

The Church of North Lynn

The Beacon: A place of warmth and welcome

Benefice Profile 2022



Post: Interim Team Vicar

Role Description:

Post of First Responsibility

Team Vicar (interim) in the King's Lynn Team Ministry

Benefice of King's Lynn Minster

Deanery of Lynn

An exciting opportunity for a priest to serve as Interim Team Vicar on the North Lynn estate in King's Lynn at a joint Anglican-Methodist church project called the 'Beacon'.

West Norfolk has much to offer, both in the town of King's Lynn, with its historic background, and in the context of the wider coastal and inland beauty of the surrounding area.

We are looking for an enterprising and resilient Team Vicar to bring a sense of hope for people in this relatively deprived urban community of Norfolk.

This post would be ideal for someone seeking a first incumbency position. The interim post is for five years.

Specific Purpose

We are praying for someone who will:

- Be enthusiastic with an active personal faith and reflect the light of Jesus to others
- Be mission-focused in bringing a relatively young and diverse population to faith
- Be prepared to work collaboratively with colleagues and to discern gifts among the congregation and newcomers
- Encourage a mixed ecology of worship and faith engagement
- Collaborate ecumenically with other churches in the area
- Build a sense of belonging and offering a safe church that embraces diversity and radical Christian inclusion
- Give experience in building community and church in estates ministry

General Purpose

We are praying for a collaborative person who will:

- Meet with the Team Rector, the parish priest for St John's, King's Lynn and other members of the ministry teams for prayer, action learning and theological reflection as well as practical and pastoral matters.
- Engage with the Methodist minister in North Lynn, recognising the calls on his ministry across a wide area and being committed to praying for him in this.
- Develop discipleship through activities like shared meals, ensure the enjoyment of worship and build plans for social outreach
- Attend to the diocesan vision to be Transformed by Christ: Prayerful, Pastoral, Prophetic by drawing on the resources available for its strategic priorities. This will be able to be evidenced, in accordance with the priorities outlined above and described in detail at www.dioceseofnorwich.org/about/vision-priorities

Accountability

- To be accountable, in the first instance, to the Team Rector for day-to-day ministry and intentional mission
- Consult with the Team Rector and Archdeacon of Lynn for matters of governance
- Accountable to the Archdeacon of Lynn and the Bishop of Lynn by participating in meetings of those in Posts of First Responsibility (PFR)
- Comply with the Diocesan Bishop and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on safeguarding policies, procedures and training
- Participate through the guidance of the Diocesan Bishop in Diocesan Ministerial Development Review (MDR) and Continuing Ministerial Education (CME)

Key characteristics of post-holder

- Security and confidence in the love of God
- The expectation of collaborative working and being a good colleague to others
- A heart for bringing others to the love of the Lord Jesus
- Emotional intelligence
- Delight in being an active presence in the community and a heart for deprivation and diversity
- Willingness to work on the practical aspects of completing a refurbished building, including with others in the team on fund-raising
- Ability to work with the congregations in developing a mission plan
- Good liturgical leadership in traditional, formal, modern and informal worship
- Modelling attractive faith to young and old alike, at ease with people of many diverse backgrounds
- Being a strategic risk taker, with a readiness to take new steps in prayer, in faith and in outreach
- Ability to be a positive team player respecting others leadership as well.

Key contacts

Team Rector

The Revd Canon Dr Mark Dimond

Other Clergy

- The parish priest of St John's, King's Lynn and half-time team vicar in the Minster benefice
- Any possible curate in the Minster benefice
- Other incumbents in the deanery, but particularly the Revd Kyla Sorensen, Team Rector in Gaywood and the Rev'd Karlene Kerr, Rural Dean and Team Vicar in Gaywood.

Lay Leaders

There are 7 Licensed Lay Ministers (Reader) and 6 Authorised Worship Assistants (AWA) in the deanery

Rural Dean

The Revd Karlene Kerr

Lay Chair

Jan Willson

Archdeacon of Lynn

The Ven Catherine Dobson

Bishop of Lynn

The Rt Revd Dr Jane Steen

Poem: I saw a vision

by a member of Cliff College Mission Team

I saw a vision yesterday
While serving coffee on the green.

I was standing on the bridge over the dyke
– looking round the estate
With the lovely summer sky over my head
And the Spirit of God breathed on my eyes
And they were opened.

I saw King's Lynn, the Holy City,
Coming down out of heaven,
Shining like a rare jewel,
Sparkling like clear water in the eye of the sun,
And the sickness was gone from the city

And there were
No nice suburbs and nasty estates
No difference between North Lynn and
South Lynn.

I saw the dykes running with the water of life
As bright as crystal
As clear as glass.
The children of the North Lynn Estate
Swimming in them.
And the Spirit of God showed me the tree of life
Growing on the grass on the green
Outside the chapel.

I looked out and there were
No more gangs of children
Roaming the streets.
There were no women working the streets
There were no more junkies,
HIV and Aids were things of the past

There were
No more statements of 'Educational Needs'
No more attacks
No more them and us
No more graffiti
Because there was no more hate.

