



**Pathway
Church**

at Holy Trinity

REPORTS

FOR

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, COATES

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2024

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Meeting of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
To be held in the Church at 7.30 pm Wednesday 10th April 2024

Agenda

Vestry Meeting for the election of the churchwardens (Note 1)

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approval of Minutes of the 2023 Vestry Meeting.
4. Thanks to outgoing Churchwardens.
5. Nomination and Election of Churchwardens for 2024-2025.

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (Note 2)

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of Minutes of the 2023 APCM.
3. Matters arising from the 2023 APCM minutes.
4. Report on the revised electoral Roll – Electoral Roll Officer
5. Elections
 - a. PCC
 - b. Deanery Synod representative
6. Appointment of Independent Examiner
7. Presentation and acceptance of the 2023 examined financial accounts.
8. Joint Council Proposal
9. Reports:
 - a. Mission and Ministry
 - b. Churchwardens
 - c. Treasurers
 - d. Safeguarding
 - e. Trinity Tots
 - f. 100 Club
 - g. Choir
 - h. Deanery Synod
 - i. Churches Together
10. Questions and items for discussion not covered elsewhere
(to be given to the current secretary in advance of the meeting)
11. Closing Prayer

First Meeting of new PCC (Note 3)

1. Election of officers
 - a. Hon Secretary
 - b. Hon Treasurer
 - c. Vice Chair
 - d. Joint Council members
2. Date of Next Meeting

NOTES:

1. VESTRY MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF THE CHURCHWARDENS: Anyone on the church electoral roll of the parish or anyone who lives within the parish is entitled to attend and vote at this meeting.
2. ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Anyone on the Church Electoral Role may participate in this meeting.
3. FIRST MEETING OF NEW PCC: Only those on the new PCC may participate in this meeting.

Holy Trinity Church, Coates
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
Wednesday 15th March 2023

Present:

Revd Emily Davis Revd Mike Jones Paul Turner Sue Jones Liz Tuckey
Fiona Heaysman Vanessa Moore

Vestry meeting for the election of the Churchwardens

Eligible to vote: anyone on the church electoral roll of the parish church or anyone who lives within the parish

1. Opening Prayer

Revd Emily welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies for absence: Tricia Brooks and Louisa Brookes.

3. Approval of Minutes of the 2022 Vestry Meeting

All approved with a show of hands.

4. Thanks to outgoing Churchwardens.

Rev Emily gave a huge thank you to Paul and Tricia for what they have done over the past year, a humongous task.

5. Nomination and Election of Churchwardens:

Two nominations have been received from Tricia Brookes and Paul Turner. There being only two nominations, Tricia and Paul are therefore duly elected.

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting

Eligible to vote: anyone on the church electoral roll of the parish church

1. Apologies for absence: As Vestry meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes of the 2022 APCM:

Approval of the minutes of meeting held on 6th April 2022. All agreed they were a true record and were signed by Revd. Emily.

3. Matters arising from the 2022 APCM minutes:

Safeguarding Officer - Louisa Brookes. Any training needed should be booked before the next PCC meeting.

4. Report of the revised electoral roll:

Liz reported the Electoral Roll stood at 25 (2 died, 1 new).

5. Election of the new PCC:

With 26 on the electoral roll we are entitled to elect six from the nominations received.

- a) PCC: Forms had been received from Louisa Brookes, Sue Jones, Vanessa Moore, and Liz Tuckey who are all duly elected. Revd Mike Jones was co-opted.
- b) Deanery Synod rep: Fiona Heaysman remains on the PCC as Deanery Synod representative by virtue of office.
- c) Churches Together rep: Fiona Heaysman
- d) Team Council – 2 plus a Churchwarden – Louisa, Liz and Tricia.

6. Election of independent examiner for the accounts:

It was agreed to continue to use Russell Jackson, the Team treasurer, who is an accountant.

