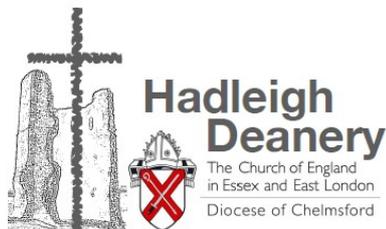


Minutes



Hadleigh Deanery

Hadleigh Deanery Synod

Tuesday 14th October 19:30pm (Refreshments from 19:00)

St Nicholas Church, 208 Long Road, Canvey, SS8 0JG

Present - Clergy - Revd David Wylie, Revd Peter Hillman, Revd Carolyn Madanat, Revd Dr Sue Lucas.

Laity - Pam French, Roy Sherman, Danny Keech, Martin Newman, Paul Knight, Tracey Knight, Claire Littlejohn, Catherine Negus, Sheila Bradley, Steve Hackett, Jane Harwood, Anne Nunn, Heather Baker, Jack Baker, Margaret Henning, Gary Cockett, Sue Cockett, Lindsey Rye, Sheila Moore.

1. Welcome and opening prayer - Revd Peter Hillman opened in prayer reading from Ephesians.
2. Apologies for absence - Revd Marion Walford, Revd Myles Owen, Judith Wiseman, Kate Baynes, Jan Kersey.
3. Minutes of meeting of previous meeting (17th July, 2025) - Accepted as a correct record.
4. Matters Arising (not appearing elsewhere on the agenda) -
 - 4.1. Deanery Resources Morning - delayed to Spring 2026 - carry forward
 - 4.2. SMMIB update - New Bradwell Project Board formed to coordinate the Bradwell bid.
 - 4.3. Face to face Safeguarding training - Tue 12th Aug, took place. - Further training sessions can be arranged, PCCs are asked to inform Pete of any needs or interest in additional sessions. (Particularly useful for those who struggle with online training)
 - 4.4. Deanery 'Resource & Requirement' Audit "the top two resources available" (two things that a parish can offer or is good at) and "the top two requirements" they need - PCCs requested to discuss and feed back. - We are in the process of collecting feedback.
5. Finance update - to receive finance report -

Treasurers report to Hadleigh Deanery Synod 14th October 2025 - Martin Newman

There has been no movement in the amount held in NatWest bank and the total stands at £457.87. The monthly parish share report is now available as an on-line document and I have shared the link with the deanery clergy and parish treasurers. The report shows that, 9 months through the financial year our deanery has paid just less than 56% of our assessed share. This is somewhat short of the 75% expected.

We are now in the period when we should be discussing how parishes can support one another to pay the full assessed share. This period goes on to 30 November when Peter has to report the final figures back to the diocese.

5.1. Deanery Mission Projects Facilitator (MOF) funding application (Appendix 1)

5.2. Deanery Share Payments 2025 (Appendix 2)

5.3. Deanery Share Assessment 2026 (Appendix 3)

5.4. 2026 MOF bid ideas - Parishes are encouraged to begin conversations around a potential deanery bid to the Mission Opportunity Fund. The greater the number of parishes involved, the stronger the bid. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

6. Deanery news (5min)

6.1. Update on Parishes in vacancy; St Mary's (Benfleet) - No Applicants, St David's (Eastwood) - No Applicants, Canvey Team Ministry (See below)

6.2. New clergy appointments

6.2.1. BTH Group - Revd Marcus Giddy (Thundersley & New Thundersley Parishes)
Revd Mark Smeed (Hadleigh Parishes)

Licensing 20.10.25 19:30 St Peter's Church Thundersley - Please come along if you can.

6.2.2. Revd Peter Hillman (Canvey Team Interim Minister)

6.7. Diocesan & General Synod reports -

There has been no Diocesan Synod to report on.

At the last General Synod in July, Revd Dr Sue Lucas shared key takeaways, including:

- Approval of changes to the vocations process, removing the 'Issues in Human Sexuality' requirement
- A debate on assisted dying
- The National Church Governance Measure, which will dissolve the Archbishop's Council and Church of England Services, replacing them with a new charity-focused service called CENS (Church of National Services)

6.8. Wellbeing -

6.9. Vocations Day - Being held Saturday 18th October 2025

7. Questions for Diocesan Synod? - 22.11.25 (Please consider whether this should be a regular PCC item) -

It was proposed to have 'Questions for Deanery Synod' as a regular standing item on the agenda. Sue Lucas explained that the Deanery Synod can have significant influence and can escalate matters all the way to the General Synod, as demonstrated by the Hereford motion.

8. Presentation by Archdeacon Sue Lucas -

Sue Lucas was invited to speak and encouraged everyone to ask her any questions. She shared her personal journey, explaining that she is originally from Bolton, Lancashire. As a teenager, she rebelled against God and the Church but found her way back in her 20s through the Catholic Church of England. She later taught as Head of R.E., with a heart for parish ministry. Sue spoke about her path leading to her role as Archdeacon and described herself as a 'creative problem solver.' She also shared her experience as a parish priest in East Ham.

Sue's husband, Tony, is a professional musician, and they have a 26-year-old son. She spoke of her love for the cello and running, having completed the Royal Parks Half Marathon.

Sue reflected on her passion for the discipline of love for the Lord Jesus, quoting 'walking sacraments bringing life to the world' and expressing her commitment by saying, 'I'll support you until I really can't.'

She also answered questions from the Deanery Synod, providing further insight into her work and experiences.

Thank you very much for Revd Dr Sue Lucas coming to see us, giving a great presentation and taking the time to answer our questions.

9. Any other business - to either Joint Chair by 10th October

Dates and venues of future meetings - (2min)

Standing Committee dates

- o Fri 16 Jan 2025 - St Margaret's vestry
- o Fri 17 Apr 2025 - 20 Lambeth Road, Benfleet
- o Fri 5 Jun 2025 - St Margaret's vestry
- o Fri 11 Sep 2025 - St Margaret's vestry

Deanery Synods

(Please note: host venues are requested to provide an "in the round" seating format with voice enhancement please to ensure inclusivity and participation)

- o Wed 11 Feb 2026 - St. Barnabas - Theme TBC
- o Thu 14 May 2026 - Venue TBC - Theme TBC
- o Tue 14 July 2026 - Venue TBC - Theme TBC
- o Wed 14 October 2025 - Venue TBC - Theme TBC

Suggested themes/speakers: - Environmental issues (Sandra Eldridge)

- Youth was suggested as a theme.

10. Closing prayer and blessing. - Revd Peter Hillman closed in prayer.

