

ST. HELEN'S, SIBBERTOFT
REPORTS AND PAPERS FOR
2026 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)
and
POST-APCM PCC

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ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, SIBBERTOFT
ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS, APCM and PCC MEETING
20th May, 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Parishioners' Meeting

- i. Apologies
- ii. Election of Churchwardens

2. Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(all reports circulated in advance and available on St. Helen's/benefice website)

- i. Apologies
- ii. Minutes of last meeting
- iii. Electoral Roll report
- iv. Treasurer's report/Financial statements
- v. Churchwarden's Fabric and Inventory report
- vi. Deanery Synod Report
- vii. Safeguarding report
- viii. Rector's report

3. Elections

- i. Election of PCC members
- ii. Election of Deanery Synod representative
- iii. Election of Treasurer
- iv. Election of Secretary
- v. Election of Vice Chairman
- vi. Election of Safeguarding Officer
- vii. Appointment of Independent Examiner

4. PCC meeting following the APCM

- i. Apologies
- ii. Minutes of previous meeting
- iii. Treasurer's Report
- iv. Appointment of Sidesmen and Eucharistic Assistants
- v. Benefice matters
- vi. Services
- vii. Fundraising
- viii. Safeguarding: (Adopt Benefice policy, Confirm/approve action items, Approve Lone Working policy)
- ix. Any other business
- x. Date of next PCC meeting

ST HELEN'S CHURCH, SIBBERTOFT

MINUTES OF THE PARISHIONERS' AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

22nd May, 2025

in St. Helen's Church

PRESENT: PCC: Rev. Tom Grant (in the chair), Sue Clarke, Lesley Hartshorne, Jo Elliott, Cynthia Bailey, Caroline Jackson, Toby Jackson,

NON-PCC: José and Peter Kirby, Jenny Lloyd

APOLOGIES: PCC: Juliet Kraftl, Viv Arrowsmith, Kairen Ball

Non-PCC: Julie Cromack

PARISHIONERS' MEETING

ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDEN

Toby Jackson was proposed by Cynthia Bailey, seconded by Jo Elliott and duly re-elected.

The meeting closed at 18.33 p.m.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The reports and nomination forms referred to in these minutes had been circulated in advance (attached).

Reports were taken as read unless there were any queries

1. **APOLOGIES:** Juliet Kraftl, Viv Arrowsmith, Kairen Ball, Julie Cromack
2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (2024)** were signed as a true record by Rev. Tom Grant Proposed by Cynthia Bailey, seconded by Sue Clarke.
3. **ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT:** Caroline Jackson reported a new Roll of 18, one up on last year.
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** The accounts were signed by Rev. Tom Grant, who proposed a vote of thanks to Lesley for all her continuing hard work. Rev. Tom also thanked all those who give money. Lesley annually thanks people who donate money and another donation has been given as a result.
5. **CHURCHWARDEN'S FABRIC AND INVENTORY REPORT:** The Churchwarden's report was taken as read. The damp patch between the organ and the vestry door and behind the Vicar's stall is being monitored and Toby will get a quote for dealing with it. David Parsons has contacted the head of the U3A drone group and someone is happy to bring a drone and fly it over the church. Toby will ask for the whole roof to be done. All gravestones are stable as well. Rev. Tom thanked Toby for his work.
6. **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT:** Caroline attended twice during the year.
7. **SAFEGUARDING REPORT:** Rev. Tom reiterated that we should take safeguarding seriously and it is all of our responsibilities. Every church has a dashboard which has to be filled out and needs regular updating. He thanked Chris Otway for the work she does.
8. **CHILDREN'S, YOUTH, & FAMILIES MINISTRY:** No report - activities will be clarified as part of the proposed service pattern review.
9. **RECTOR'S BENEFICE REPORT:** Lots of challenges and opportunities ahead to be explored in the coming months. There is hope that we can build a younger church. Many thanks to all who help, in whatever way. Toby Jackson reiterated how pleased we were that he was with us and thanked him for his enthusiasm and ideas.
10. **ELECTION OF PCC MEMBERS:** PCC members were elected as per the circulated nomination forms. Kairen sent a note apologising for absence asked that her PCC position be held flexible while the repositioning of the benefice service pattern takes place. She thanked all St. Helen's for their welcome and friendship over the last ten years.
11. **ELECTION OF DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE:** Caroline Jackson continues, duly re-elected.

