THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

**The Rt Revd Ian Bishop**
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November 2026

**Priest in Charge and Associate Priest (Half-time)**
**the Lowestoft St Andrew and Kirkley benefices (two posts)**

Dear colleague,

Thank you for your interest in these posts, as together we seek to discern who God may be calling to serve as Priest in Charge and Half-time Associate Priest in the Lowestoft St Andrew and Kirkley benefices. These notes are intended to supplement the information given in the Profile, adding a slightly wider perspective and with some further information. We would love to hear from you if you feel that God might be calling you to one of these roles in this beautiful part of the country, or if you have questions about these roles.

**Diocese and Deanery**

Under the leadership of the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, a vision is emerging for the Diocese – *Transformed by Christ: Prayerfully, Pastorally and Prophetically*. Work is currently underway on the strategies that will help us live out and deliver this vision.

Bishop Graham has written an Ethos and Culture Statement, available on the diocesan website here, which gives details of our structures and the character of the Diocese.

The Lowestoft St Andrew and Kirkley benefices fall within the Archdeaconry of Norfolk, and so under the care of the Bishop of Thetford (The Rt Revd Ian Bishop) and the Archdeacon of Norfolk (currently vacant until The Revd Chris Bunce arrives on 3rd December). The benefice is in the Lothingland deanery, with a Rural Dean, The Revd Sharon Lord, and an Assistant Rural Dean, the Revd Natalie Rees. There are 10 posts of incumbent status in the Deanery, along with 1 Assistant Curate and a number of PTO clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), and Authorised Worship Assistants.

Attendance at Deanery Synod and Chapter is an expectation, and all diocesan clergy are encouraged to give some part of their time and energies to the wider life of the Diocese.

**Housing**
Accommodation is further described in the benefice profile.

**Enquiries, Applications and Interviews**
An application can be made through Pathways, via the diocesan website at https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/about/vacancies/.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 31st December at 11.59pm, with interviews to be held on Tuesday 26th January 2027

Any priest wanting an informal discussion before deciding whether to apply is welcome to be in touch by telephone or e-mail with me (07715 102519 or bishop.thetford@dioceseofnorwich.org).

Yours faithfully,



**The Rt Revd Ian Bishop**
Bishop of Thetford