

**Note of business transacted
at a meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod
held on Saturday 7th June 2025 at 10:00am at Dr Thomlinson Church of England
Middle School, Silverton Lane, Rothbury NE65 7RJ**

The President was the Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop of Newcastle and the meeting was chaired by the Chair of the House of Clergy, the Revd Robert Lawrance; the Lay Chair of the Tynemouth Deanery, Emma Doran and the Registrar, Laura Peace.

The Register, attached, recorded 54 members; 3 visitors and 10 officers in attendance.

1. Welcome and opening worship

The Bishop of Newcastle welcomed members to the meeting.

The Bishop then led the Synod in an opening prayer.

The Rev'd Robert Lawrance took the chair

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from 37 members.

3. Declarations of Interest

No new declarations of interest were made.

4. Meeting held on Saturday 8th March 2024

4.1 Note of business transacted on Saturday 8th March 2025 (Paper DS25 07)

The Synod noted and approved the business transacted.

4.2 Matters arising

The Chair invited the Diocesan Secretary to speak to the following matters arising:

(i) Past Paper to Diocesan Synod on New Worshipping Communities (Paper DS23 19)

This paper had been recirculated for the benefit of new members of the Synod.

(ii) Finance item queries

These were addressed at item 9.4

(iii) Safeguarding Team recruitment

This was addressed at item 11.3(i)

(iv) Question from the Rev'd Louise Taylor-Kenyon asking Synod to review the full-time (FT) clergy allocation for the Deanery.

This question had been referred back to Bishop's Council. The Council noted its respect for the work being of the deanery but in the current financial climate could not approve the request for an increase in the clergy allocation. Other deaneries had also claimed that their allocation should be increased and the funding was not in place for this.

5. Notices

The Chair invited the Diocesan Secretary to give the following notices:

(i) Elections update (Paper DS25 08)

There had been a further round of elections to Boards and Committees. There were still vacancies on the Vacancy in See Committee and other Boards. This would be referred back to the Bishop's Council.

(ii) DMPC 2024 Annual Report (Paper DMPC25 26)

The report was received.

6. Questions

No questions had been received in advance of the meeting.

7. Presidential Address

The Bishop of Newcastle gave their Presidential Address to Synod. A copy of the Address is attached to this note.

8. Living in Love and Faith: Informal Consultation on Draft Proposals (Paper DS25 09a), (Paper DS25 09b), (Paper DS25 09c), (Paper DS25 09d), (Paper DS25 09e)

The Chair invited the Dean of Newcastle to speak to this item.

The Dean of Newcastle introduced a time of prayer, then explained that the General Synod had invited diocesan synods to engage in conversations using material which they had provided. This included a series of questions and the opportunity for group conversation, to enable each other to be heard. Four of the diocese's six General Synod representatives were present and would participate in the conversations.

At its session in July 2024, the General Synod had asked dioceses to look at the proposals for Prayers of Love and Faith and pastoral reassurances, including delegated episcopal ministry. There was a need for a period of discernment and clarity on timelines and processes. The aims of the informal consultation were to provide feedback on the principles and enable good conversation.

The Synod was shown a video in which Bishop Martyn Snow, the then Lead Bishop for Living in Love and Faith, spoke about the process and the current consultation.

Synod members were asked to indicate by show of hands how familiar they were with LLF. The majority had some degree of familiarity, with around a quarter being very familiar. They were then asked to describe in three words how they felt about that day's conversation on LLF, and invited to complete a questionnaire.

The Synod then divided into groups to discuss their response to the following questions:

- 1) What further guidance, if any, on the use of the PLF and Pastoral Reassurance would be helpful and in which areas?
- 2) What other feedback on the draft proposals would you like to share?

