

Church Buildings Team Bulletin September 2024



Welcome

As the seasons turn from summer to autumn, we're pleased to be able to send you the latest Church Buildings Team Bulletin. It contains the usual round-up of information, dates and deadlines as well as showcasing the new diocesan digital learning platform, Learn, Grow, Share. We have a contribution from the Diocese's Net Zero Team on their work, which we are delighted will become a regular feature, and on the Eco church awards and we show the latest recipients of Minor Repair and Improvement Grants – its not too late to make your application.

As ever we value your feedback and particularly if there is something that you would like further information on or a topic to be included in a future edition.

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Headlines

Digital Learning Platform available now.

The '[Learn, Grow, Share](https://learn.lincoln.anglican.org/)' site is now live. It has a diverse range of resources and opportunities including church building related items. Sign up and see what you will discover: <https://learn.lincoln.anglican.org/>

Don't start work before funding is in place!

We have had a few instances recently where parishes have missed out on grant funding because work has started before grant offers have been given and agreed. Even if you have a contractor pushing you to start the work, make sure that all of your grant funding paperwork is in place, so that you do not miss out.

Clear out the clutter.

Are you a parish that has lots of things stored in church, "because they might come in useful"? Ask yourselves if you really need to. Instead, do a clutter audit. When was the last time items were used? Think about what the church needs on a daily, weekly, monthly, seasonally, rarely and seldom basis and then consider if the things you use less often have to be kept at church or if they can be stored elsewhere or borrowed if needed. Anything stored should be carefully labelled.

Diocese gains Eco Diocese Bronze Award - but we couldn't have done it without you!

The Diocese of Lincoln has been awarded an Eco Diocese Bronze Award. This would not have happened without churches registering for Eco church and some receiving awards themselves. So we wanted to say a big thank you and well done to those who have, and encourage your church to get involved if you haven't already!



More information can be found on the Arocha Eco Church website: <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

Registered:

East Halton, St Peter
 Irby upon Humber, St Andrew
 Cleethorpes, St Aidan
 East Ravendale, St Martin
 Brigsley, St Helen
 Barnoldby le Beck, St Helen
 Quarrington, St Botolph
 Stickney, St Luke
 Riby, St Edmund
 Ashby cum Fenby, St Peter
 St Nicholas Church, Swayfield
 Cleethorpes, St Peter
 Cleethorpes, Christ Church
 Old Clee, Holy Trinity and St Mary
 Grimsby, St Augustine of Hippo
 Aylesby, St Lawrence Church
 Halton Holegate, St Andrew
 Habrough, St Margaret
 Hough on the Hill, All Saints
 Grimsby, St Andrew with St Luke & All Saints
 Thornton Curtis, St Lawrence
 Scartho, St Giles with St Matthew
 New Waltham, St Matthew
 Hatcliffe, St Mary
 Waltham, All Saints
 Harlaxton, St Mary and St Peter
 Langtoft, St Michael and All Angels
 Baston, St John the Baptist
 Woolsthorpe, St James
 Gosberton, St Peter & St Paul
 Walesby, St Mary
 Great Coates, St Nicolas
 Grimsby, St Michael

Registered cont:

Holbeach, All Saints
 Willingham by Stow, St Helen
 Burgh on Bain, St Helen
 West Ashby, All Saints
 Colsterworth, St. John the Baptist
 Covenham St Mary, St Mary
 Bracebridge Heath, St John the Evangelist
 Spalding, Saint Mary and Saint Nicolas
 Grantham, Church of the Ascension
 Saxilby, St Botolph
 Barnetby, St Barnabas
 Lincoln, Saint Nicholas
 Whaplode, St. Mary
 Waddington, St Michael
 Londonthorpe, St John the Baptist
 Crosby, St George
 Surfleet, St Laurence
 Lincoln, St Peter in Eastgate
 Saxby, All Saints Church
 Skegness, St Matthew's Church
 Lincoln, St Peter at Gowts
 Heckington, St Andrew

Bronze:

Stallingborough, St Peter and St Paul
 Keelby, St Bartholomew
 Cleethorpes, St Francis of Assisi
 North Hykeham, St Hugh
 Killingholme, St Deny
 Healing, St Peter and St Paul
 Ulceby, St Nicholas
 Laceby, St Margaret

Bronze cont:

Carlton le Moorland, St Mary
 Grimsby, St Martin
 Burton Pedwardine, St Andrew and St Nicholas
 Great Gonerby, St Sebastian
 Stickford, St Helen
 Grimsby, St Mark
 Wragby, All Saints
 Willoughby, St Helena
 Alford, St Wilfrid
 Grantham, St Wulfram
 Nettleham, All Saints
 Lincoln Cathedral
 Deeping St James, Priory Church of St James
 Swallowbeck, St George
 West Pinchbeck, St Bartholomew
 Pinchbeck, St Mary

Silver:

Wootton, St Andrew
 Grimsby, St John and St Stephen
 Immingham, St Andrew
 Riddings, Church of the Holy Spirit
 New Brumby, All Saints
 Hemingby, St Margaret
 Barrowby, All Saint
 Horncastle, St Mary
 Thurlby, St Firmin
 Old Brumby, St Hugh
 Lincoln, St Giles
 Market Deeping, St Guthlac
 The Haven, Scunthorpe Nature and Faith Centre
 Lincoln, St John the Baptist

News, Events and Resources



Advent and Christmas pictures wanted.

Following on from the #ChurchDoorChallenge mentioned in the last bulletin (see highlights via this [link](#)), the Church of England Digital Labs team would like to receive any photographs of previous Advent and Christmas services and events and any of your church looking festive. To submit photographs, follow this link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/submit-your-photos>

Heating guidance available

We know of various parishes that are hoping their heating systems can limp through another winter. If you need to start thinking about a replacement system, remember that the DAC has a Heating and Lighting Adviser, that like for like replacement of oil and gas boilers now require faculty, following an options appraisal and that the Church of England has extensive [guidance and case studies](#) on its website.

DAC Conference London

The Chair of the DAC and the DAC Officers attended the annual DAC conference, hosted by the Diocese of London. Copies of the presentations are awaited, but the conference booklet can be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2024-09/dac-conference-booklet-2024.pdf>



Warm Welcome

The Warm Welcome Campaign is holding their free winter campaign launch event on 3rd October at 6.30pm. To register, use this link: <https://registration.crowdc omms.com/warmwelcomelaunch>



Church Urban Fund Resources

Church Urban Fund has a host of resources organised into three sections, Pray, Plan, Path. Even if you are in a rural location, these resources can help you with community engagement, project planning, understanding your community and seasonal prayer. They can be found here: <https://cuf.org.uk/resourcehub>



Historic England

Historic England guidance on Resilient Rainwater Systems.

Historic England has published new guidance on [Resilient Rainwater Systems](#). This may sound as dull as ditchwater, but helps recognise how vital properly sized gutters, downpipes and other drainage is to the health of our historic buildings. With climate change a reality, the volume of rain and storm frequency is increasing, leading to existing rainwater goods being unable to cope.



National Churches Trust Annual Review 2023-24

This Annual Review always contains interesting articles about the work of the trust. It includes a tribute to Lord Cormack, who was a champion of churches, and details of the annual awards to be hosted in Lincoln Cathedral on 22nd October.

Net Zero Carbon Team

Firstly, we'd like to give a huge thank you to all the churches, the cathedral and other church bodies for getting their 2023 Energy Returns in. It represents a tremendous effort for which we are truly grateful. Taking this data, we have been carrying out various modelling and analysis exercises to be able to extrapolate the Carbon Footprint total for the Diocese.