12. **ELECTION OF TREASURER:** Lesley Hartshorne was duly re-elected
13. **ELECTION OF SECRETARY:** Viv Arrowsmith was duly re-elected. Rev. Tom Grant thanked her for her work.
14. **ELECTION OF PCC VICE-CHAIRMAN** Toby Jackson was duly re-elected.
15. **ELECTION OF SAFEGUARDING OFFICER.** Chris Otway was duly re-elected. PCC thanks recorded for taking on this benefice-wide role.
16. **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** Janet Roberts was re-appointed and our thanks for her work noted.
17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF PAROCHIAL OR CHURCH INTEREST.**
 - Toby handed round PCC Member trustee eligibility forms for recently-elected PCC members to sign; the forms will be emailed to those not present.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 18.57 p.m.

ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, SIBBERTOFT
APCM REPORTS 2026

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

18 names on the Roll, up one from last year.

Caroline Jackson, *Electoral Roll Officer*
11th May, 2026

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TREASURER'S APCM REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2025

Combined accounts and statement
Please refer to accounts for detailed breakdown

2025 was a steady year for Saint Helen's PCC. Rev. Tom and family are now well-established members of the Parish and Benefice community. We have new service patterns that seem to be developing well. There is a noticeable increase in the numbers of parishioners happy to travel and regularly attend services in different parishes. A greater sense of wider community is growing which is, of course, a 'good thing' On a personal note, I do miss the monthly 'Cafe Church' service which I and several others attended in both Welford and Clipston.

Fundraising. Sunday Teas was once again our main source of income and 2025 was a bumper year, raising £11,168 net of costs (this is without the added footfall of an Open Gardens event); this represents an average weekly teas income of £352.00 + £77.00 flowers, plants & jams.

Two new fundraisers took place this year. Sibberstock ran in September; our share of the proceeds after costs and donations to the two other village charities, the Peace Park and the Reading Room, was £2,370. In December a small group of volunteers from the reading room committee and St. Helen's PCC organised a weekend Wreath Festival. This involved local schools, members of the village and wider community. Income after expenses was shared equally - £536.00 each. A donation of £50.00 was given to the Peace Park.

Total fundraising income for the year £14,705.00.

Other income

- Income from Plate collection, Gift Aid and & Non Gift Aid donations, plus regular monthly giving **£7,121**
- Net fees **£1,377**
- Gift aid/vat reclaim **£1,742** (VAT reclaim fund now discontinued).

Our Parish share was paid in full. Electricity costs rose to £1,229, Grass cutting costs reduced by £1,500 due to a more managed cutting schedule. Charitable donations of £750.

Total expenditure £27,389. Total income £29,183, net + £1,794. Closing bank balances £42,927.

Looking forward to 2026 and beyond

Once again, we commenced the new year with a healthy bank balance. We hope to pay our parish share in full. Sunday Teas is up and running for its 33rd year. However, reviewing the 2025 fund raising events, several key members of the team are beginning to feel very tired and, being realistic, we are not sure how long we will have the energy or support to continue working on such major events. Getting reliable and enough volunteers has always been tricky. I'm guessing the average age of our workforce is between 60-80 years. At the time of writing this report there are no planned additional fundraisers for 2026.

As your treasurer I would like to thank the PCC and the wider village community for their help and support during the last 12 months.

On behalf of the PCC of St. Helen's, our thanks are recorded to Mrs Janet Roberts who has given her professional time and expertise in auditing our 2025 accounts. I confirm I am willing to act as treasurer for another year should it be the will of the PCC.

