

## Headlines from a meeting of Chapter

The Cathedral Chapter met on the morning of Monday 24 November 2025.

- Edmund Aldhouse (Director of Music) reported on **the work of the Music Department** including the choirs and relationship with King's Ely, staffing and personnel, safeguarding, widening participation and the Cathedral organ. We continue to make progress in equalising the arrangements for boy and girl choristers, which will be completed by 2030, as the year groups pass through the system. Changes to certain arrangements for Lay Clerks were reviewed and supported. Safeguarding remains a priority. Progress is steadily being made with the organ restoration project. Edmund thanked Chapter for its support and commitment to the Cathedral's musical life.
- Canon James Reveley reported to Chapter on **safeguarding**. Chapter was updated on the Cathedrals Safeguarding Network Conference at St Paul's Cathedral earlier in the month and received a report from Ely Cathedral Safeguarding Advisory Group. James updated Chapter on compliance with safeguarding training requirements and preparation for the external audit of safeguarding arrangements by INEQE.
- The Dean reported on **worship and ministry**. Attendance at the main services was variable in September and October compared with the same months last year and Chapter was very heartened by the 6,000 visitors to the Cathedral over the harvest weekend (10-12 October). Chapter also received reports about the volunteers' eucharist, the animal service, a six-week study on the Nicene Creed, ecumenical links, the autumn lectures, Safeguarding Sunday and the Justice Service.
- Chapter received an **operational update** on staffing changes, finances and fundraising, property and fabric, health and safety and the work of the Organ Working Group. A number of people will attend the National Cathedrals Conference in Bristol in May 2026. Chapter approved an addition to the complains policy to reflect changes in the Code of Fundraising Practice, and reapproved terms of reference for its statutory committees.
- The Cathedral's **financial position remains fair**, despite needing to cover some unplanned non-recurring costs from operating income. Excluding these unplanned items, the underlying position is positive and slightly ahead of budget, but including these unplanned items the overall position will be a bit worse than planned. Chapter received a progress report on the draft **budget for 2026**, which shows us to be in decent financial shape. Approval of the budget will not be sought until after the UK Government's budget statement: in 2024 this added £80,000 of annual costs to the Cathedral.
- Chapter was pleased to approve a **future vision for the Cathedral**. This will now be prepared for publication.
- Chapter received, with sadness, the **resignation due to illness of George Lynn** from the Audit & Risk and Finance Committees and recorded good wishes for his treatment and recovery.
- Chapter **prayed for the repose of the soul of David Stazicker BEM**, who died on Saturday 22 November. David was a longstanding Secretary to the Fabric Advisory Committee until last year.

The Cathedral Chapter plans to meet next on Monday 26 January 2026.

**Jonathan Bell**  
Chief Operating Officer & Chapter Clerk  
28 November 2025