

Community Matters Forum

Summary Minutes of Meeting | Wednesday 9 September 2026 | Shephard Room | 6.45pm–8.15pm

1. CMF Membership and Membership Audit

Discussion summary

- Two new Deanery Synod representatives were welcomed as ex officio members of the Forum. Two co-opted members had decided to step down, creating vacancies in the co-opted membership.
- The Forum reviewed the skills, knowledge and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion audit. It identified a need to broaden representation beyond the 11.00am Sunday Eucharist and to consider other gaps in the Forum's membership.

Decisions

- A potential new co-opted member will be invited to join, and expressions of interest will be sought from across the Minster community.

Actions

- The Co-Chairs will circulate an invitation to people from all parts of the community who may wish to be considered for co-option.

2. Supported Charities and Visitor to Worshipper Pathway

Discussion summary

- Restore York will give a presentation at the Community Matters Gathering on 4 October.
- Clarification will be sought about the scope of the Minster's existing support for Mustard Seed as that diocesan project is due to come to a close.
- Further work on the Visitor to Worshipper Pathway was noted.

Actions

- The Co-Chairs will clarify the position regarding Mustard Seed.
- The Co-Chairs and a Forum member will meet to discuss the Visitor to Worshipper Pathway and report back.

3. 2027 Installation and Teaching Programme

Discussion summary

- The Forum received an update on the 2027 art installation and plans for events involving the Minster community. Proposed February dates will be reconsidered because of a diary conflict.
- Further proposals will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Baptism is expected to be a theme for the 2027 Lent and autumn teaching programmes.
- The Forum also considered whether the process for joining the community roll could be made available online.

Actions

- The Co-Chairs will explore the possibility of an online community roll form.

4. Community Events and Gatherings

Discussion summary

- More than 30 people had booked for the Ceilidh on 25 September 2026.
- The Community Matters Gathering on 4 October will run from 12.45pm to 1.30pm because it follows the Harvest Sunday service. Restore York will speak about its work.
- The Forum considered a proposal to hold six Gatherings in 2027, including question-and-answer sessions with representatives from different parts of the Minster. The music department was suggested for inclusion. These proposals remain under development.

Actions

- The Co-Chairs will circulate future Gathering dates by email and through the notice sheet.

5. Generous Giving

Discussion summary

- The next opportunity for a dedicated Generous Giving Sunday will be in 2027.

- The Forum discussed payroll giving, the Parish Giving Scheme, the purposes supported by digital giving and how giving might be communicated throughout the year.
- The Forum noted that the Minster's 2024 accounts were available from the Charity Commission but had not yet been added to the Minster website.

Actions

- The Co-Chairs will seek updates on payroll giving and publication of the latest accounts on the Minster website.
- The Co-Chairs will include a substantive Generous Giving item on the next meeting agenda.

6. Terms of Reference and 2027 Elections

Discussion summary

- The Forum will review its Terms of Reference before considering arrangements for the CMF elections due in September 2027.

Actions

- Members will reread the Terms of Reference before the next meeting.

7. May 2027 Community Event

Discussion summary

- The Forum considered a possible wine-tasting organ recital, together with ideas discussed previously including another Minster Island Discs event, a baptism and pilgrimage event, and an event involving the Minster's collections.

Decisions

- No final decision was taken.

Actions

- Two members will explore the wine-tasting organ recital proposal further.

8. Any Other Business

Discussion summary

- The Forum reviewed a visitor card from Holy Trinity, Sloane Square, that was tabled by a member. This is used to collect written contact and interest data from visitors. It was agreed that something similar would be useful in the Minster.
- The Forum reviewed its meeting dates for 2027.

Decisions

- The January 2027 meeting was moved from 13 January to Wednesday 20 January 2027.
- Co-Chairs to explore possibility of a visitor card.

Future Meeting Dates

Dates

- Wednesday 11 November 2026.
- Wednesday 20 January 2027.
- Wednesday 3 March 2027.
- Wednesday 5 May 2027.
- Wednesday 7 July 2027.
- Wednesday 8 September 2027.
- Wednesday 10 November 2027.

Proposed Community Matters Gathering Dates for 2027

Dates

- Sunday 17 January.
- Sunday 18 April.
- Sunday 16 May.
- Saturday 3 July - Community Cream Tea.
- Sunday 19 September.
- Sunday 21 November.