Mrs L M Hartshorne, *Treasurer*

May 2026

Sibbertoft Parochial Church Council
Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Income Received.				
Plate Collection		2,449.49		2,900.18
Donations received (Gift Aid)	1,922.18		1,177.84	
Donations received (Not Gift Aid)	330.00		155.00	
Regular donations to the restoration account (Gift Aid)	2,420.00		2,270.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		4,672.18		3,602.84
Fees Received		2,537.65		4,950.00
<i>Fundraising</i>				
Sunday Teas (net of costs)	11,168.52		10,531.18	
Sibberstock / Fete (net of costs)	2,370.51		1,641.16	
Other events (net of costs)	536.40		877.19	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		14,075.43		13,049.53
		1,742.59		2,450.26
Grants received		-		-
Interest Received		0.15		0.16
Sundry Income		-		-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		25,477.49		26,952.97
Expenditure				
Parish Share	10,561.00		4,498.75	
Benefice Expenses	290.55			
Electricity	1,229.28		943.74	
Insurance	1,697.98		1,646.83	
Vicar and lay preacher expenses	-		341.40	
Organist Fees	50.00		80.00	
Grass cutting	2,792.50		4,314.00	
Printing, stationery and Church magazine	542.00		-	
Fees paid	1,160.00		2,021.00	
Repairs	1,530.48		2,179.46	
Microphone system	1,066.80		-	
Annual alarm fee	1,278.00		1,278.00	
Donations made	750.00		1,260.92	
Gigaclear	525.78		468.00	
Sundry costs	209.99		271.50	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		23,684.36		19,303.60
Excess of Income over Expenditure		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
		1,793.13		7,649.37

**Sibbertoft Parochial Church Council
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash at Bank and in Hand		
Barclays Bank General Current Account	17,459.92	21,341.11
Barclays Bank Restoration Current Account	25,456.94	19,782.77
Barclays Bank Deposit Account	10.63	10.48
	42,927.49	41,134.36
General Funds		
Balance at 1st January 2025 / (2024)	41,134.36	33,484.99
Excess of expenditure over income for the year	1,793.13	7,649.37
Balance at 31st December 2025 / (2024)	-	41,134.36

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of Sibbertoft Parochial Church Council.

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise an income and expenditure account for the year together with a balance sheet as at 31 December 2025 as set out on pages 1 and 2.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be



Janet Roberts FCA

Wheler Lodge, Welford Road, Husbands Bosworth

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13/04/2026

ST. HELEN'S, SIBBERTOFT
COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENT (CURRENT & RESTORATION ACCOUNTS)

INCOME	2024	2025	
Giving			
Standing orders/Regular donations	£2,270	£2,420	+6.61%
Gift Aid (one-off)	£1,798	£2,233	
Plate (G/A reclaimable)	£2,280	£2,138	-6.21%
Donations (non G/A)	£155	£330	
Total Giving	£6,503	£7,122	+9.52%
Gift Aid reclaim	£1,540	£1,390	
Total giving + Gift Aid	£8,043	£8,512	+5.83%
VAT Reclaim	£910	£353	
Fees †	£4,951	£2,538	
Fund Raising			
Sunday Teas	£11,562	£11,978	+3.60%
Special events			
Saxophone Concert	£1,105		
Fête	£2,776		
Vintage Garden Party			
Sibberstock		£5,078	
Vegan/Veg lunch			
Wreath festival		£726	
Sax. & Carol Raffle	£216	£5,803	
Sundries			
Total Fund Raising income	£15,659	£17,782	+13.55%
Grant	£0	£0	
Interest	£0.12		
Electricity refund			
Quinquennial report grant			
TOTAL INCOME	£29,563.26	£29,184.00	-1.28%

ACCOUNT BALANCES (Reconciled)	2024	2025
Current Account		
Barclays	£21,341.11	£17,459.92
Restoration Fund		
Barclays High Interest	£19,782.77	£25,456.94
Community Account	£10.48	£10.63
	<u>£19,793.25</u>	<u>£25,467.57</u>
	£41,134.36	£42,927.49
Less:		
Uncleared payments	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL CASH AT BANK	£40,930.96	£42,927.49

