

Deanery Synod Report for 2026 APCM

Deanery Synod met four times in 2025.

Our representatives are Barbara Clay and Karen Baty. Elections for Deanery Synod occur every three years. New elections to the Synod will take place this year at the Annual Parochial Church meeting.

At our meetings information and initiatives from Diocesan Synod are discussed and then the PCCs can be informed. There is usually much discussion about relevant issues.

Safeguarding is on each agenda and our Safeguarding Officer, Barbara Bussey, gives us Safeguarding updates and information. At our **April meeting** the Diocesan Safeguarding training co-ordinator and a caseworker spoke about the importance of Safeguarding. Safeguarding on-line hubs have been launched alongside the existing safeguarding Dashboards. The hubs include a tracker to show who needs training in the Parish, a recruitment tracker and people management. This will be explored.

In July the Cornerstone Project was discussed. This is an on-line resource designed to help Churches as a financial support system.

The Bishop of Lincoln published 3 papers on "Raising the Spiritual temperature" It highlighted the need to reach missing groups and generations and have good collaboration.

Pastoral reorganisation was discussed at our **September meeting**. The local mission partnerships could change including boundaries for Parishes. It is proposed that those Churches under threat of closure could become "Chapels of Ease" instead.

It was suggested that the Saxilby and Stow group of Parishes could incorporate Marton and Gate Burton, taking the number of Churches served by Rev'd Jane to 9.

This topic was discussed again **in November**.

There was general concern over the Chapel of Ease status for Churches under threat of closure, regarding insurance and management for an over-stretched Clergy.

Saxilby group, including Saxilby, Newton and Kettlethorpe PCCs expressed their concern over the extra work load for Rev'd Jane if two more Parishes are added to her responsibilities. Their thoughts were emailed to Rev'd Johnson, chair of the Deanery synod.

Karen Baty (Deanery Synod representative for St Botolph's Church Saxilby)