The Synod then reconvened and the collated responses to the questionnaires were shared:

- 1) How does LLF feature in the life of your church?
 - a) Hosted/attended LLF 18
 - b) Held other group discussion 15
 - c) Held sermon series 11

- d) Held PCC conversation 27
- e) Other (ie had informal conversations) 32
- f) Not a feature really 12
- 2) Use of the Prayers of Love and Faith in your church
 - a) Not discussed use of the PLF 20
 - b) Discussed and not opted in 8
 - c) Discussed and opted in to current use (in private and regular services) 12
 - d) Opted in to use the PLF but are waiting for bespoke services 6
 - e) Other 6
 - f) Not aware/do not know 8
- 3) Which of the available resources on the draft proposals have you read (or seen, in the case of the video) ahead of today's meeting?
 - a) General update leaflet 40
 - b) Theology update leaflet 32
 - c) Draft Code of Practice 27
 - d) Draft guidance of the use of the PLF 37
 - e) Update video with +Martyn 35
 - f) Other (ie FAOC/ERG papers) 10
 - g) I have not read or seen any of these resources 2
- 4) Please give your opinion on the following statements about the proposals. *On a scale from 1 (strongly agree), 2 (agree), 3 (neither agree nor disagree), 4 (disagree) to 5 (strongly disagree)*
 - a) I understand the basis of the proposals 77
 - b) I see the need for pastoral reassurance if the PLF are available for standalone/bespoke services 118
 - c) I have concerns that these proposals are too complex to be workable 119
 - d) Pastoral reassurance based on delegated episcopal ministry is only sufficient for the introduction of the standalone PLF, not for further changes 111
 - e) I think we need a completely different solution, not the one suggested in the draft proposals 129
- 5) If the bespoke PLF are introduced alongside this form of pastoral reassurance, do you think your church would
 - a) Opt in to Pastoral Reassurance 6
 - b) Not opt in to Pastoral Reassurance as not needed 20
 - c) Not opt in to Pastoral Reassurance as not sufficient 3
 - d) I do not know 20

The Dean of Newcastle invited comments and observations.

The Rev'd Tom Birch (Corbridge) said that his group had been broadly supportive of the proposals. The discussion on pastoral reassurance had echoes of the debate over women's ordination. He thought that the question on further guidance was reductive and commented on frustration and fudge by the Church of England.

The Rev'd Chris Minchin (Newcastle West) said of the discussion on pastoral reassurance, that if we could not be together, was there a point to this. He commented that there had been filibustering on a industrial scale at Synod and a failure by the House of Bishops to show leadership.

The Rev'd Adam Smith (Newcastle Central) said that discussion had been respectful, recognising both sides of the debate. They had been thinking about people rather than the process.

Nicola Denyer (Tynemouth) said that further guidance was needed on how this would work in multi-parish benefices. There could be a situation where clergy felt one way and the PCC another. This was about people's identities, not just processes.

The Rev'd Canon Ben Doolan (Newcastle Central) asked how this would work in chaplaincies, particularly in healthcare chaplaincy in emergency situations. There was a need for further guidance in relation to Canon B5. There appeared to be a distinction between two types of marriage and theological guidance was needed. Concern had been expressed for ordinands and clergy who might be told to lie about their personal situation.

The Dean of Newcastle said that feedback would be submitted to the LLF team. The LLF team would be holding zoom webinars for members of General Synod and diocesan synods.

The discussion was closed with a time of prayer.

The Synod paused for a break

Emma Doran took the Chair

9. Board of Finance items

The Chair invited the Head of Finance to speak to the following Board of Finance Items:

9.1 Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024 (Paper DS25 10)

The paper was received. In relation to unrestricted funds the Head of Finance commented that the figure for Parish Share receipts was the lowest in the past five years, although the majority of parishes had paid what they had offered. There had also been falls in other donations, mainly from the Church Commissioners, and in income from fees. Investments had not performed as well as in the previous year. The rental income from properties had increased, because of having fewer incumbents in post. Looking at restricted funds, the Church Workers Pension Fund had a surplus in 2023, which was realised in 2024. With regards to expenditure, there had been an increase in charitable activity and an inflationary pay increase. Some posts had been filled but there was a 10% vacancy rate. The contribution to the Archbishops Council had decreased. The overall deficit was £728K. There had been a large fall in cash assets, due to the purchase of properties. Some properties would need to be sold this year to maintain the cash level. Work was being done on planning for more stability in future but there was still a deficit.