NET FUND RAISING INCOME	2024	2025	
Teas	£10,588	£11,168	+5.48%
Saxophone Concert	£635	£0	
Fête	£1,668	£0	
Vegan/Veg lunch			
Sibberstock		£2,371 *	*+ £150 G/A donation
Wreath festival	£0	£536	
Other fund raising			
Total Net Fund Raising income	£12,890	£14,075	+9.19%

Income notes	None
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Fees †	2024	2025
When we receives fees, we pay part to the Diocese. Net Fees received =	£2,930	£1,378

TOBY JACKSON

ST. HELEN'S, SIBBERTOFT
COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENT (CURRENT & RESTORATION ACCOUNTS)

EXPENDITURE	2024	2025	
Parish Share	£4,499	£10,561	+134.75%
Fees PDBF †	£2,021	£1,160	
Running Costs			
Electricity	£944	£1,229	+30.26%
Insurance	£1,647	£1,698	+3.11%
Gigaclear - internet	£468	£526	+12.35%
Printing/Stationery	£2,115	£542	£2,766 Church mag
Altar Expenses			
Vicars/Lay exp	£341	£291	reduced - private donation
Organist's fees	£80	£50	-37.50%
	<u>£3,480</u>	<u>£4,336</u>	
Regular Maintenance			
General repairs/Maintenance	£369	£340	-7.75%
Sundries	£107	£55	
Cousans (Organ Maintenance)	£865	£255	
SS Systems (service/monitoring fee)	£1,498	£1,513	+0.99%
Hilltop Audio	£126	£1,067	New microphones
Grasscutting	£4,314	£2,793	-17.25%
	<u>£7,278</u>	<u>£6,023</u>	
Repairs/Other works			
GSS Architects (Quinquennial)			
MV Installations (electrics)	£65	£464	
Dave Sleight (roofworks)			
Clockwise Restoration - repair	£37	£240	
UK Treeworks	£210		
SS Systems (call out)			
Jeacocks			
CollecTin cardreader	£100	£20	
Gutter Clearance (SC Builders)	£288		
	<u>£700</u>	<u>£724</u>	+3.52%
	<u>£7,978</u>	<u>£6,747</u>	-15.43%
Gifts to Clergy/Lay Readers	£65	£130	
Teas Expenses	£353	£215	
Reading room hire (Teas)	£621	£595	£810
	<u>£974</u>	<u>£810</u>	
Events expenses			
Wreath festival		£189	
Special tea 25/11/22			
Fête	£1,108		
Saxophone Concert	£471		
Vegan/Veg lunch			
Harvest supper			
Sibberstock	£0	£2,707	£2,897
	<u>£1,579</u>	<u>£2,707</u>	<u>£2,897</u>
Total Fund Raising Exp.	£2,553	£3,707	
Charitable Giving			
M. Lloyd funeral to Jenny	£65	£0	
Christian Aid	£50	£50	
FCN	£50	£150	
Peace Park	£654 **	£50	** 50% of teas take
Guide Dogs	£206	£0	
Hope Food Bank	£0	£100	
MacMillan Nursing	£0	£100	
Royal British Legion	£241 *	£200	
Bridge Homeless Project	£0	£100	
Jubilee Food Bank	£50	£0	£750
	<u>£1,316</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>£750</u>

	£21,912	£27,390	
Balancing figure	+£0.75	+£0.10	
TOTALS	£21,913	£27,390	
Surplus/Loss	+£7,650	+£1,794	
	-£6,298	+£0	
Adjusted Surplus/Loss	+£1,352	+£1,794	

2024 ADJUSTMENTS

Had we paid full parish share -£6,298

-£6,298

2025 ADJUSTMENTS

None +£0

+£0

TOBY JACKSON

CHURCHWARDEN'S FABRIC AND INVENTORY REPORT
APCM 2026

1) Repairs and Maintenance of the Building

- a. There are no outstanding Quinquennial items
- b. The damp patches that appeared during the winter have been addressed: Behind north choir stalls re-painted; behind Vicar's seat plaster removed for reassessment in the summer.
- c. A drone inspection of the north-west corner of the tower roof revealed some missing stone on the outside corner; no problem on the inside, so to be monitored.
- d. Some re-pointing is required to the south aisle roof where mortar has become dislodged

2) Fittings, Furnishings, Plate and Register

- a. All fixtures and fittings are in good order.
- b. All church plate is in good order
- c. All church registers are in good order and in accordance with the inventory.
- d. All church linen, vestments and altar frontals are in good order.