So where do you all come in, and why go to all of the effort in completing those Returns in the first place? The answer lies in the work the NZC Team will be doing over the next couple of months in the run up to the Diocesan Synod in November. There are two "deliverables" in particular of interest:

1. The Diocesan Carbon Footprint Report; This is due to be released in late September and discusses the carbon footprint value and explains how it was derived, what we have included in it (the scope), assumptions we have made, and lots of comparisons so you can see how our Diocese here in Lincoln lines up both nationally and with other Dioceses.
2. The Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Action Plan; The Action Plan is the more strategic and I would say important document. Due to be released in early October, the Action Plan takes the "where are we now" and then projects a 5-year roadmap that shows how this Diocese will achieve the Church of England's Roadmap goal of being Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

For the churches that were successful in their bids for free energy audits and funding, it now looks like these will be completed in the October/ November timeframe. Watch this space for more updates on this.

Lots of churches have been requesting site visits, and we are now taking these to put together our Autumn/ Winter Site Visit Programme. For those of you who haven't requested a visit yet but would like one, you can request a visit by following this link: [Net Zero Carbon Team Site Visit Request Form](#)

STOP PRESS **National Net Zero Carbon 2030** **Impact Report**



This report, released on 19th September, illustrates the incredible progress being made by all parts of the Church of England to reach the goal set by General Synod to be net zero carbon by 2030. There are some inspirational case studies and illustrations about how far we have come.

The team is here to help, however trivial the query may appear to be.

Contact Details:

Chris Lynch
Net Zero Carbon Programme Manager
netzeromanager@lincoln.anglican.org

George Davies
Net Zero Carbon Enabler
George.Davies@lincoln.anglican.org



Recommended Monthly Tasks (From SPAB's Faith in Maintenance calendar)

September

- If your roof space has safe access and is boarded, check whether there is evidence of leaks or damage to the roof covering during heavy rain, especially below gutters.
- Clear away any plant growth from around the base of the walls and in particular from the drainage channel.
- Make sure that water tanks and exposed water and heating pipes are protected from frost. Any leaks should be repaired.
- Make sure that any airbricks or under floor ventilators are free from obstruction and clean if necessary.

October

- Check masonry for signs of damage. Report any deeply eroded mortar joints or cracks or signs of movement.
- Check that snowboards and access walkways are in a good state of repair.
- Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly and check for any storm damage. Frequent attention may be needed if the building is surrounded by trees, or perched on by pigeons.

November

- Check that the flagpole is secure.
- Check the roofs for damage. Debris on the ground from broken or missing slates and tiles indicates that there may be a problem.
- Clear leaves and debris from gutters and rainwater pipes regularly and check for any storm damage.
- Take part in SPAB's National Maintenance Week in November.

Risk Calendar Taken from Ecclesiastical Insurance's Church Risk Calendar, where more information can be found.

September - Slips and Trips

- Our claims data shows that slips and trips are the most common cause of injury in churches. To reduce the risk, review your precautions to tackle slip and trip hazards both indoors and outside.

October - Working alone

- Working alone can present a number of hazards, including an increased risk of assault and/or aggression. Review situations where people complete tasks on their own to check the adequacy of precautions in place to protect them.

November - Flood safety

- Climate change is resulting in more extreme weather events. Though it's impossible to flood-proof your church properties, there are some simple actions you can take to reduce the damage caused.

Grant News

Minor Repair and Improvement Grant - further grants made to parishes.

At a recent grant panel meeting, more parishes were offered grants to help with a variety of repairs as well as improving an electrical system.



Braceborough, St Margaret applied for funding to help with structural window repairs include the remaking of weakened and buckled leadwork, the re-mortaring of the fillet around them and repainting of rusted ferramenta bars.

Fulstow, St Lawrence needed some plaster repair near the altar rail.



Nocton, All Saints wanted some help to put the lead flashing back between the tower and the nave. Water seeping through was causing plaster to fail.



Little Bytham, St Medard needed some electrical work following an inspection. They also needed some repairs to the Collyweston slate roof, to make sure that it keeps water out and is well maintained.



Sedgebrook, St Lawrence also needs some roof repair work and will now be able to prevent further water ingress.