7. Presentation and acceptance of the 2022 examined financial accounts:

- a. The accounts were circulated in the Reports booklet prior to the meeting. Sue pointed out that they had been approved by Russel Jackson and had been sent to Ely with the Annual Return earlier this year. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Sue and seconded by Fiona. All were in favour with a show of hands, there were no objections or abstentions.
- b. Sue gave a big thank you to the 100 Club and John Walpole for their contribution. The 100 Club is supported by both the congregation and the community.

8. Reports: previously circulated in booklet. Included were:

- a) Items discussed at PCC meetings 2022-2023
- b) Mission & Ministry report
- c) Church Wardens' report
- d) Treasurer's report
- e) 100 Club report
- f) Choir report
- g) Electoral Roll report
- h) Safeguarding report
- i) Deanery Synod report
- j) Churches Together report

9. Questions and items for discussion not covered elsewhere.

None

10. Closing prayer

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm and Revd Emily closed the meeting with a prayer.

JOINT COUNCIL PROPOSAL

Over the past year, we have had a number of conversations in the Benefice about how we might make better and more effective use of our Team/Joint Council structure. In the process of this, we have discovered that there is a lack of clarity around membership of Team Council and what its purpose really is. Following these conversations, this proposal for a Joint Council has been discussed, agreed and is now put forward by the Rector, Churchwardens and the Ministry Team.

In putting forward this proposal our aim is to:

Clarify membership of the Team/Joint Council - the constitution that I have inherited as Rector excludes Ministry Team from the Team Council and we would like to see them included as we seek to re-define membership of this Joint Council.

It is also felt that, in order to be more effective, this Joint Council has to be of a more manageable size to have meaningful discussion and oversight of the wider mission and ministry across the Benefice. This new Joint Council would be of a smaller, but more effective, size than the current Team Council membership (see Point 1).

Clarify the aims and purpose of the Team/Joint Council - I feel it is important to have some structure within the Benefice, besides the Ministry Team, which seeks to look at the bigger picture of our ministry and our mission across Whittlesey, Pondersbridge and Coates. This is not to detract from the role and responsibilities of PCCs. (See Point 4). In practice this means that Joint Council will continue to decide upon matters such as:

Ministry Share contributions from each Parish

Mission Action Planning at a Benefice-wide level

Diary/Event Co-ordination across the Benefice

Planning of Service Rotas/Service Patterns across the Benefice, including Christmas and Easter services

This Joint Council Proposal is not to displace the role of PCCs (Parochial Church Councils). PCCs will continue to hold responsibility for the finances, building maintenance, mission and ministry of individual parishes.

If you have any questions about this, please contact either the Rector, a member of the Ministry Team or your Churchwarden(s). Please contact them in advance of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, when we are planning to vote on this proposal.

Rev'd Emily Davis
Team Rector

Scheme for Partial Joint Council of Parishes

Whittlesey Team: Pathway Church Joint Council

The Annual Parochial Church Meetings of the Parishes of Whittlesey St Andrew & Whittlesey St Mary, Pondersbridge St Thomas, and Coates Holy Trinity, in the County of Cambridgeshire and the Diocese of Ely (the “Parishes”), in exercise of the powers conferred by Rules M37–42 of the Church Representation Rules and in accordance with the Pastoral Scheme made on 26 July 1995, make the following agreement that constitutes **Pathway Church Joint Council** (replacing Whittlesey Team Council):

1 Membership of Joint Council

There shall be a Joint Council for the Parishes (the “Joint Council”) with the following membership:

- 1.1 every clerk in Holy Orders who is beneficed in or licensed to a Parish;
- 1.2 one churchwarden of the Church of each Parish;
- 1.3 each deaconess, lay worker and reader licensed to a Parish,
- 1.4 any priest resident in the benefice with permission to officiate may be co-opted with 75% support of elected members, so long as at any meeting lay members outnumber clergy,
- 1.5 one lay person from each Parish elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the relevant Parish.
- 1.6 at any meeting, each parish shall be represented by 2 lay members, so if members elected to fill posts 1.2 & 1.4 are unavailable, they shall be represented by another lay person from the PCC of the parish, who may exercise their vote.