The Chair invited questions and comments

Dr John Appleby (Tynemouth) asked for information about extra money coming to the diocese from the Archbishops Council and this might help. The Head of Finance replied that figures had not yet been finalised. Work was being done on standardisation of clergy stipends and the calculation of contributions to the Archbishops Council. The Diocesan Secretary commented that proposals for triennial funding had been discussed and would be announced on 9th June. It would not be appropriate to comment on this now. The diocese would be in a better position but this would not be sustainable, as the funding was time-limited.

The Rev'd Tom Birch (Corbridge) thanked the finance team for their work and asked about the proposal the Bishop of Bath and Wells had made to transfer money from the Church Commissioners back to the dioceses. This had not been discussed at the meeting of General Synod, as time had been taken up on LLF. Much of the diocese's current deficit was because a

greater proportion of funding had to come locally. The Bishop of Bath and Wells proposal had sought to address this. Nicola Denyer (Tynemouth) said that the proposal should be discussed at the next meeting of General Synod.

The Rev'd Steph Hunter (Bedlington) asked about the pension fund referred to by the Head of Finance, given the number of clergy who would be retiring in the next few years. The Head of Finance clarified that the fund was Church Workers Fund, not the Clergy Fund. The Diocesan Secretary commented that the triennium funding recommendations included a proposal to improve clergy pensions.

The meeting voted that the statement be received.

9.2 Management Accounts: Period 4 to 30th April 2025 (Paper DS25 11)

The paper was received. The Head of Finance explained that the surplus shown was due to timing. There were no questions.

9.3 2026 Budget Consultation

The Head of Finance outlined the timetable for consultation on the 2026 budget:

18th June: the Finance Group would agree the draft budget.

10th July: Bishop's Council would approve the letter to be sent.

1st September: the letters would be sent, with responses to be sent in by 10th October.

11th November: the Finance group would meet to approve the budget, which would then go to Bishop's Council on 20th November and to the Diocesan Synod on 29th November.

9.4 Finance Item Queries

The Head of Finance gave responses to questions asked at the Synod held on 8th March:

(i) Renters' Rights Act

The Head of Finance reported that he had spoken to the Housing Manager about the proposals for the abolition of section 21 notices. In its current form, the effect of the Act on the housing market would potentially be to decrease the number of properties available and so rents could increase, but it was likely that agents' fees would increase. More information was needed and the Head of Finance would report back.

(ii) Parish Giving Scheme

The Head of Finance reports that 76 parishes were participating in the scheme.

9.5 Bishop's Groups Update

The Bishop gave an overview of the work of the three groups (the Legacy Group, the Income Generation Group and the Reimagining Ministry Group). The work was time-limited and the groups would report back in January 2026.

The Legacy Group was looking at how to use a large sum of money that had been gifted to the diocese in a way that was sustainable, rather than use it to cover the budget deficit. Areas under consideration were growing disciples, work with children and families, pastoral supervision and other projects. It was proposed to create a Bishop of Newcastle Foundation to hold the sum of money which would release funds to enable projects but always hold a pot of money. Simon Harper and representatives from Brewin Dolphin were giving help in thinking how to do this.

Thought was also being given to how to put ourselves into places where we could be partners in activities and how to communicate who we are.

The Bishop invited the Archdeacon of Northumberland to give an update on the work of the Reimagining Ministry Group.

The Archdeacon of Northumberland reported that the Reimagining Ministry Group was a group of people who ministered in different contexts. The group was looking at how the local church could respond to a rapidly changing landscape in a collaborative way. One response to the challenge would be the creation of new worshipping communities and examples of these were being looked at, including Jacqueline Atkinson's work in the west of Newcastle, and a multi-parish benefice in the Alnwick Deanery. There would be proposals around resourcing, continuing ministerial formation and lay training.

The Bishop invited the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne to give an update on the work of the Income Generation Group.