I saw women walking safe at night,
Men full of compassion and gentleness
None of the children were ever abused.

I saw an old woman throw back her head and
laugh like a Young girl.

When the sky closed back
Her laughter rang in my head
For days and days
And would not go away.

That is what I saw looking over North Lynn estate
Looking up from the city of death
I knew there would be a day of resurrection
And I believe there will be a day of
Resurrection here.



From the Rt Revd Dr Jane Steen

Bishop of Lynn, Diocese of Norwich,
Church of England

The post described in this parish profile represents a new opportunity to develop estates ministry in a deprived part of beautiful Norfolk and the historic town of King's Lynn.

The purpose of this first incumbency position is to build up the Church in North Lynn, completing and making the most of its new community facilities, encouraging and enabling lay mission and ministry. As a Team Vicar in the King's Lynn Minster benefice, you will have experienced colleagues, lay and ordained, while enjoying the responsibility of building up the Church in North Lynn. You will want to work not only with the Minster team but also with the people of St John's Parish (where some North Lynn residents worship) and whose priest is half-time at St John's and half-time an additional team vicar in the Minster benefice. This combined post is currently vacant but the half-time team vicar will have a particular brief for families, young people and children in the communities of both the Minster benefice, St John's and in the wider deanery where more of our outer-urban, diverse and deprived estates

can be found. The right person for the post on the North Lynn estate will be someone who delights in collaborative working with others, able to be both a leader and a team player and with the flexibility to inhabit a role whose impact will be greater for creative engagement at its points of intersection with the ministry of others. You will also be someone able to engage in the completion of a project to refurbish the church plant and its community cafe, including participating in the necessary remaining fundraising (on which others are leading) while working with the congregation to re-establish worship in the newly re-opened building.

The Diocese of Norwich is very glad to have received national Church of England funding to enable us to create this post and we look forward to discerning and then working with the candidate whom God is calling.



From the Revd Robert Roberts **Superintendent Minister of the** **West Norfolk Circuit, Methodist Church**

Ministry in North Lynn is a partnership between the Anglicans and the Methodists with the Methodist physical presence beginning when their church was built in 1963. As churches, we have been working together for many years and formally since the signing of an ecumenical sharing agreement in 2019.

A joint decision was made between the Anglicans and Methodists to refurbish and expand the 'old' Methodist church building, making it an attractive presence in the community, a 'Beacon.' Funding came from many sources: the Methodist Church, the Anglican Church, the Arthur Rank Foundation and Methodist Insurance, to name a few. After a very long wait, the Beacon Church is scheduled to open in the Spring of 2023. The revitalized church, next to the new vicarage, will be a continued reminder of God's presence in the North Lynn community.

This year is an exciting one with the expected completion of the building work and re-opening of the church, allowing the re-establishing and expansion of mission and outreach activities in

North Lynn. The last year was encouraging, too, even though our building was closed, as ministry never stopped; we made use of people's homes and the church's external grounds to carry on. In addition, we look forward to the formalizing of our Local Ecumenical Partnership.

Most of all, the Methodist Circuit looks forward to our working together in the exciting times ahead supporting our shared ministry in North Lynn through preaching, mission activities, community outreach and pastoral oversight. This is what God is calling us to do together. Come and join us.

'The Beacon'

Development towards the making of the Beacon

The church in North Lynn has historically been a Methodist church, originally built in 1963. The Superintendent of the West Norfolk Circuit of the Methodist Church had oversight of the congregation. Over time, King's Lynn Minister in central Lynn began to support the work of the Methodist church in North Lynn. This was mainly because the North Lynn estate was located within the 'Parish of St Margaret with St Nicholas and with St Edmund', with the Minster (formerly called St Margaret's before 2011) as the central civic church. Methodist and Anglican cooperation in North Lynn developed organically into a 'Sharing Agreement' in 2019, a platform for a desired 'Local Ecumenical Partnership'. This is yet to be constitutionally formalised.

In order to seek an incarnational view of neighbourhood ministry, the Anglican priest resident in the neighbouring St John's parish in central Lynn moved into a vicarage on St Edmundsbury Road in North Lynn in 2019. The vicarage is directly adjacent to the North Lynn Church. This Team Vicar allocated 50% of her time in North Lynn and 50% in the St John's Parish. Correspondingly, a new Curate arriving in 2020 under the supervision of this Team

Vicar now contributes a similar amount of time to North Lynn and St John's (50%/50%) The curate is now in his third year in Lynn, with the expectation that he will find a new incumbency from 2023. The Methodist input, apart from ownership of the building itself, is largely supervisory. The current Methodist supervisor is the Superintendent (as titled above) and tends therefore not to get involved in the day-to-day running of local church, though the supervisor might typically officiate at a Sunday service once a month.

Plans were drawn up over many years to extend and refurbish the North Lynn church and to transform it into a Community hub, comprising not only a worship space but also a café. Work was meant to start in 2020, but the Covid pandemic struck and rebuilding was put on hold. Phase 1 of the work finally began in May 2022 and is scheduled to be completed by February 2023. Phase 1 covers the extension and reordering of the outer shell of the building. Phase 2 is to finish off the internal refurbishments, planned for 2023-2024. c.£70,000 is still required for this phase of the project. The church is to be renamed 'The Beacon'.

