

# Minutes 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 7pm

## Navigation Meeting - Sefton

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| Date:      | 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2026   |
| Time:      | <b>7pm</b>  |
| Place:     | <b>St Lukes</b>   |
| Attendees: | Laura Pilgrim, Louis Johnston, Paul Beardwood, Laura Heywood, Karen Stark, Sue Green, Jim Stewart, Helen Hunter, Georgina Abram (Minutes) |
| Apologies: | Amanda Bruce  |

Prayer: Louis led prayers

|   | Who by | When by |
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| <p><b>Introduction and updates</b></p> <p>Laura P shared that she has continued to visit churches across the LSP. So far has attended St Mary's, St Faiths and most recently attended St Michaels on Sunday. She is eager for members of the navigation team to also attend other churches so people can put names to faces and directly get feedback about how people are feeling.</p> <p>Karen has introduced the upcoming information sessions at St Marys and talked through the fit for mission process, updates and team members, encouraging questions and conversation. Paul shared that he has also promoted the info session and joint service in St Lukes.</p>                             |        |         |
| <p><b>Buildings Information Session</b></p> <p>Craig Walker, buildings strategy manager, has arranged for two previous buildings team members to attend the buildings information session to share their experiences.</p> <p>Craig has requested the use of a projector/screen and a microphone if possible. Laura H confirmed that this is available, but support may be needed in setting it up which Laura P is happy to help with.</p> <p>Refreshments will be arranged by the church then invoiced to the diocese, with catering to cover approx. 30 people.</p> <p>The session will be minuted, with the questions and actions recorded, and recording made of the whole event if possible.</p> |        |         |
| <p><b>Joint Worship Service</b></p> <p>Planning for this service will recommence once Amanda returns on April 20<sup>th</sup>.</p>  |        |         |

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| <p>Laura P shared that there should be a space for socialising and questions. <b>Action:</b> Laura P will think about how to structure this and prepare the relevant materials.</p> <p>This service will also be used to begin to think about the naming process, which Louis will ensure is kept in mind when planning the timings of the service. In this process, it will be made clear that the individual identity of the churches will be maintained. The commissioners have advised that 'parish' cannot be in the LSP title.</p> <p>Jim will talk to Dave/Barry about bringing the church laptop to the event.</p> <p><b>Communications event</b></p> <p>This event will be taking place on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Paul has met with Clare Coombes, the FfM communications advisor, about how this session will work. It is being informed by a previous session held in the Winwick deanery and what has been learnt from that.</p> <p>Clare is eager to join the navigation team at some point before the event to discuss the schedule and ideas the team may have.</p> <p>At this event, Clare will help identify individuals who have skillsets or interests that could contribute to a communications team. A communications loop will be developed to help the parish run effectively long-term, as well as immediate internal communications of events and messaging.</p> <p>Laura P will talk to Amanda about the timeline of the team once she returns, so a visit from Clare will be arranged following this.</p> <p><b>Future navigation team meetings</b></p> <p>April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7pm – St Lukes<br/>April 28<sup>th</sup>, 7pm – St Lukes</p> <p>Future dates will be confirmed once Amanda has returned.</p> <p><b>Deanery reorganisation</b></p> <p>Laura P introduced the discussion about the future of the Sefton deaneries and has met with various relevant individuals to discuss potential deanery reorganisation. This topic is outside the remit of FFM, however due to the LSP having parishes in both deaneries there is potential for this to be</p> | <p><b>LP</b></p> |  |
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technicality that would delay the formation of the LSP so needs to be raised with DLT's.

Kim Stanley, the Bishop's Planning Officer, shared in the meeting with Laura P that this process must be led by the deanery rather than the LSP, as it must be a decision prioritising the needs of the deanery regardless of the LSP formation.

Following discussion, It is proposed that either the two deaneries merge and become Sefton Deanery or that the 3 parishes in Sefton North move into Sefton South. Either outcome would be workable for the LSP but the current set up would have to change into one of those choices. We leave it to both Deanery Synods to discuss and give their proposal to the BPO

### **AOB**

Laura P has continued to work on the individual letters to PCCs addressing their concerns which will be shared shortly. These will be sent alongside the document of broader concerns and the extended FfM FAQs document. For more general concerns, Laura P has requested specific examples and advised that these will be discussed by the navigation team and feedback given.

Laura P and Amanda to arrange meeting with Christ Church Bootle, and their plan for the future. They will continue to be encouraged that support is available to them.

Laura P has arranged a meeting with St Michaels to discuss their concerns and what support can be given to them while interregnum.

Helen raised a query if all churches across the LSP are being represented across the change teams. Laura P shared that she's aware that the interregnum churches are less represented and is working to ensure communications reach these churches so they can be informed and raise concerns and feedback. The current plan is for monthly PCC updates to be shared, with a weekly update available for St Michaels.

The team expressed that they don't all have access to the promotional materials available for upcoming events. **Action:** Laura P will resend all of these. She has also advised that printing can be done in St James and distributed upon request. St Marys and St Faiths have requested colour A3 copies of the posters.

Paul raised a query on when the website will be updated with the buildings poster (currently the outdated version) etc.

**LP/All**

**GA**

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| <p><b>Action:</b> Georgina will follow up on this with Ryan from the diocese communications team and ensure it is updated.</p> <p>Going forward, Georgina will ensure that monthly update bulletins are sent to the navigation team as well as clergy.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Laura P will add the holding page website link to her email signature.</p> | <p><b>GA</b></p> <p><b>LP</b></p> |  |
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**Next meeting: April 21<sup>st</sup> St Lukes 7pm**