This grant fund is open for applications. Projects cannot be more that £10,000 total and the amount of grant available will depend on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score. There is a simple application form, which needs to be accompanied by quotations for the works, copies of the accounts and photographs of where the works will be carried out. For further information and an application pack, please contact the team at churchbuildings.team@lincoln.anglican.org

NLHF to give support to Church of England Conservation Grant Scheme

The National Lottery Heritage Fund has announced £4.68 million to support the Church of England's Conservation Grants Scheme over the next five years, helping churches to preserve a range of features from stained glass windows to paintings, clocks, bells, organs and monuments.

For further information about the current grant programme, follow this link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/churchcare-grants>

Grant Information

Where to start

Please get in touch with the team, to discuss which grants to apply for and when. We can help you come up with a funding plan for repairs and new facilities.

You can register with this website for free to search for grant funding:

Charity Excellence Framework:

<https://www.charityexcellence.co.uk/>

The Voluntary Centre Services and Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service host a free web-based funding information service. For further information visit their webpage:

<https://lincolnshirevolunteering.org.uk/find-funding/>

Organisations can sign up to a regular funding newsletter here: <http://eepurl.com/hWu2Vn>

Grants with no deadlines

Benefact Trust ☐ The Barron Bell Trust ☐ The Beatrice Laing Trust ☐ The Bernard Sunley Foundation ☐ Church Buildings Council Conservation Reports ☐ The Clothworkers' Foundation ☐ The Foyle Foundation Small Grants ☐ Garfield Weston Regular Grant ☐ Henry Smith Charity ☐ The Hobson Charity Ltd ☐ John Warren Foundation ☐ The Kochan Trust ☐ Lincolnshire Churches Trust ☐ National Lottery Community Fund: Awards for All ☐ National Lottery Community Fund: Reaching Communities Fund ☐ National Lottery Heritage Fund: £10,000 to £250,000 ☐ Tesco Community Grants

Share your grant news and sources

Please do share your grant news, good and bad with us. We know that parishes starting out on a project find it really helpful to hear what others have done elsewhere. Help us to build the network across our Local Mission Partnerships.

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

September	
20th	Skinner's Company Lady Neville Charity
23rd	The Leche Trust
30th	The On Organ Fund The Worshipful Company of Glaziers
October	
1st	Bicker Wind Farm Laceby Solar Farm Community Fund
7th	Church Buildings Council Organs
10th	Churches Conservation Foundation
14th	Church Buildings Council: Books and Manuscripts Church Plate Churchyard Structures Monumental Brasses and Decorative Metalwork Monuments Textiles Wooden Objects
31st	War Memorials Trust
November	
5th	National Churches Trust - large grant
20th	FCC Communities Fund
21st	National Lottery Heritage Fund grants over £250,000

Key Dates

The DAC agenda dates and meeting dates for the next four meetings can be found below. Please get in touch with Steven or Peter for further information.

Meeting Date	Agenda Close
Thursday 14th November	Thursday 31st October
Wednesday 18th December	Wednesday 4th December
Tuesday 28th January	Tuesday 14th January
Wednesday 12th March	Wednesday 26th February



Spalding, St. Paul

Contact Details

Please contact the team if we can help with any church building related query.

Steven Sleight, DAC and Pastoral Secretary, steven.sleight@lincoln.anglican.org
01522 504069

Peter Duff, Assistant DAC and Pastoral Secretary, dac.assistant@lincoln.anglican.org
01522 504045

Matthew Godfrey, Historic Churches Support Officer, matthew.godfrey@lincoln.anglican.org
01522 504048

Fran Bell, Church Development Officer, fran.bell@lincoln.anglican.org
01522 504018

Contributions and Suggestions Please

Have you got a good news story about your church building, carried out a project, found grant funding or have something you'd like to share? We would like to include your contributions in future editions. If there is a subject you would like us to cover, let us know and we will see what we can do. Email the team via

churchbuildings.team@lincoln.anglican.org

Church Photographs

It would be really helpful if you could share your photographs of churches with the Church Buildings Team. Whilst we have an archive, they are not as up to date as they could be. Clear pictures through the seasons of the exterior as well as key items and facilities in the interior are always useful. Get in touch with the team via churchbuildings.team@lincoln.anglican.org