North Lynn/The Parish

North Lynn is a distinctive part of King's Lynn, a residential area that has been developed over the last fifty years. This development reflected the rise of food industry and light engineering in the area. In the context of Norfolk, North Lynn is one of the most deprived urban areas. With a population of 6,655, it is home to people struggling with relationship problems, mental health difficulties and low/vulnerable incomes. Around 20% of the population of the North Lynn electoral ward is of non-UK origin.

Approximately half the population of north Lynn is aged under 40. The two largest groups are aged 0-9 and 30-39, with slightly smaller numbers aged 10-19 and 20-29. Approximately a quarter of the population are therefore children and young people living in deprived and needy families. This is a higher proportion than is usual across the Diocese of Norwich (around a fifth of the population of Norfolk falls into this age group), making this an obvious place in which to grow a younger church. The post-holder will therefore minister in such a way as to build a church which is younger and more diverse both by ensuring that there is an outreach to young parents as well as young people and children, and by welcoming into the household of faith the diversity of people in an outer urban estate, be that diversity of ethnicity, opportunity, educational and cultural background and in other areas.

Homelessness is a significant problem which local churches responded to with the establishment of an excellent winter Night Shelter. A Foodbank already exists in South Lynn, which is used by those living in North Lynn. The establishment of a Food Hub in North Lynn in the autumn of 2022 has come about to tackle a difficult oncoming winter.

This post will seek to bring the church to the community and the community to the church in addressing people's deep need to belong to the household of faith. Our strapline could be

'you belong and then you believe'. The post-holder will take forward and develop an ethos of sharing meals, everyone participating in leadership and organisation however seemingly unlikely this might seem at first sight. It is about imitating Jesus in service and taking forward his mission to offer abundant life. The spirit of partnership is already inherent in the life of the church on the North Lynn estate due to the ecumenical context of ministry.

Mixed-ecology church life is already the norm both in North Lynn and across the local benefices as formal and informal worship is offered and as fresh expressions lead to the development of new congregations.



The Minster – central Lynn

King's Lynn Minster is a large parish church in the heart of King's Lynn, serving the population of its own parish and that of wider West Norfolk as a Minster Church. It became a Minster in 2011. It is one of three town centre churches and one of the five benefices within the wider scope of King's Lynn. The Minster is the Civic Church for West Norfolk and frequently hosts services and events for the western part of the Diocese of Norwich as well as the Civic Services for the borough.

The Minster lies within the broad catholic tradition. Those who attend services at the Minster value highly the fine music offered by the choir and organ. Work still needs to be done to attract new people to the church, especially those who are younger than most people who attend at present.



The main Sunday Service at the Minster is the 10am Parish Eucharist. The Minster is a church committed to a high standard of music, liturgy and preaching, with vestments, servers, incense and a robed choir (once a month). The regular congregation consists largely of people of retirement age and older, some of whom live in the Parish, some come from other parts of the town and some from beyond. There are a small number of young people who attend with their families.

The Minster is kept open all day, every day and has many visitors. On Tuesdays and Saturdays during the summer months we run a cafe selling hot drinks and snacks. This is popular with visitors and provides a friendly meeting place for local residents. The Tuesday Cafe runs before organ recitals which are well supported. We also have a small shop that opens regularly.

Outreach into the community of King's Lynn and the surrounding area is of growing concern. We currently have an Engagement and Development Officer, who builds on the relationship of the Minster with the visiting public and pilgrims, and is currently helping to organise the Margery Kempe Festival of 2022-23.

There is a good relationship between the Minster and the Church of North Lynn (Beacon). We share in Lent and Advent courses, social events, harvest lunches, and worship.

The Beacon

How we see ourselves as a congregation

We see ourselves as being a relaxed, friendly, inviting church in an evangelical style that is eager to welcome newcomers and to make them part of the family. We love to see people thrive in this church, and so we really like the encouraging environment that we have developed – without being pushy.

We enjoy worshipping in a relaxed atmosphere, with freedom to worship together in a variety of expressions. The music has been described as inspiring and relevant.

In our lives together, hospitality remains a key component. It is a hospitality that is both extended and received by members of the church. There is a genuine curiosity and interest in people.

“I spent over a year visiting a range of churches, but there was something about the welcome that I received at North Lynn that really stood out, made me feel at home and made me want to come back again and again” (local parishioner)

Our hopes for the future

We'd love to see the church grow – people coming to know Christ but also in the discipleship of our members. The church already works well with local agencies, churches and the neighbouring communities, but we'd love to see those relationships deepen with opportunities to work together, either ecumenically or in social projects to serve the community.

With the church building project, we hope that the church can become a hub for the community, open to all regardless of age or ability. Our hope is that the building may become an opportunity to build bridges with those locally and to break down barriers. We would love to see this openness extend in how we communicate with and serve others – whether that is through the community cafe, job club or community fridge, all of which the building will host.