3) Electrics

- a. Path lights: Both path lights and the lych gate switch were replaced
- b. The three mains fuse units were partially replaced and cleaned
- c. The National Grid removed the overhead power cable that crossed the churchyard, re-laying it along the line of the path. Some disarticulated bones were removed and will be re-buried appropriately in the churchyard.

4) Other Works:

- a. **Organ:** The organ was serviced, as usual and several minor issues dealt with over the year.

5) Churchyard

- a. Gravestones: All gravestones have been checked for stability.
- b. Mowing: Current mowing schedule is working well and the churchyard is looking well kept.
- c. Trees: We still need to consider what (if any) work needs to be done on trees bordering the road.

Toby Jackson, *Churchwarden* 11th May, 2026

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NASEBY GROUP BENEFICE
SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR 2026 APCMS
Rector's Safeguarding Comment

Dear Friends,

As a benefice, we continue to work together to ensure that our churches are safe and loving places to belong. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and it is important that we all feel able to raise concerns if we notice anything that does not feel right or safe.

Safeguarding contact details can be found in all of our churches, on the Naseby Group website, and in the Parish Magazine (safeguarding@nasebygroup.org).

Please remember that all those in church leadership (including PCC members) are required to take part in Church of England safeguarding training and to undertake relevant DBS checks where required. We continue to work with the diocese to explore how this training can be made as accessible as possible.

I would like to thank Chris Otway for her leadership in safeguarding across the benefice in her role as Benefice Safeguarding Officer. This has included not only ensuring that everyone has the appropriate training and checks in place, but also being the trusted point of contact where concerns can be raised. Chris' wisdom, experience, and pastoral care have been invaluable.

Although this relates to next year's church business, it is important to share that Chris will be stepping down from this responsibility at the end of April 2026. Rev'd Tom is working with the diocese to identify someone to take on this vital role.

Please do continue to pray that our churches remain safe places.

Blessings,
Rev'd Tom

May 2026

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RECTOR'S 2026 APCM REPORT

Dear Friends,

Looking back at 2024 I can only really comment from August onwards when I took up the post of Rector of the Naseby Group of Churches.

Thank you to everyone who has made us feel so welcome; it has been a real joy to get to know people and begin to discern what might be next for us as a group of churches.

Much has been achieved over the past six months.

We have begun to look at how we make decisions as a group going forward, with the formation of a Benefice Council starting in April 2025. In the coming year the Benefice Council will set forward its priorities around mission and ministry within the group. One of these is undoubtedly going to be our pattern of worship and how we do mission together. One question that we will be asking each other is - how is what we do, helping us to prioritise growth? Please do pray for the members of the Benefice Council, all of whom are representing PCCs from across the 7 parishes; for wisdom and unity as we work together. And for our PCCs as well which will continue to play an important role in representing their local church and community

We have begun to explore what it means to adopt a 'mixed ecology' approach to our offering of services, which values our heritage and traditional forms of worship, but also acknowledges the importance of trying new styles of worship which are accessible, particularly for younger generations. The Carols & Glowsticks services at Naseby and Haselbech, Christingle service at Clipston and Crib Service at Welford are good examples of this, sitting alongside our more traditional carol services.

We are now well and truly into double figures in the number of children and families coming for baptism in our churches in the past year – this is encouraging and shows that the Church and faith still has an important place in the heart of villagers. Our aim now must be to help families to engage in accessible ways to enable parents and godparents to bring their children up in the knowledge of God's love for them.

It has also been great to get to know the staff, children and governors at our 3 Church of England primary schools in Welford, Naseby and Clipston, through collective worship, services in church, and various planning meetings.