The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne reports that the group would looking at trying to generate new income streams, given that Parish Share was unable to cover costs and the diocese did not want further reductions from 80 clergy posts. The group was a diverse group of people from different walks of life. Two areas under consideration were (1) how to 'sweat' our assets, which included properties and small patches of land and (2) formulating a coherent narrative that would be clear to people beyond church about being a group of people who were passionate about the North East so that others would be excited to support what we were doing in communities.

10. Mission and Ministry

(i) Mission and Ministry Update (Paper DS25 12)

The paper was received. The Chair inform the meeting that the Director for Mission and Ministry was unable to attend the meeting but contact details for them were in the paper.

(ii) National Lottery Heritage Fund: Strategic Initiative for Places of Worship Grant

The Chair invited the Diocesan Secretary to speak to this item.

The Diocesan Secretary reported that this was a new initiative specially for places of worship, with a focus on listed buildings, especially those in rural areas. Mentors would work with PCCs to produce action plans. Work would be done with heritage and training organisations to set up apprenticeships in conservation skills. This would enable aspects such as repairs, improvements, net zero and churchyards to be addressed. The Diocesan Secretary had met with the NLHF and an expression of interest would be submitted. If successful, this would be a staging project which would build capacity for a larger project over a number of years.

11. Standing Agenda Items

11.1 Racial Justice

The Chair invited the Bishop of Berwick to speak to the following items:

(i) Racial Justice Annual Report (Paper DS25 13)

The report was received. The Bishop of Berwick commented that the work had not progressed as quickly as had been wanted.

(ii) Racial Justice Development Officer: Update

The Bishop of Berwick reported the post was currently being advertised. It was hoped that an appointment would be made in the summer and would bring the extra capacity that was needed.

11.2 Net Zero Action Plan

The Chair welcomed the Net Zero Programme Manager and invited her to speak.

(i) Welcome and Introduction to New Net Zero Programme Manager, Marion Schooler

The Net Zero Programme Manager reported that a working group had been set up and had met twice. Job descriptions had been written for a Heating and Energy Adviser and for a Fundraiser. These roles would be parish-facing. Links had been made with the schools team and other internal structures. Every aspect of activity would be included. Initial meetings were taking place with churches and parishes. Free energy audits were still available and it was hoped that these could be offered to smaller churches as well. The Programme Manager was looking at how to link with key partners such as the combined local authority and Community Action Northumberland. Thought was being given to holding an event towards the end of the year, which would aim to inspire those not yet engaged, celebrate what had happened and enable people to share their experiences. An initial report on the work had been submitted to the national team.

11.3 Safeguarding

The Chair invited members of the Safeguarding Team to speak.

(i) Welcome to new Safeguarding Team

The Director of Safeguarding expressed gratitude for the welcome the new team had received.

(ii) Safeguarding Update

The Director of Safeguarding said that the key work at present was to increase the visibility and accessibility of the team and to look at the training offer, with the aim of developing a training strategy. Training had now been taken back in house and was being offered online and face to face. The team was working to cover all areas of the diocese and was contacting those who were struggling to get people to engage with training. Two online meetings for Parish Safeguarding Officers had been held, and the team was looking to set up deanery groups of PSOs and develop bespoke training for PSOs. The team was also looking at the safeguarding section of the diocesan website, in order to make it more accessible. Feedback to the Safeguarding Administrator would be welcome. The Safeguarding Administrator said that they were the first point of contact for the team and would refer then refer people to the appropriate person. Details of phone and email contacts had been given out. In a recorded video message, the Safeguarding Training and Learning Adviser said that a vision and strategy for training in the diocese was being developing. It was important to make face to face training available, although online training still had a role and would continue to be offered, so that everyone could access the training that they needed. More accessible local networks of support were important. Training was not just about compliance but about ensuring people were equipped and more confident. Training on the use of hubs and dashboards would also be available. Changes had been made to these to make them easier to use and there would be support to enable people to make the most of new features.

(iii) Chaplaincy to Survivors Update

The Archdeacon of Northumberland reported that Bishop's Council had agreed to make the post of Chaplain to Survivors permanent, and to increase their hours to three days per week.