Our new Team Vicar

“Somebody we can love and who will love us”

We hope to appoint a new Team Vicar who is approachable and understanding, who has a deep faith and a good sense of humour. We seek an incumbent who can relate to a diverse number of people within the church and community, many of whom will have significant issues to share. We would like our new Team Vicar to be encouraging and welcoming to those who seek God and to help people to develop in their faith, to lead by example in their own faith and to share that with us through everyday actions.

We would also like our Team Vicar to be mission-focused, to share the Good News in a tangible way, to enable and encourage across a wide range of creative community activities, including social get-togethers and biblically-focused initiatives with other groups, churches and organisations.

As well as being trustworthy, we need the new Vicar to embody their faith, following the life that Jesus calls them to and seeing that passion for him in the relationships that they have. In this environment, a person that is able to think on their feet and act wisely in situations that may be challenging is needed. They should be able to know their own limits and when to seek support.

“Needs to relate well to children of all ages, and to be generally very approachable”

“Someone that is bubbly, with a welcoming personality”

“They should take no nonsense”

What we are offering the successful applicant



1. A comfortable house

The house was recently built for the specific purpose of being a vicarage.

Downstairs, there is an accessible office and toilet, with a private kitchen, dining room and spacious lounge. There is a raised patio with a garden and garage space.

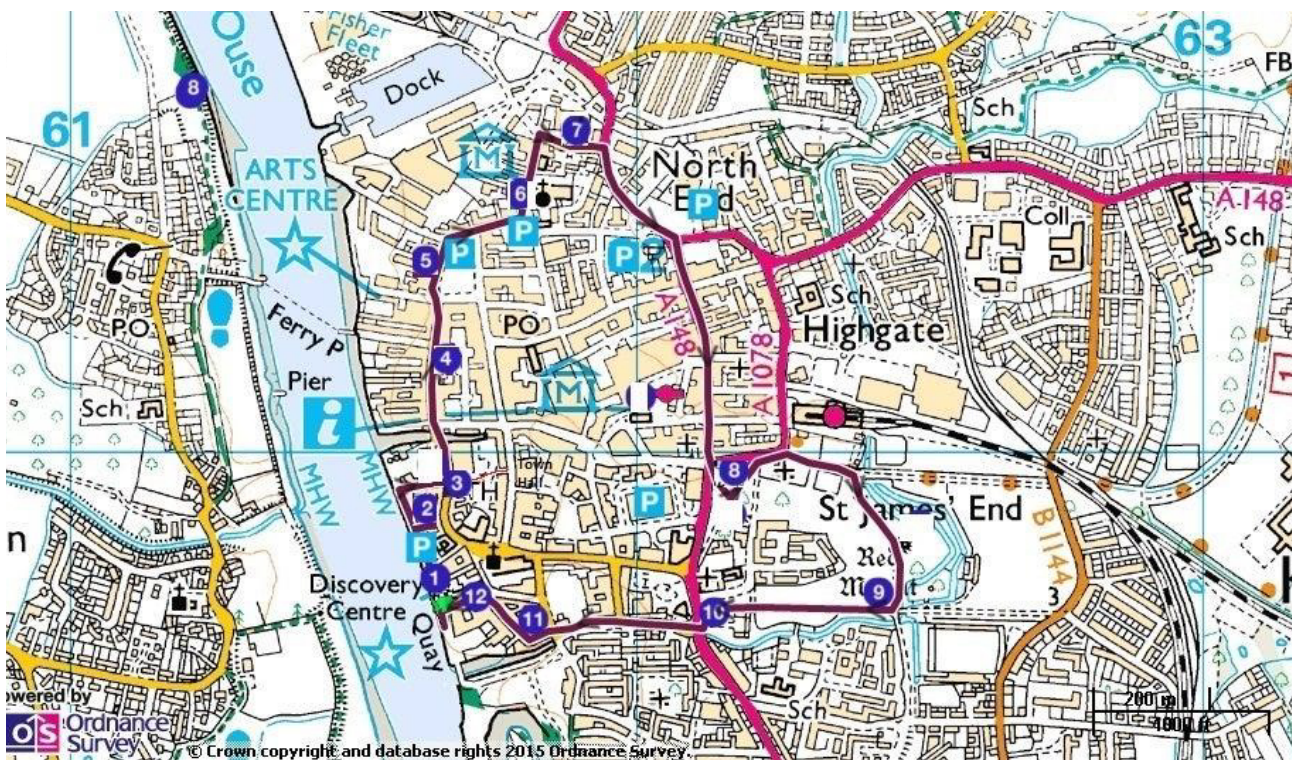
The upstairs includes four well sized bedrooms including an ensuite and a bathroom. The whole house is heated by an Air Source Heat Pump.

The church is directly next door to the vicarage, and there is a post office and chip shop in a very short walking distance.