We have also begun praying regularly together on Thursday mornings at Naseby Methodist chapel, praying for each other as well as our communities and the needs of the world.

Whilst there is much hope for the future, there are inevitably going to be some difficult decisions to be made. Our church finances continue to struggle and giving continues to be down post COVID. As a result, our joint parish share contribution is not currently where it should be.

Our churches are solely dependent on the generosity of parishioners, not only to maintain our mission and ministry, but also to safeguard the historic and beautiful ancient buildings which have been entrusted to us. There is a careful balance which needs to be maintained here.

PCCs are registered charities and do not receive any external funding from the government or the Church of England. Please do consider setting up a regular gift, if you haven't already, as this really helps PCCs to plan church life.

Finally, Thank you so much to everybody who works so hard in maintaining our mission and ministry, our church buildings and all our links with the community - I really do thank God for each and every person who serves, whether it's washing the tea towels, cutting the hedges, baking cakes, ringing bells, mending down pipes, chairing meetings, making soup, organising concerts, writing sermons, playing music, counting the collection, or putting the bins out... the list could be endless - whatever you do, please know that you are valued and appreciated.

Every Blessing

Rev. Tom Grant

Deanery Synod Report on 2025 for Annual Meetings 2026

Rural Dean: Revd Graeme Anderson retired in April 2025. Revd Allison Twigg, Rector of the Uplands benefice, took over as Rural Dean.

Lay Chair of the Deanery: Chris Banks, Long Buckby

Brixworth Deanery Synod Meetings January 2025 - January 2026 inclusive.

DATE	VENUE	THEME	SPEAKER	PRESENT
16-01-25	Zoom	Grants	Jon Breckon, Historic Churches Support Officer	27
07-05-25	Spratton	Thanks to volunteers Celebration event	The Very Reverend Richard Ormston, Archdeacon	103
17-09-25	Welford	Welcome in our churches	Revds A Twigg & J Ognjanovic	21
14-01-26	Zoom	Faculties	Emily Elliott, DAC secretary	16

The May meeting was a 'special' (see below): the average attendance for the other three meetings shown above was 21 (22 in 2024; 27 in 2023)

Christian Aid week 2025: The area organiser is Harlene Griffiths (Yelvertoft.) Her report, attached, gives details and a plea for increased support for this vital charity.

Clergy:

We were delighted to welcome Revd Mel Stanley as incumbent of the Walgrave group
The Bishop of Brixworth, the Right Reverend John Holbrook, retired on September 30, 2025, after 14 years of dedicated service to the Diocese of Peterborough. As 2026 began a new appointment was under consideration and was expected to be announced mid-year.

The May meeting, held at Spratton Hall, was a special 'one-off' Deanery event celebrating the work of our lay volunteers, which is essential to the running of our 43 parishes. Chris commented that when we are fully staffed, there are just nine incumbents (plus some supporting clergy and curates) in the Deanery. Volunteer lay people are therefore essential for the work of the Church. All volunteers from all our parishes were invited, and a buffet was served (thanks to Sheila Robertson and helpers for organising this!)

General information

Deanery Synod: The Deanery - the only entirely rural deanery in the Diocese - comprises 43 parishes (about 30,000 people in total) forming 9 benefices. It is the organisational tier between PCCs and the Diocesan Synod and is led by the Rural Dean and the Lay Chair. All Deanery clergy are automatically members. Each parish is entitled to elect one or more official lay representatives to the Deanery Synod triennially (number dependent on size) Rep.s report to their parishes following meetings and report any parish concerns to the Deanery as required by their PCC.

The three Deanery Synod officers (Lay Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) are also elected for a three-year period. 2024 was an election year.

Election results 2024:

Lay Chair: Mr Chris Banks

Secretary: Mrs Jan Alexander

Treasurer: Mrs Catherine Munn agreed later in the year to take up this post

Diocesan Synod Representatives: our Deanery may elect four clergy and four laity members.