12. Deanery Planning

The Chair invited the Archdeacons to give a report on progress.

The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne thanked those who were working on this process. Meetings were currently taking place with Deanery Development Groups. There would be a Celebration event at the Cathedral on Saturday 5th July 2025, where the Bishop would be speaking about their vision. The focus would be on new worshipping communities which were attractive and accessible to those who were not engaging with church in its traditional form and to demographic groups who were not currently being reached effectively.

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

14. Close

The Bishop thanked Synod members for their contributions and for the way in which they had engaged with difficult and challenging subjects and thanked the Dean of Newcastle for leading Synod through the item Living in Love and Faith items. The Bishop led the meeting in a closing prayer and gave a blessing.

Presidential Address to Diocesan Synod 7th June 2025

On Friday the great biblical scholar and theologian Walter Brueggemann died aged 92. In a lifetime of dedicated witness to the Gospel and social justice, he offered extraordinary wisdom and insight. As I reflected on his legacy, one quote stood out:

“The power of the future lies not in the hands of those who believe in scarcity but of those who trust God’s abundance.”

It would be wrong to think that the opposite of scarcity is abundance or indeed that the opposite of abundance is scarcity. As an aside, I did I must confess temporarily have those opposites in mind in the seconds following an incident last week in Norway when a seagull literally stole my cinnamon bun. But that’s another story albeit a very relatable one to our coastal parishes where seagull fish and chip heists are a constant concern. Back to my point.

The pairing of scarcity with abundance is much deeper than a simple binary. If I may, I want to connect the word abundance briefly with the word growth. Growth is not a destination. Growth is in the here and now. It’s the change that happens along the way. There is a danger that we instrumentalise growth and make it an ultimate goal that is always unattainable. This saps energy and confidence. In the same way we mustn’t instrumentalise unity. Unity isn’t the goal, it’s what happens when we commit to the journey. Now here I need to credit two people: firstly, our Director of Mission and Ministry, Ric Whaite who reflected to me that God’s abundance isn’t the opposite of human scarcity (as if the other side of the same coin) but is a complete reorientation of ourselves around Gods life and love. Secondly, the Presiding Bishop of the Norwegian Lutheran Church Olav Tveit, who gave a profound reflection on the theme of unity at the service on the Island of Grip where our friendship partnership agreement with the Diocese of Møre was signed. A journey of transformation and change is precisely what Seeking, Sharing, Sending are all about. Words and actions to enliven a vision for our Diocese to be communities of faith growing younger and more diverse, turning outwards in mission: loving God, loving one another and loving our communities. We do this by our seeking, sharing and sending. These three attributes will, I pray help us lay a foundation for growth, but this is actually a growth that is happening right now whether we see it or not. Maybe we feel it, maybe it’s just a glimpse. But it is there. Our worship equips us to go out and renew the face of the earth, proclaiming afresh the good news of what God has done in Christ to this generation. The Norwegian Church describes this vision-led encounter as one of being ‘more heaven on earth’ and I rather like that for its relatability. Bishop Ingeborg pointed out to me that both our dioceses include a close relationship with the ocean. If you stand on the shore and look out to sea there is a point where sky and ocean meet and there is no barrier. More heaven on earth. We are living it in the here and now.

Walter Brueggemann's attractiveness and relatability lie in his capacity to have enabled the light of the Gospel to travel well across many contexts to nurture communities of generous hope and genuine joy in Jesus.

Travel, light and generosity are three words that have been front and centre for me in May. I've already alluded to this in my brief mentions of Norway. For May has been a month of travel: with visits to both our Link dioceses of Botswana and Møre in Norway.