2. A home and a parish in north-west Norfolk

West Norfolk is often overlooked, but reveals some wonderful surprises. Being based in King's Lynn we are spoilt for choice with several nearby beaches with unrivalled sunsets and bird sanctuaries that border them. The nearby walks along the Norfolk Coastal Path and Sandringham provide great opportunities to clear one's head in the fresh air. King's Lynn also has an array of bars and restaurants in the area that suit many different tastes, with lots more options also being available along the Norfolk coast. The town itself has numerous cultural events like

the King's Lynn Music Festival (classical) and the Festival Too Festival (pop) in July. There is also the famous King's Lynn Mart in February. There is also affordable, easy access to Cambridge, London and Norwich should you wish for a change of scene. In terms of sport as well, there are a number of options available within a quick drive from or within King's Lynn. From football-golf (yes, you read that correctly) and Kitesurfing at Hunstanton to skateboarding at Lynn Sport there has been a conscientious effort to provide opportunities to the local community.



A view of West Norfolk from the Revd Jon Price, Curate at St John's and North Lynn



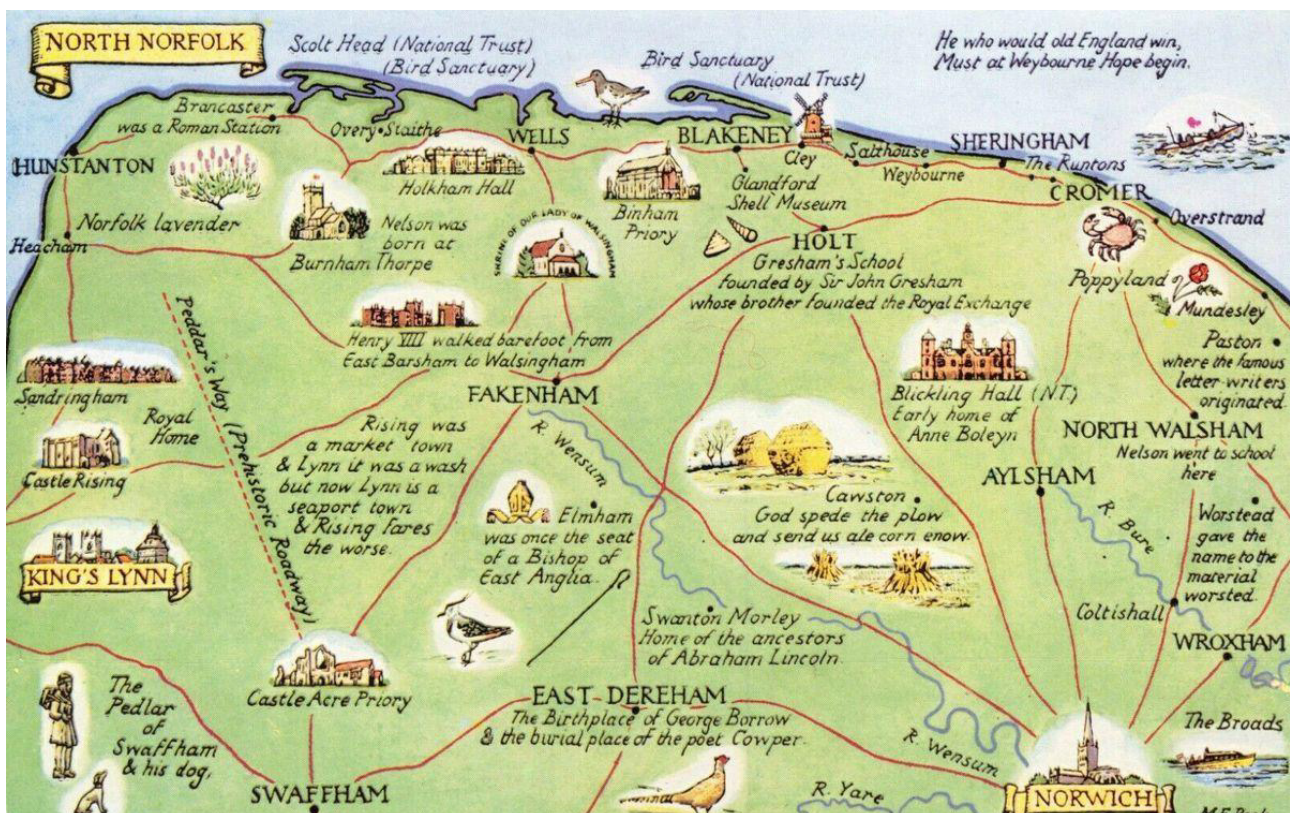
A view of West Norfolk from Hilary Scase, a long-standing member of the Minster congregation

West Norfolk is the best place in England to live. It has everything – except mountains. The area is so beautiful. But, first, and most important, are the people: they are welcoming, friendly, kind, thoughtful, helpful, and enthusiastic. In the historic town of King's Lynn there is the ever-changing river, accessible to all with its ancient ferry across to West Lynn; a fascinating Fisher Fleet with a thriving fishing community, and fishing boats in and out on every tide. There are also docks for trade.

The pace of life in West Norfolk is relaxed and gentle. There are many outdoor activities, including walking in wonderful countryside and woods, enjoying some stunning and safe beaches and many nature reserves and bird watching

opportunities. There are sweet-smelling lavender fields and a windmill that mills its own flour to make bread for sale. There is also plenty of horse-riding and golf. The villages are charming, each with its own attractive church. The Borough Council has provided an excellent network of cycle paths all over the area from which can be seen unknown, secret and hidden beauties.