2 Officers of the Joint Council

- 2.1 The Chair of the Joint Council shall be taken by one of the following persons in the following order:
 - 2.1.1 the Minister of that Parish if they are present;
 - 2.1.2 the Vice-Chair of the Joint Council, if they are present;
 - 2.1.3 a member of the Joint Council chosen by all members present at the meeting from amongst their number.
- 2.2 The Joint Council shall elect one of its lay members to act as Vice-Chair.
- 2.3 The Joint Council may appoint one of its members as secretary, but if it does not, it must appoint some other fit person. The Secretary is to have charge of all the documents relating to the current business of the Joint Council, to keep the minutes, to record all resolutions passed and to notify the Secretary’s name and address to the Secretary of the Deanery Synod and the Secretary of the Diocesan Synod.

- 2.4 The Joint Council may appoint one of its members as treasurer or two or more of its members as joint treasurers, but if it does not, it must arrange for the office of treasurer to be discharged by some other fit person or persons.
- 2.5 At the first meeting following 1 June in each year, the Joint Council shall appoint some fit person holding the qualifications required by the Church Representation Rules and not being a member of the Joint Council to be an independent examiner or auditor to the Joint Council. The term of office of the Independent Examiner or Auditor ends at the conclusion of the first meeting following 1 June in the year after appointment, but may be renewed (for any number of times) annually. The Joint Council shall meet the remuneration of such a person.
- 2.6 The Joint Council may appoint such other officers on such terms and with or without remuneration as it sees fit.

3 Meetings

The provisions of the Model Rules for a Parochial Church Council contained in Part 9 Section B of the Church Representation Rules shall apply to meetings of the Joint Council and transacting business by correspondence so far as consistent with the provisions of this Scheme, substituting 'parishes' for 'parish' and 'Joint Council' for 'PCC' as appropriate.

- 3.1 The Joint Council shall meet at least 4 times per year.
- 3.2 The meetings of the Joint Council shall be open to any member of a PCC within the benefice. However, additional members of a PCC (above 2 elected) may not vote.
- 3.3 Voting shall be by show of hands, unless a secret ballot is requested by 2 members. Decisions will require a majority of 2/3rds, and must include at least one member from each PCC voting in favour.
- 3.4 Any business item may be delayed until the next meeting by 2 members of the Joint Council asking for an adjournment in order to consult their PCC.

4 Functions and powers of the Joint Council

- 4.1 The following functions of each Parochial Church Council are delegated to the Joint Council:
- 4.1.1 co-operation with the Minister in promoting in the Parishes the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. This shall particularly include: Mission Action Planning, Co-ordination of diaries across the parishes; Co-ordination of major projects; planning of service rotas; working towards Net Zero carbon; liaising with local and Civic authorities (The PCCs reserve to themselves responsibility for those pastoral, evangelistic, and social ministries that solely impact upon their geographical parish or church building);
- 4.1.2 the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church of England on any question;

- 4.1.3 making known and putting into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod or the Deanery Synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the Joint Council on any particular matter;
- 4.1.4 giving advice to the Diocesan Synod and the Deanery Synod on any matter referred to the Joint Council;
- 4.1.5 raising such matters as the Joint Council considers appropriate with the Diocesan Synod or Deanery Synod;
- 4.1.6 the co-ordination of safeguarding across the benefice (but not ultimate responsibility for safeguarding which remains with the PCC).

