PCC bulletin that has more brief, technical updates. The team were enthusiastic about trialling this model for Sefton.

FfM concerns and FAQs

Laura P and Georgina are still working on a document to respond to the concerns from each church. This can be shared with the navigation team but will be approved with Richard Gedge as it is all based in the facts of Fit for Mission.

Cultivate

Frank Hines (cultivate Lead) will visit the navigation team. He expressed significant positivity about his visit to the CLT and their ambition. While the mission planning and cultivate process lays primarily with the CLT, he is eager to engage with the navigation team as well.

A date will be arranged for Frank to visit the PLT. **Action:** Laura will liaise with him on this based on the team's availability.

Other team members will be invited to the navigation team as required, but the team confirmed they don't feel far enough in the process to begin these visits yet.

Deaneries

The future of the two deaneries is still being discussed, with the best route forward being decided. Kim Stanley has advised that this decision must be deanery led rather than CLT or navigation team.

Pastoral reorganisation is not a significant priority for the navigation team, and they are eager that it doesn't become overly burdensome for Laura and themselves. They are happy to have a conversation all together at a later date to prepare a response and their opinion.

LP

Next meeting: April 14th St Lukes 7pm