Considering the size of the area there is a surprisingly rich culture on offer. There is the internationally-known King's Lynn Festival, The Corn Exchange at Lynn, West Acre Theatre, and the theatre at Hunstanton. Stately homes abound including Holkham, Houghton, and of course Sandringham.



3. A good team of colleagues to work with



The Revd Jon Price
Assistant Curate

I was ordained Priest in June 2021, having completed my training at Wycliffe Hall. Before that I completed studies in Philosophy and Philosophical Theology. Previously I worked for faith-based homelessness charities. In my spare time, I enjoy swimming, reading and spending time with my wife Vicki and our recently adopted dog. I am in my third year as a Curate.



Stephen Harrington
Local Preacher, Worship Leader & Treasurer

I was born and grew up in North Lynn, attending the Methodist Sunday School as a young boy. After graduating from UMIST in Manchester, I began work as a computer programmer in King's Lynn. I met my wife, Jean, at an amateur dramatics group, and was converted. After getting married we went to Bible college before being called by the Lord back to North Lynn to live, worship and witness. I love to lead worship and preach the Word and have a passion to see the lives of the people in North Lynn transformed by the power of the gospel. After many years of prayer we are excited to see the building work progress and have faith that it will be a turning point in God's mission here in the community.



Jean Harrington
Secretary, Church Steward, Roots 'n' Shoots Co-ordinator

I have lived and worshipped in North Lynn since 1994 after being 'called' with my husband Stephen, a North Lynner, and later raising our family here. Although I have served in the above positions my role has also been one of living and sharing life with the community in various expressions of hospitality and service, alongside helping to offer opportunities for the community to experience 'Church' in a variety of ways. At the heart of this is our love and prayer for people to be transformed by the love of Jesus and disciplined in His way. One of my loves is gardening and I began to coordinate Roots 'n' Shoots growing hub – to sow, grow and nurture. It will be exciting to move forward with this.



Andrew Ward
Licensed Lay Minister

I participate in a variety of activities at the Minster and local community. I am a retired primary school headteacher. I live in Snettisham where I enjoy walking regularly. My wife Caroline and I transferred from St Matthew's Northampton in the Diocese of Peterborough in 2020. Caroline is Director of Education at the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. We have a big black cat called Flump! My role as Lay Licensed Minister is varied, from leading Evensong to support Messy Minster.



The Rev'd Canon Dr Mark Dimond
Team Rector

I was made Rector in the summer of 2022, and so am relatively new to King's Lynn and Norfolk generally. I am married to Samantha, who works as a civil servant. My primary focus is on the Minster, the civic church of King's Lynn, but I support the work of the Christian community in North Lynn.



The Revd Robert Roberts
Methodist Superintendent

I have been in King's Lynn since September 2019. North Lynn is one of two ecumenical partnerships where I share pastoral responsibility; I also have pastoral charge of 4 other Methodist Churches. The West Norfolk Circuit comprises a total of 18 Churches. I was stationed in the Norwich Circuit for 5 years before coming to King's Lynn. My wife, Debbie, is also a Methodist minister; we live in South Wootton with our two Westies. Prior to coming to the UK we lived in the US. We enjoy exploring the UK with our dogs, especially, the Norfolk and Suffolk coast.

Community

Throughout the pandemic and the building project, the church in North Lynn has endeavoured to keep events going for wider community participation.

On a weekly basis, the church has hosted a community meal – a chance for members of the community to come together to share food and fellowship.

The church has organised outdoor events to suit each change in the season, including bonfire night with food and sparklers. At Christmas time we've hosted a turning on of the lights, complete with a brass band and a Christmas tree. We've also hosted christingles with sparklers and hot drinks. During Easter we had a community Easter egg hunt which drew in large numbers of families. The church has also had the opportunity to mark civic events in its own unique way, for example with a street party for the Queen's Jubilee or a quieter, candlelit service to mark the late Queen's death. In the summer we were able to have a summer fête.

These events have proven to be popular in the area and have provided us with the opportunity to partner with other agencies and neighbours that reside in North Lynn to deliver them.



Community links

The Beacon has very close links with a number of organisations in the area.

As well as the regular assemblies and prayer spaces that have been hosted at Greenpark Academy, this has included the Girl Guiding group that uses the church premises and has joined us in organising events.

We have been approached by the YMCA that operates on the estate to provide a chaplaincy service to their residents.

We also have links with the Hanseatic Union, a charity that supports those from Eastern Europe. Members of the Minster and North Lynn church are also establishing a charitable community food hub that seeks to address food poverty on the estate, which we will anticipate opening in late 2022.