4.2 The Joint Council shall have some of the powers of each Parochial Church Council, including power to:

- 4.2.1 agree on behalf of all of the Parishes the amount(s) to be offered to the Diocesan Board of Finance as a contribution to the costs of the Diocese;
- 4.2.2 organise, operate, manage, maintain, discontinue, alter, promote, fund and establish any missionary activity in the Parishes of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, which would have been an activity of a Parochial Church Council;
- 4.2.3 establish a standing committee of the Joint Council to transact the business of the Joint Council between meetings of the Joint Council, subject to any directions as to the exercise of its power made by the Joint Council, but the standing committee:
 - (a) may not discharge a duty of the Joint Council, and
 - (b) may not exercise a power of the Joint Council which is subject to the passing of a resolution by the Joint Council or to compliance with the Joint Council with some other requirement;
- 4.2.4 establish such other committees (which may include persons who are not members of the Joint Council) for the various branches of church work in the Parishes, of which the Minister is entitled to be an ex officio member;
- 4.2.5 open and operate a bank account (or accounts) for the purposes of mission and ministry in the benefice, including for the purposes of payment of expenses of clergy and lay ministers;
- 4.2.6 when the Joint Council makes decisions that expose the PCCs to risk, including public liability, the PCC of the place in which the risk was incurred will assume liability for the activity, decision or impact. The action of the Joint Council will be deemed to be the action of the PCC in question.

5 Transfer of assets

5.1 The following assets of the Parochial Church Council (or former Team Council) shall be transferred to and vest in the Joint Council on the date when this Scheme comes into operation, including:

- 5.1.1 the bank accounts and investments set out in Schedule 1.

5.2 The PCCs will transfer to the Joint Council such other monies as the Joint Council shall, by vote, agree on 1 June and 1 January each year.

6 Operation

6.1 This Joint Council shall come into operation on such date as the Bishop of Ely may determine, being a date not later than [*specify date*].

6.2 If the Parishes cease to be within the area of a united benefice the Bishop of Ely may exercise the powers contained in the Church Representation Rules to:

6.2.1 provide for the Joint Council to cease to apply to the Parish which has ceased to be connected to the other Parishes or has been dissolved; or

6.2.2 provide for the Joint Council to be revoked, but it is recorded here that it is the intention of the Annual Parochial Church Meetings that the Bishop should provide for the following: redistribution of any assets owed to the Parishes which ceases to belong to the scheme.

APPROVED by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the Annual Parochial Church Meetings of the Parishes of Whittlesey St Andrew & Whittlesey St Mary, Pondersbridge St Thomas, and Coates Holy Trinity held on the following dates:

Name of Parish	Date approved	Numbers voting		
		For	Against	Abstained

SCHEDULE 1

Part 1

Bank accounts and investments to be held by the Joint Council for its general purposes:

Bank Account held in the name of 'Benefice of Whittlesey Pondersbridge And Coates Team Council'.

Approved by the Bishop of Ely:

Signed:

Date:

ITEMS DISCUSSED AT PCC MEETINGS DURING 2023-2024.

Church finances, the Parish Share, Expenses, the 100 Club.
Deanery Synod, Churches Together and Team Council reports
Election of officers and co-option of Revd. Mike Jones to the PCC.
Health & Safety and Safeguarding
Leading your Church into Growth (LyCiG)
Joining of PCCs
Vision Setting
Trinity Tots
Music Licence
Brian Peck's legacy and window fund.
Visit by Archdeacon Richard – a talk on options of church governance.
Pet Service
Service patterns and worship times
Institution of Revd Emily Davis as Team Rector
Church Insurance
Bishop of Ely – Statement of Need
Recruitment of Ex-Offenders
GDPR & Personal Data
Electricity supplier
Living in Love and Faith
Toilet twinning and WASH
Vestments
Building works:
Lightening conductor
Heating oil and new boiler
Churchyard works:
 Conservation in the churchyard
 Grass cutting and lawn mower
 Restoration of graves
Fundraising and Future Events:
 Concert by Paul and Songs of Praise
 Coffee mornings
 Coates Fete on the Green
 Teddy Bear picnic
 Coates Petanque day
 Scarecrow festival
 Harvest Lunch
 Pet Service
 Autumn Fayre
 Carol Service
 Christingle
 Lent lunch

MISSION AND MINISTRY REPORT
Year ending December 2023

This was my first full year as Incumbent in the Benefice of Whittlesey, Pondersbridge and Coates and it was lovely to be installed as Rector in Holy Trinity, Coates in August.