During this time, I have shared in morning prayer in a Norwegian train chapel, followed by ascending a mountain on a gondola in the week we celebrated the Ascension. I've seen zebras (which I refer to as Geordie horses on account of their black and white stripes) and tried Norwegian brown cheese ice cream (unexpectedly delicious). I've heard profound stories of hope and courage, witnessed the bravery and joy of the first women to be ordained deacon in the Diocese of Botswana. Listened to the most powerful articulation of lay vocation from a volunteer in a church in Ålesund in Norway who works as a doctor dealing with cancer patients. She finds joy and fulfilment in walking with people in the most challenging of circumstances and draws strength from her faith in doing this while also volunteering in her church. I've listened to clergy making the most of the limited resources they have without complaint. I've watched with admiration the versatility of a priest in the Møre diocese who is an Area Dean, who captains a ferry, rings the church bells and plays the organ for services and does all of this with joy and energy. I've managed to get a full Cathedral in Gaborone to declare the greeting 'Alreet pet'! Geordie-Botswana liturgy! I've listened also to articulation of shared challenges of many things from deployment of clergy to resourcing and rurality. I've stayed in an Eco Camp on the Norwegian island of Smøla and met the lady who runs it who is passionate about the environment and making a huge difference to her island community.

I've heard the powerful testimony of a member of the Norwegian indigenous South Sami community and the challenges of navigating culture and identity in relationship to a Church that has been complicit in its suppression. Here I found a fresh connection with my time as a bishop in Aotearoa New Zealand, and I was reminded of the deep challenges that indigenous peoples continue to face across our world. And I've spent time with two dear bishops, Methla and Ingeborg whose life and witness to God is both inspiring and courageous. I've shared something of our life as a diocese at the moment with them too, and I hope this has encouraged them in their work as bishops. Bishop Methla will be with us at the end of this month attending our ordination services. During his visit we will sign a renewed partnership agreement between our dioceses.

The value of our links is that through them we see ourselves in a new light and with renewed perspective. We are reminded that we are not islands, we are embedded communities of faith whose life history and love of God are interwoven. Over the past year a lot of our resource focus has been on implementing the recommendations of our safeguarding audit. While this has been in one sense unexpected in its level of demand, it has been absolutely vital. While this work continues, our focus needs now to turn to the Governance review that I first mentioned in 2023. Getting our Governance in a place that enables us to be more effective in mission is connected with the time-limited current work of our Bishop's groups for income generation and innovation, for reimagining ministry, and for ensuring the generous Legacy left to this Diocese by Bishop Alec is sustainable and missional.

Taken together all these things will help us lay foundations for a renewed bid to the National Church for resourcing to enable our vision to become a lived reality in confidence and joy. We need a solid foundation and that is what we are working on at the moment. It's not a quick fix, it will require patience.

Alongside this work is our vocations reset, which Bishop Mark is leading on. The reality is that nationally there are fewer clergy at this time: increased retirements coupled with fewer clergy to fill roles. That is the reality. Uplifting lay vocation is not about gap filling it is about a recognition that our lives are rooted in our baptism in Christ. Vocation is the willing of God to flourish in our being made in God's likeness. It wasn't for nothing that the apostle Paul spoke about different gifts, different ministries. Paul didn't however as is frequently misquoted speak about fruits of the Spirit. He spoke of fruit of the Spirit. A collective. That matters. It also means that as a collective of people we will not always agree on matters of importance or on things that may seem quite small in significance. The vocational push and pull is how we navigate this well without losing integrity or indeed speaking truth to power when needed. This collective vocation is indeed seen in the life of our Diocesan Links and is of course affirmed in the celebration of Pentecost which we will observe tomorrow. Pentecost is not so much discovery of self as discovery of others and what is held in common: an understanding which takes us out of ourselves.

Into all of this is placed the work we attend to today and particularly the conversations we are to have on the *Living in Love and Faith* proposals. This is work that the National Church is asking all the dioceses to do. It is an invitation to engage in a conversation and it's up to us how we do that. Personally, I think the phrase 'disagreeing well' is one of the most over-used and least understood phrases in Christendom. The fact is that any conversation we have is rooted in relationship. I can think of many conversations I have had and now have with people and how

different they are once a face-to-face relationship has been established. To my earlier point about growth being a journey rather than a statistical outcome I want to add the importance of a valuing of diversity *and* a recognition that this requires attentive and careful navigation.