Appendix 1

The North Lynn Team

Curate – The Revd Jon Price

Liaison – Jean Harrington

Finance – Stephen Harrington

Methodist Superintendent – The Revd Robert Roberts

Rector (Minster link) – The Revd Canon Dr Mark Dimond

Appendix 2

Weekly Service Pattern

Weekly services

Sunday	1st & 3rd Sunday of the month 5pm Service of the Word 2nd Sunday of the month – 5pm “Filling Station” – Informal worship with food 4th Sunday of the month – 3pm Traditional Service at St Katherine’s Court (Sheltered Housing scheme)
Tuesday	7pm Bible Study
Wednesday	9.30am Solace (Prayer, Pilates and Discussion)
Thursday	10.30am Coffee on the Couch 5pm Community Meal

Appendix 3

School links

Greenpark Academy

The estate of North Lynn has a close relationship with the newly built school. Greenpark Academy is a welcoming place with a friendly staff team and efficient governing body.

There are numerous opportunities here for mission and ministry. The school was formerly known as St Edmundsbury School and was not based on the estate. Since 2020, the newly built school has been on the estate of North Lynn. Since that time, members of the clergy have been invited into the school to be a part of school assemblies and had the opportunity to host a prayer space there. The headteacher has worked very closely with the Team Vicar in the past and looks forward to building a new, professional relationship with the appointed Team Vicar.

Representative of the issues that are faced in North Lynn, 48% of students are eligible for free school meals.

Eastgate Academy

Although in the Parish of St John's, Eastgate Academy draws in a number of students from North Lynn. The school has regular assemblies from members of clergy and has also hosted a prayer space. The headteacher has shown excellence in the remarkable turnaround in OFSTED results in recent years.

Appendix 4

The other churches in North Lynn

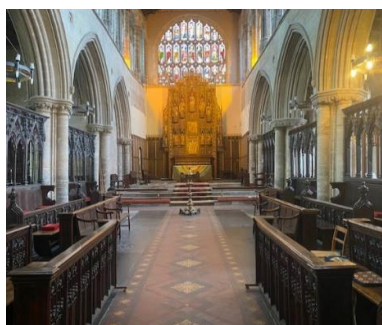
Seabank Chapel – Brethren Church

The King's Glory – Pentecostal Church based on North Lynn Trading Estate

Gateway Church – New Frontiers Church based in Green Park Academy

Each of the above have joined us for prayer walks around the estate and have hosted ecumenical prayer events.

The other Parish churches in central Lynn



The Minster

The Priory and Parish church of St Margaret, St Mary Magdalene and The Virgin Saints, now King's Lynn Minster, and the town enter recorded history in 1101, with the response of the Bishop of Norwich, Herbert de Losinga, to a request from "his sons around Linn" for a church. The result led also to the Saturday Market Place right outside and a local cell of monks from the Bishop's Cathedral Priory.

Bishop's Lynn grew in prosperity and trade was brisk with the continent but also far inland and upriver. A town charter was obtained from King John in 1204 and the merchant Guild of Holy Trinity was set up which controlled the town's local governance.

In the 13th century St Margaret's was completely rebuilt and an extra storey was added to the towers. The southern one later acquired a further storey and a spire but the northern tower was completely rebuilt in 1453 due to subsidence problems. The result is a magnificent west front in which all periods of medieval architecture are represented.



St Nicholas Chapel

St Nicholas Chapel is the country's largest Chapel-of-Ease and has strong links with the Parish's fishing community. Now redundant, St Nicholas is managed by the Churches Conservation Trust. The next but one Bishop after Herbert de Losinga extended the town northwards, with its own (Tuesday) market place and St Nicholas' Chapel.

Wealthy merchants near St Nicholas' rebuilt it on a grand scale between 1380 and 1410 and tried hard to make it independent of the parish church, but without success: it remained a dependent chapel of ease until handed over to The Churches Conservation Trust in 1989. The Parish are entitled to hold up to six parish services at the Chapel each year, but the regular pattern is to hold 2, one on Sea Sunday, that includes the blessing of the Fisher Fleet and one to mark the Festival Day of St Nicholas in early December.



St John's Church

St John's opened in 1846 and is considered to be the 'church for the poor of King's Lynn'. Its focusses on mission have reflected this priority, with its former vicarage being used as the King's Lynn Night Shelter.

The Beacon and St John's have developed close links due to both being open evangelical, the previous vicar (and current curate) being a shared post between the two, and both congregations having members involved in both churches.

Because of its location, it is known as the church in the walks and hosts toddler groups, coffee mornings for the isolated, and bible studies on a weekly basis.

Appendix 5



A Historical Note about King's Lynn

Visitors to King's Lynn, the major town at the heart of West Norfolk, will discover a town rich in heritage and maritime history. The history of the town, coupled with the impressive Norfolk coastline, (much of it an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and the intrinsic charm of the surrounding countryside and pretty villages, makes it a great place to visit.

The town has recently celebrated a special milestone in its history with the 800th anniversary of the signing the King John Charter. It was this charter that granted Lynn its borough status, giving it self-governing powers – which all reflected the town's importance as a key trading centre.

King's Lynn was one of England's foremost ports as early as the 12th century, and was perhaps as important in the Middle Ages as Liverpool was to become during the Industrial Revolution.

Aptly described as 'The Warehouse on the Wash' it maintained its prominence as a port until the railways robbed it of much of its traffic in the mid-19th century.

