Navigation team meeting

Date: 17th June 2026

Attendance

Attendees: Rev Martin Cox (Change Lead), Lisa Gilligan (Change Facilitator), Kath Pennington, David Clifton, Ruth Fielding (Admin), F. Michael Vyse, Liz Thomas, Paul Hancock, Simon (Archdeacon)

Apologies: Rev Martin Fuller, Rev Chris Stafford, Fiona Glover

	Action summary from the previous meeting *(10/7/26)*	**By whom**	**By when**
1.	Deanery plan ready for the deployment summit	MC, LG, HM	11/7/2026
2.	Book awayday venue amended to 20 people	RF	Done
3.	Support service team to arrange a first meeting with Emily	RF	Done
4.			
5.			
6.			

Minutes of the meeting

Agenda item	**Summary of the discussion**	**Actions agreed**
1. Change Lead Update	• Martin shared his insights from his meeting with Chris (Rector of LSP- St Helen's). • Whilst collaboration is a core, individual callings within the ministry remain distinct • Support structure- Attends monthly 'change lead updates' Martin finds himself in a neutral space as other parishes are further along in the process. The team discussed the critical nature of financial management for the LSP • Key appointments -a finance focused role was identified as a priority appointment for support services. • Sustainability – concerns were raised regarding the financial feasibility & sustainability of individual parishes transitioning into LSP. • Systems – 'My Fund Accounting', online training is ongoing with more sessions scheduled for the autumn. It is recommended that parishes set up individual accounts digitally now to ease the eventual merger. • Current Challenges – reports of 'chaotic' financial situations in some parishes due to signatory issues & loss of treasurers. Deployment Summit 11/7/2026 • Presentation Content – The session will include the 'cycle of doom & cycle of hope' analysis, structural proposals for the LSP, and opportunities for mission & growth.	

	• Structural Proposals – A 'clean proposal' will be presented featuring 11 parishes forming one team ministry. St James Haydock, All Saints Newton & St Thomas' are proposed to remain separate benefices. • Timeline – feedback from the summit will be processed over the summer, with a review to having formal proposals ready for September/October	
2. Parish Share Review	Archdeacon Simon provided an update on the new diocesan parish share formula • Principles – the system will use a formula based on attendance, church income, local deprivation and clergy allocation. • Timeline – implementation is likely to be delayed until 2028 to allow parishes sufficient time to plan after the system is finalised in 2027 • Specific Parish Impact - discussions highlighted that some parishes (All Saints Newton & St Thomas's) are currently paying their share largely from reserves, which is unsustainable in the future.	
3. Buildings Team Update	The first meeting of the new team is scheduled for 29th June, a team lead is yet to be appointed.	
4. Comms team Update	• Fact Sheet – 'Principles & Practicalities', fact sheets are being developed for monthly distribution starting in July. • Roadshows – a proposal for roadshows to improve engagement with parishes that are not yet engaging fully with digital communications • Website/logo – a competition for a logo design will be held over the summer. Quotes are being sought for a permanent website & graphic design work.	
5. Support Services Team Update	Emily (support services) will chair the first meeting on 8/7/2026 the team will be divided into subgroups for procedural tasks & recruitment	
6. Data Collection Update	Baseline Data – Granular data collection (attendance, mission, community numbers, justice initiatives) will begin as a baseline from October to December. Reporting – this information is required for accountability to the Church Commissioners, who are providing significant funding for the transition to an LSP.	
7. Naming of the LSP	The team is narrowing down potential names for the new parish, current leaders are 'Christ the Good Shepherd' & 'Christ the Way' Legal requirements – Archdeacon Simon noted that the name must include a geographical location and cannot include the word 'parish'	
8. Review Of Nav Team Achievements	The team noted their progress since February – see the separate attachment for a comprehensive list, but for example here • Opening conversations 0n vision & values • Successful Saturday morning workshops • Recruitment of administrative	

	• Formation of change teams	
9. Questions/AOB	Future Priorities – • Finalizing the LSP name • Establishing the support services teams & clerical deployment relationships • Starting the process for a Shadow PCC ensuring it moves away from a representative model to a strategic one	

Future Navigation Team Meetings:

Wednesday 1st July 2.30pm at St Oswald's Winwick