Tomorrow as I have already said is Pentecost, it is also United Nations World Ocean Day. When we were in Norway I heard the story of a lady who lived on an island but was unable to get to church in time on a Sunday due to the ferry timetables. She could hear the church bells ringing but was sad not to be able to visit the church in person. There is now a bridge, and she is able to travel and this has filled her with joy.

I ask each of us to think about what fills our hearts with joy today, even if that joy is tempered by challenge. That's ok. God goes before us in all our journeys and in that spirit of generous hope I commend the work of this Synod as we meet today.

Diocesan Synod 7th June 2025

	Surname	First Name	House	Deanery	Attended (Signed)
	Abrams	Tony	Laity	Bellingham	<i>AC Abrams</i>
	Alexander	Gill	Clergy	Ex-officio	Apology
	Appleby	John	Laity	Tynemouth	<i>JCA</i>
	Atkinson	Jacqueline	Laity	Newcastle West	<i>J Atkinson</i>
	Baker	Paul	Clergy	Newcastle Central	Apology
	Bartle	James	Clergy	Bedlington	<i>JB Bartle</i>
	Barwick	Joel	Laity	Newcastle Central	Apology
	Batey	Annmarie	Laity	Newcastle West	Apology
	Batson	Lee	Clergy	Ex-officio	<i>Lee Batson</i>
	Birch	Tom	Clergy	Corbridge	<i>Tom Birch</i>
	Brims	Robin	Laity	Ex-officio	<i>R Brims</i>
	Caro	Rae	Clergy	Tynemouth	<i>R Caro</i>
	Carr	Candis			Apology (non-member)
	Carruthers	Phyl	Clergy	Bamburgh and Glendale	<i>P Carruthers</i>
	Chillingsworth	Joanna			<i>J Chillingsworth</i>
	Christie	Joanne			Apology (non member)
	Cleugh	Hannah	Clergy	Tynemouth	Apology
	Collingwood	Nigel			<i>N Collingwood</i>
	Craggs	Lynne	Laity	Bedlington	Apology
	Denyer	Nic	Laity	Tynemouth	<i>N Denyer</i>
	Devlin	Sharon			<i>S Devlin</i>
	Dixon	Steve	Clergy	Tynemouth	Apology
	Doolan	Ben	Clergy	Newcastle Central	<i>B Doolan</i>
	Doran	Emma	Laity	Tynemouth	<i>E Doran</i>
	Elder	Chris			<i>C Elder</i>

Apology - (10) Attended - (16)
 1 - non-member

Diocesan Synod 7th June 2025

	Surname	First Name	House	Deanery	Attended (Signed)
	Evans	Aidan	Laity	Newcastle West	Apology
	Flintoft	Ian	Clergy	Ex-officio	Ian Flintoft
	Fox	Louisa	Laity	Newcastle East	Louisa Fox
	Frier	Brenda	Laity	Bamburgh and Glendale	B Frier
	Gill	Helen	Clergy	Newcastle East	H B Gill
	Gill	Kyrinn			←
	Glover	David	Clergy	Hexham	D Glover
	Griffiths	Carol	Laity	Bamburgh and Glendale	Carol Griffiths
	Grocock	Chris	Clergy	Morpeth	Apology
	Govier	Katherine			←
	Hall	Malcolm	Clergy	Newcastle Central	Apology
	Hardy	Alison	Clergy	Alnwick	Apology
	Harley	Ruth	Clergy	Newcastle West	Apology
	Harper	Simon	Laity	Ex-officio	Apology
	Hartley	Helen-Ann	Bishops	Ex-officio	✓
	Heslop	Neil	Clergy	Newcastle West	Neil Heslop
	Hildred	Mandy	Laity	Norham	Mandy Hildred
	Hills	Sarah	Clergy	Norham	Apology
	Howard	Sal	Laity	Alnwick	Sal Howard
	Hume	Brogan	Clergy	Newcastle Central	Brogan Hume
	Hunter	Steph	Clergy	Bedlington	Steph Hunter
	Jackson	Heather	Laity	Morpeth	Apology
	Jee	Josh	Laity	Newcastle Central	J Jee
	Johnson	Diana	Clergy	Corbridge	Diana Johnson
	Johnson	Leigh			←