Clergy: the Reverends Jo Ognjanovic, David Reith, Stephen Trott, & Allison Twigg

Laity: Kairen Ball, Chris Banks, Alan Chantler, Lyn Johnson.

Chris was elected Lay Chair of the Diocesan Synod.

Standing Committee: this meets in the weeks before a Deanery Synod meeting to plan the agenda and discuss Deanery business. Items suggested by PCCs for discussion at a Deanery Synod meeting should be sent to the secretary before the preceding Standing Committee meeting. (The secretary should also be notified of changes of parish representatives, as contact details are needed for correspondence.) The Standing Committee comprises the Rural Dean, Chapter Clerk, Lay Chair, Deanery Treasurer, Deanery Secretary, and Diocesan Synod representatives. Others may join by invitation.

Deanery Synod Meetings: Usually three in the year, and occasionally a social occasion may be added in the summer. Efforts are made to hold the meetings in different parishes; the church, church hall or village hall used should have wheelchair access, facilities and, ideally, adequate parking nearby. It saves funds if a venue that doesn't have to be paid for can be used.

After an opportunity to chat over coffee and biscuits from 7.00pm, meetings begin at 7.30pm with a short period of worship. The main part of the meeting has a speaker or a discussion/activity on a relevant topic. The business section covers minutes, updates on Deanery appointments or activities, and financial issues such as the Parish Share.

There may occasionally be a retiring collection, if it seems relevant to the evening's topic.

Meetings close 9.00-9.30pm.

Guests are very welcome at meetings but if there is a vote, only the official representatives can take part. The Deanery Synod may ask parishes for a very small subscription every few years.

Chris and the Rural Dean would like the parishes of the Deanery to find ways of working together more effectively for mutual benefit and support, to encourage each other and increase capabilities in the parishes – networking in a very broad sense - with the Deanery Synod as a catalyst. A database of experience and knowledge could be created.

Please contact Chris (bankschris00@gmail.com, 07968 075465) or Jan (jkalexander51@gmail.com) or speak to your parish Deanery Synod representative if you want more information.

*J. Alexander
Deanery Secretary
January 2026*

NOMINATION FORM FOR 2026 APCM ELECTIONS FOR THE PARISH OF ST. HELEN, SIBBERTOFT

[Signed nomination forms for Churchwarden, PCC and Deanery Synod available to view on request]

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	PROPOSER		SECONDER	
Name/Address	Name		Name	
Viv Arrowsmith 5 Beeches Close, LE16 9UQ	Carole Jackson		Toby Jackson	
Cynthia Bailey Beam House 44 Welland Rise, LE16 9UD	Senny Lloyd		Jo Elliott	
Sue Clarke The Stables, Coombes Yard Welland Rise LE16 9UJ	Jose Kirby		Senny Lloyd	
Jo Elliott 28 Welland Rise, LE16 9UD	Toby Jackson		J. Cromack	
Lesley Hartshorne Roserie Cottage Westhorpe, LE16 9UL	Carole Jackson		Jose Kirby	
Juliet Kraftl 30 Welland Rise LE16 9UD	Carole Jackson		Toby Jackson	
CHURCHWARDEN Toby Jackson Wry Furlong, Welford Road, LE16 9UJ	Senny Lloyd		Jo Elliott	
DEANERY SYNOD Caroline Jackson Wry Furlong, Welford Road, LE16 9UJ	Jo Elliott		J. Cromack	
TREASURER Lesley Hartshorne As above	Toby Jackson	Toby Jackson	J. Cromack	JULIA CROMACK
SECRETARY Viv Arrowsmith As above	Senny Lloyd	Senny Lloyd	Toby Jackson	Toby Jackson
VICE-CHAIRMAN Toby Jackson As above	Jose Kirby	JOSE KIRBY	J. Cromack	JULIA CROMACK
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Chris Otway	Carole Jackson	CAROLINE JACKSON	Jose Kirby	JOSE KIRBY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER Janet Roberts Wheeler Lodge, Husbands Bosworth, LE17 6UL	Toby Jackson	Toby Jackson	Jo Elliott	JO ELLIOTT