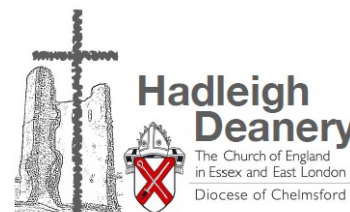


# Minutes



## Hadleigh Deanery Synod Wednesday 11th February 2026 St.Barnabas Church, Hadleigh,SS7 2EJ

**Present** - Clergy - Revd Cherry Sandover, Revd David Wylie, Revd Peter Hillman, Revd Marcus Giddy.

Laity - Pam French, Roy Sheerman, Martin Newman, Paul Knight, Tracey Knight, Claire Littlejohn, Jean Glazier, Catherine Negus, Sheila Bradley, Steve Hackett, Jane Harwood, David Hill, Heather Baker, Jack Baker, Josette Streetly, Gary Cockett, Sue Cockett, Lindsey Rye, Sandra Bradley-Mason.

1. Welcome and opening prayer - Mother Cherry opened in prayer.
2. Apologies for absence - Revd Myles Owen, Revd Carolyn Madanat, Revd Mark Smeed, Danny Keech, Kate Baynes, Peter Fisher, Anne Nunn, Margaret Henning.
3. Minutes of meeting of previous meeting (14 October 2025) Accepted as a correct record.
4. Matters Arising (not appearing elsewhere on the agenda)
  - 4.1. Resources audit update - It was agreed that we will follow up with the churches that have not yet responded and have a follow-up conversation.
  - 4.2. MOF Bid success - next steps (Role description, hours, salary, advertise)  
The Standing Committee will oversee the next steps.
  - 4.3. MOF Bid - Deanery youth event (Bid to be submitted for next AMPC-24.6.26)  
An MOF bid to be submitted for a deanery youth event to fund social time for young people of top primary and younger secondary age. Costings are required for a Lazer Tag session and pizza at Megazone, Rayleigh.  
Synod voted in favour of the proposal.
  - 4.4. 2025 Parish Share - thanks to all who aspired to pay as much as was feasible!
5. Finance
  - 5.1. Deanery Finance report - Martin Newman

Treasurers report to Deanery Synod 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026

There was an income, to deanery funds, of £29.00 during the 2025 financial year with no expenditure. The income was from the retiring collection at the end of the Epiphany service in January 2025

At the end of December the balance at NatWest was £457.87

The retiring collection at this year's Epiphany service was £43.00 and the NatWest balance is now £500.87.

I circulated the end of December Parish Share report to deanery clergy and parish treasures in early January. I have not received the official end-of-year figures yet. The end of December figures show that there was a deficit of over £2.9M from the total assessed amount for the whole diocese.

For our deanery, the assessed share was £684K with a shortfall of £136K.

Those are the bare bones of the Parish Share situation but I would like to thank you all for the efforts you make to pay into the scheme. I have no doubt that every parish in this deanery pay as much as they are able and I am also aware that in several cases this is only possible by using reserves.

Martin Newman – Treasurer

## 5.2 Proposal to amend the Bank Mandate -

Resolution for changes to Bank mandate.

This Synod resolves that the following changes be made to the mandate with NatWest Bank. David Tudor, Judith Wiseman, Ronald McLernon and Trudy Arnold are to be removed from the list of signatories and Peter Hillman, David Wylie and Lindsey Rye are to be added.

Proposed: Martin

Seconded: Marcus

For: 23    Against: 0    Abstain: 0

## 5.3 2026 Parish Share (see Appendix 1)

Pete provided an explanation for the Parish Share figures.

## 6. Deanery News

6.1. New Parish grouping for St.Margarets, St.Davids and St.Marys led by Fr David Wylie with a new Associate Priest.

Fr David updated the meeting on the grouping, which is an informal arrangement between parishes. The Associate Priest will live at St.Marys, and Fr David will assist him. The interview is scheduled for 23rd February.

6.2. At the Annual Parochial Church Meetings this year every parish will elect new lay representatives to all Deanery Synods.

6.3. Synod discussed they had lots of new people attend church over the Christmas period. Marcus discussed the Alpha groups that are up and running and the hope for further opportunities at the end of them.

## 7. Diocesan & General Synod Updates - (see Appendix 2)

- 7.1. LLF Statement from the House of Bishops - <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2026-01/bishops-statement-jan-2026-final.pdf>

Mother Cherry provided an update from the Diocesan and General Synod. She reported that Bishop Guli spoke about LLF. The Diocese is encouraging 100 days of prayer at the start of Lent, including Bible study and related activities.

[https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/uploads/files/100\\_Days\\_of\\_Prayer\\_Course.pdf](https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/uploads/files/100_Days_of_Prayer_Course.pdf)

If you would like to join an online Prayer Group, there will be a group from St Alban the Martyr, Westcliff-on-Sea, Praying the Rosary for Lent as part of the 100 Days of Prayer for Chelmsford Diocese. This will be online on Mondays at 6pm from 23rd February. If you'd like to join this group, please contact Fr Neil Dalley before 23rd February ([fr.neil.dalley@icloud.com](mailto:fr.neil.dalley@icloud.com) or call 01702 472611). If you have never used a rosary before this is a good opportunity to learn how it works.

## 8. Questions for Diocesan Synod?

Synod discussed the need for an emergency package of regular support for clergy. The Standing Committee will draft the proposal.

## 9. Wellbeing

## 10. Safeguarding

- 10.1. Any requirements for in person training? In-person safeguarding training was discussed. This will involve face-to-face sessions for clergy, lay ministers, parish safeguarding officers Churchwardens, PCC members, and others working with children, young people, or vulnerable adults, in line with Diocesan safeguarding requirements. It was noted that in-person safeguarding training may be particularly suitable for those who are less confident with online technology, those who prefer face-to-face learning, and those who may find the course content challenging or triggering and would benefit from a supportive, in person environment.

Consider conducting a Parish Safeguarding Audit (in anticipation of Diocesan Safeguarding Audit this year) - [https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/parish-quality-assurance-framework-self-audit-tool\\_0.xlsx](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/parish-quality-assurance-framework-self-audit-tool_0.xlsx)

## 11. Vocations -

## 12. Any other business - to either Joint Chair by 8th February

### 13. Dates and venues of future meetings

#### Standing Committee dates

- Fri 17 Apr 2026- 20 Lambeth Road, Benfleet
- Fri 5 Jun 2026 - St Margaret's vestry
- 1• Fri 11 Sep 2026 - St Margaret's vestry

#### Deanery Synods

*“This Synod encourages members to invite relevant individuals from their Parish to attend Synod as welcome guests (guests may not vote) where the topic for discussion is likely to be of relevance and interest. Guests may be signed in as such on arrival.”*

- Wed 11 Feb 2026 - St. Barnabas
- Wed 13 May 2026 - St George's (TBC) - Theme- Diocese Communications team
- Tue 14 July 2026 - St Clement's (TBC) - Youth Ministry
- Wed 14 October 2026 - St James the Great (TBC) - Theme TBC

15. Closing prayer and blessing- Revd Marcus closed in prayer.