Last year in this report, we shared something of the PCCs initial discussions about developing a ministry with parents/carers and babies/toddlers as one priority for 2023. Trinity Tots was launched in May and it has been a joy to get to know some of our regular families who join us on a Monday for his time of free-play and a short time of worship to end our sessions. I am immensely grateful to Tricia, Fiona, Sue and Rev. Mike who volunteer at Trinity Tots every week and without whom we would not be able to run this ministry.

The Average Sunday Attendance (Congregation) at Holy Trinity in 2023 was 12, compared to 15 in 2022. The Wednesday morning Holy Communion service had an average attendance of 7.

The Occasional Offices held at Holy Trinity were as follows:

	2023	2022
Baptisms	2	6
Weddings	2	7
Funerals & Interment of Ashes	8	10

The Ministry Team continues to lead Assemblies at Coates Primary School approx. twice a term and I am grateful to John Chrisp who continues to help us with these when he can.

I would like to say huge Thank You to our Churchwardens and our Treasurer for their service and support of our Church's mission and ministry this past year.

Looking ahead, at the beginning of 2024 a number of Holy Trinity PCC members joined in with the Leading Your Church into Growth Local Course. I hope that we might be able to pick up on these reflections and discussions as we look to develop our ministry throughout this coming year.

Rev'd Emily Davis
Team Rector

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

Year ending April 2024

Another year has gone by during which we have seen the Licensing of Rev. Emily as Team Rector.

The village primary school have visited the church for services at Easter, Harvest and Christmas.

Trinity Tots is going well on Monday mornings during term time.

The craft club meets regularly on a Wednesday afternoon each month and the book club still meet occasionally in the church.

Regular maintenance has been carried out during the year including cleaning out gutters, servicing of the boiler and fire extinguisher checks. The final repairs to the lightning conductor were carried out and a certificate has been issued.

The church insurance was swapped from Ecclesiastical to Trintas which meant that Selecta DNA had to be applied to leadwork on the roof and other metal items in the church. This has been completed.

The gates have been repaired by a local restoration building firm.

Light bulbs have been replaced where necessary and we are trialing some more up to date bulbs in the entrance.

We have applied for a faculty to enable us to replace the central heating boiler with a new gas one and are still waiting to hear the final decision from Ely. We have registered as an eco-church with help with this application.

The clock is still functioning with the help of Paul to re-set it after power cuts.

The items in the Terrier remain the same.

We were awarded The Cambridgeshire Churchyard Conservation Bronze Award and are hoping to perhaps progress to the silver award this year.

Thanks go to Rev. Mike and everyone who has supported us and helped in the running of Holy Trinity Church this year.