Apology - (8)

Attended - (17)

Diocesan Synod 7th June 2025

	Surname	First Name	House	Deanery	Attended (Signed)
	Kelley	Matthew			<i>mkelley</i>
	Kennedy	David	Clergy	Corbridge	Apology
	Kyffin	Steven	Laity		<i>Kyffin</i>
	Lacey	Julia	Clergy	Morpeth	Apology
	Lawrance	Robert	Clergy	Ex-officio	<i>Lawrance</i>
	Lea	David	Laity	Bedlington	Apology
	Llewellyn	Dom	Laity	Newcastle Central	<i>Llewellyn</i>
	Loughran	Debbie	Clergy	Newcastle Central	<i>Loughran</i>
	Lunn	Sarah	Clergy	Bellingham	<i>Sarah Lunn</i>
	Mann	Remley	Laity	Alnwick	Apology
	Marshall	John	Laity	Alnwick	Apology
	Maxim	Claire	Clergy	Bellingham	Apology
	Mayfield	Tim	Clergy	Tynemouth	Apology
	McDonald-Booth	Izzy	Laity	Ex-officio	Apology
	McIlroy Hipwell	Mary	Laity	Alnwick	<i>Mary McIlroy Hipwell</i>
	McKenzie	David	Laity	Corbridge	<i>D McKenzie</i>
	McKenzie	Gwyn	Laity	Corbridge	<i>Gwyn McKenzie</i>
	Minchin	Chris	Clergy	Newcastle West	<i>Minchin</i>
	Mitchell	John	Laity	Hexham	Apology
	Mitchell	Mitch	Clergy	Alnwick	Apology
	Moon	Sarah	Clergy	Bedlington	<i>Moon</i>
	Morsman	Andy	Laity	Hexham	Apology
	Naylor	Martin	Clergy	Hexham	Apology
	Newlands	Annie	Laity	Morpeth	<i>Newlands</i>
	O'Grady	Anthony	Clergy	Morpeth	Apology

Apology (13)

Attended (12)

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	Surname	First Name	House	Deanery	Attended (Signed)
	O'Hagan	Ruth			✓
	Osborn	Charlotte	Clergy	Norham	Charlotte Osborn
	Peace	Laura			✓
	Plumley	Kay	Laity	Newcastle Central	Apology
	Pope	Valerie	Laity	Morpeth	Apology
	Railton	Malcolm	Clergy	Newcastle Central	M. Railton
	Ramshaw	Susan	Laity	Bedlington	Apology
	Robinson	Janice	Laity	Morpeth	Apology
	Robson	Claire	Clergy	Ex-officio	Apology
	Royle	Tom			✓
	Russell	Tara			Apology (non member)
	Sanderson	Tim	Clergy	Newcastle Central	Apology
	Schooler	Marion			✓
	Shipton	Andrew	Clergy	Newcastle Central	A-S L
	Simpson	Rebecca	Laity		✓
	Smith	Adam	Clergy	Newcastle Central	✓
	Sourbut Groves	Catherine	Clergy	Ex-officio	✓
	Stradling	Ruth	Clergy	Newcastle Central	✓
	Styring	Roger	Laity	Ex-officio	✓
	Swaile	Jill	Laity	Bellingham	✓
	Taylor	Nigel	Clergy	Tynemouth	Apology
	Taylor-Kenyon	Louise	Clergy	Bamburgh and Glendale	✓
	Townend	Rich	Clergy	Alnwick	✓
	Tranter	Stephen			Apology (non member)
	Vilaseca-Bruch	John	Clergy	Tynemouth	Apology

Apology - (8)
Ap-Non-mem - (2)

Attended - (15)

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[illegible]

Apology - ③
Ap-non-mem - ①

Attended - (7)