Originally known as 'Linn', the town is thought to have derived its name from the Celtic word for a lake or pool, and it is recorded that a large tidal lake originally covered this area. By the early 13th century with the granting of the charter, the town became Bishop's Lynn.

Bishop's Lynn grew rich on trade both with Britain and abroad. The Hanseatic League, a powerful German trading organisation made up of merchants from North Germany and neighbouring countries around the Baltic Sea contributed greatly to this prosperity. The legacy of this history is still very much in evidence today. Fine late medieval merchants houses stretch back to the river between cobbled lanes.



After the Dissolution of the Monasteries by Henry VIII, Lynn changed its name to Lynn Regis – subsequently King's Lynn, the name it has retained to this day.

The Custom House overlooks the Purfleet, which was one of four fleets of Lynn and the medieval harbour of the town. The magnificent 12th century St Margaret's Church overlooks some of the finest ancient architecture in England, including the Trinity Guildhall built in the 1420's. The Tuesday Market Place, one of England's grandest squares, houses the Corn Exchange, a 750-seater venue for concerts, comedy and flea markets.

One of Lynn's most notable and unusual landmarks is Greyfriars Tower, this Medieval Franciscan Priory has for centuries helped guide traders and sailors navigating the difficult waters of The Wash.

The Lynn Museum sited close to the town centre is currently being refurbished and is scheduled to re-open in early 2006, amongst the new displays planned will be part of the 4,000-year-old Holme timber circle, popularly known as "Seahenge".

The historic Saturday Market Place and magnificent Tuesday Market Place are hosts to traditional outdoor markets, which have been a feature of Lynn life for hundreds of years with stalls selling shellfish caught by Lynn fishing fleet, as well as locally grown farm produce from the fertile Fens

So much of King's Lynn's heritage is linked to its maritime heritage and links as a trading centre. True's Yard Fishing Heritage Museum, The Green Quay – Wash Discovery Centre, The Custom House Tourist Information Centre and Maritime Exhibition, Town House Museum all tell a part of this story. Visitors can follow the King's Lynn Maritime trail, described and interpreted in a leaflet by the same name, which highlights a total of 25 locations each of which tell a part of the heritage story.

Appendix 6

Vision and priorities for our life together



Imagining the future.

Jesus said, “*I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly*” (John 10.10). We see the ministry of the whole diocese as being about how we live **our life together** for the flourishing of every person in every place. Any vision should help the local church to flourish and grow in confidence that we are loved by God.

Jesus also said, *"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me"* (Matthew 16.24). The heart of our mission is about being open to, and enabling others to discover, a life **transformed by Christ**.

We join in Christ's mission, conscious of the five marks of mission of the Anglican Communion, through responding to God and the world.

We will **prayerfully** proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom, rooting ourselves in Scripture and the sacraments. We will wait upon God in stillness, contemplation and intercession. Our corporate prayer, an ongoing conversation with *God*, will embrace traditional, fresh expressions, online and evolving models of being Church.

We will **pastorally** model the ministry of the whole people of God after *Jesus* the good shepherd. We will respond with loving service to the needs of the communities where we live and work, and teach, baptise and nurture new believers.

We will **prophetically** speak out and act, with the fire of the *Holy Spirit*, challenging injustice, confronting violence, and working for peace and reconciliation. We will seek to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Being open to all of this will enable God in Jesus to accomplish **far more than all we can ask or imagine** (Ephesians 3.20). If we allow the Holy Spirit to breathe God's divine life into our human plans, much more will be made of them, for God can bring abundance from scarcity.

We are called to be faithful, as God is always faithful to us. By prayerfully placing the life of the diocese where our sails can best catch the wind of the Holy Spirit, God will take us where God wills.

The vision for the Diocese of Norwich 2021 – 2026:

Transformed by Christ:

Prayerful, Pastoral, Prophetic

Various pieces of work emerge from the three priorities within the vision

Prayerful

- We will **deepen our prayer life and learning** and provide a sense of belonging within worship offered in a range of styles for all ages.
- **We will equip people in evangelism** to find ways to share their faith during the week and be invitational to others to join the life of their local Church, recognising the particular need to engage with children, young people and families.
- We will live a **life of generous stewardship** in response to God's gifts to us.

Pastoral

- We will promote and equip the variety of **lay and ordained ministries**, knowing that all are invited to hear God's call and selflessly respond in loving service.
- We will have honest conversations leading to decisions about the mission potential, viability and ways to ease the burden of our **church buildings**, many of which are treasured places of holiness, stillness and memory, whilst also exploring new possibilities for planting and nurturing Christian communities.
- We will encourage every church community and church school to be engaged somehow, often in partnership, **in loving service to its local, diocesan and world neighbours**.

Prophetic

- We will ensure an active priestly or lay worker/ enabler **presence in our lowest economic communities** as we seek to address the growing inequalities in our society.
- We will seek to become a safe Church for all and one that embraces **diversity and radical Christian inclusion**.
- We will work to ensure that **ecological concerns** are integral to our life together as we care for our single island planet home.