God Bless
Tricia Brookes and Paul Turner
Churchwardens

**ANNUAL TREASURERS REPORT FOR HOLY TRINITY COATES FOR THE PERIOD
1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	2022	2023
Starting Balance	£38,505.37	£15,195.01
Income		
Planned Giving	£ 2335.00	£ 2,350.00
Collections	£ 4197.25	£ 3,736.74
Donations*	£ 1953.10	£ 1,951.94
Gift Aid	£ 1344.20	£ 1,711.48
Grants***	£ 6868.25	£ 6,834.39
Fund Raising	£ 3275.55	£ 2,105.76
Investments	£ 178.20	£. 179.19
Fees Received/Retained	£ 3605.00	£ 4,098.00
Utilities		£. 750.00
Grave Yard Maintenance		£ 1,480.00
Banking Difference(Post Office Error)		£. 1.00
VAT Refund Lighting Conductor		£ 944.00
Legacy of The Late Brian Peck	£25,850.98	
(£20,000 Transferred to CCLA Investments, £5,850.98 Transferred to Fabric Fund used to Pay for Lighting Conductor Replacement and repair)		
Sub Total	£40,607.53	£26,142.50
Replacement Window Fund	£ 800.00	£. 0.00
TOTAL INCOME	£50407.53	£26,142.50
Payments Made:		
Parish Share	£13,513.00	£7,000.00
Church Running costs**	£ 2,802.39	£5,744.47
Utilities	£ 2,950.07	£2,286.15
Mission Giving	£ 1,084.01	£. 505.40
Staff expenses	£ 400.00	£. 330.00
Banking Difference(Post Office Error)	£ 87.50	£. 1.00
Other Outgoings	£ 49.46	
Window Repair	£ 6,300.00	
Fund Raising Expenses	£. 11.49	£. 50.36
Lightening Conductor		£ 5,664.00
Grave Yard Maintenance		£ 1,574.71
Sub Total	£27,197.92	£23,155.09
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£27,197.92	£23,155.09
Investments to CCLA (Brian Peck Legacy)	£20,000.00	
End of Year Balance:	£15,195.01	£18,182.42
Fabric Fund: (Included in the total)		£ 8506.58
Funds available		£ 9675.84

*Includes £600 received from the Dioceses – this was a grant to assist with the Utility Bills

**Includes insurance and building maintenance.

*** includes grants from Whittlesey Charities – which is included in the Fabric Fund

Investments	Roberts Bequest	£ 6,555.54
	Grounds Grave Trust	£ 6,145.67
	Brian Peck Legacy (CCLA)	£22,125.75 (Gain of £2491.38)
Total Investments		£34,826.96

The Annual Accounts have been check and approved by Mr Russell Jackson (Team Treasurer)

The Annual Accounts were examined by Mr Russell Jackson (Team Treasurer) ahead of the APCM.

Presentation and acceptance of the 2023 financial accounts:

The full accounts are included in the booklet prior to the meeting and have been displayed on the Church notice board from 13th March 2024; the accounts have yet to be checked by Russel Jackson (Team Treasurer). The Annual Return to Ely will be completed following approval at the APCM.

We had a shortfall of approximately £5500 for the Parish Share – we paid £7,000. The Parish Share needs to come out of our regular income and we should keep £5000 in the current account as a reserve to ensure we can pay our regular bills.

The Church running costs have increased considerably this year to £5744.47 – this includes Team expenses of £1350.00, Building Insurance £1790.00 and Boiler Servicing of £201.66. Of course there are the numerous incidentals expenses, a list of which can be provided, if requested. During the year the Lightening Conductor was repaired at cost of £5664. Separate to the Church running costs is the Graveyard maintenance which amounted to £1574.71 – this covered the cost of petrol and maintenance of the lawnmowers.

Further explanation of the accounts please let Sue know prior to the APCM.

Sue Jones
Treasurer

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll of membership at last year's APCM totalled 25. At the time of writing, the current total is 26. We had two deaths and 3 additions during the year. Applications for membership of the Electoral Roll can be made at any time during the year. If you would like to be added to the Electoral Roll or have any questions, please do contact me = liztttt@aol.com.

Liz Tuckey
Electoral Roll Officer

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Training all up to date some due at the end or April.

After a safeguarding meeting on 6th of March the hub will now start to be updated.

Louisa Brookes
Safeguarding Officer

TRINITY TOTS REPORT

The Trinity Tots group began in May 2023. We meet every Monday from 9.00 am to 11.00 am during term time.

Our aim had been to establish a supportive network of adults with toddlers to meet over coffee and tea, providing the toddlers with activities to participate in and concluding the session with worship songs, a short story and a prayer.

We have a group of regular attendees who support us both financially and with contributions for refreshments. Our aim has been to establish contact with members of the community who do not attend church and to extend Christian fellowship to them and to make them feel welcome.

Fiona Heaysman

100 CLUB REPORT

The club is now in its 30th year of fundraising for Holy Trinity Church, Coates. It continues because of the constant loyalty of its supporters and the current membership is full. Half of the income is issued to members in a monthly draw and half supplied to the treasurer to help with church expenses.

Very many thanks to all contributors.

J.E and J Walpole
(organisers)

CHOIR REPORT

There are only two remaining choir members at Holy Trinity. We still robe for some services and still join with St. Andrews for various joint services or for funerals and weddings when requested. The choir fund stands at £143.50.

Tricia Brookes

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

In June newly elected members attended their first meeting of the Deanery Synod and a new Standing Committee and Offers were appointed. The new Deanery Synod Treasurer is Lesley Gibbs, the Deanery Secretary Admin is Julie Lee. Anthony Gleaves volunteered as a member of the Standing Committee. However, the post of Lay Chair remains unfilled.

The Deanery Development Plan was agreed and a “pen-picture” and pillar document were sent representing all the churches in the Deanery.

Archdeacon Richard gave a briefing from the Diocesan Synod about the study on the deployment of clergy staff and how this will need to evolve in the future.

In September the Revd. Peter Leech, Deputy Director for Mission and Ministry, led a discussion on our Deanery Development Plan including finance, lay leadership, benefice re-organisation and church schools.

Holly – Development Officer for Good Communication, talked about the importance of sharing good practice around churches, using social media, the Church Near You website and social network information. She suggested consulting communications @ElyDiocese.org.

In November the Revd. Mark Rodel spoke on Join the Learning Revolution – An Introduction to Open Christian Learning. Courses offered will be a mixture of online and personal discussions. It is just beginning to be implemented and more information will follow.

The second speaker was the Revd. Tim Tompson who spoke about the Cambridge Historic Churches Trust, their fund raising through Ride and Stride and donations through Wills which allows them to give churches grants and loans.

Discussions on the Parish Share allocations and the formulas used to allow fair contributions are ongoing and no definite conclusions have been reached.

The Deanery Development Plan will be focusing on training and the climate change environmental agenda.

In January the Revd. Imogen Way spoke on Engaging with the Eco Church Journey. She gave some inspiring practical ideas as to how to make your church into an Eco Church as Ely Diocese has introduced an Ely Diocesan Action Plan to become Net Zero by 2030.

The majority of speakers this year have been interesting and some thought provoking, providing useful information about accessing further information or help.

Fiona Heaysman
Deanery Synod Representative

CHURCHES TOGETHER REPORT

This year Churches Together has continued to develop as a team supporting one another in Services, Messy Church and Holiday at Home and growing in fellowship.

A joint service was held for the week of prayer for Christian Unity at Queen Street and St. Jude's Roman Catholic Church hosted a joint service for the World Day of Prayer.

The Witness and Service for Good Friday was well attended by members of the public and activities for the children were completed at Queen Street, where refreshments were served.

A joint Pentecost Praise Picnic was held in May on North Street, where prayers, activities and reflections were led by members of the different churches.

Fund Raising for Christian Aid included a Concert by the Whittlesey Concert Band, A cake stall at the Buttercross, a cake and craft morning at the Studio and a collection after the service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

We have begun distributing the Churches Together leaflets to the new housing developments.

Holiday at Home continues to be a great success with all the places filled and volunteers from several of the churches.

Messy Church Families under the Churches Together banner continues to be well supported. The team has members from nearly all the churches and we meet to plan activities and review previous sessions as well as run the actual sessions.

The planning for some of next year's activities is underway and we hope to continue with enthusiasm, prayer and fellowship.

Fiona Heaysman
Churches Together Representative