



Rex Andrew
Pastoral

Our ref: NB31/70b/RA

**Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011
Diocese of Rochester
Benefices of East Malling, Watlingbury and Teston; and Mereworth with West
Peckham**

31 May 2019

The Bishop of Rochester has asked us to prepare a draft Pastoral Scheme in respect of pastoral proposals affecting the above benefices.

I enclose a copy of the draft Scheme. I am sending a copy to all the statutory interested parties, as the Mission and Pastoral Measure requires, and any others with an interest in the proposals.

Anyone may make representations **for** or **against** all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) in writing or by email to reach me no later than **Tuesday 16 July 2019**. If we have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring or e-mail me to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and we will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory – “the primary petitioner”.

If we do not receive representations against the draft Scheme, we will make the Scheme and it will come into effect as it provides. A copy of the completed Scheme will be sent to you together with a note of its effective date.

If we receive any representations against the draft Scheme, we will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of our correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations). They and individual petitioners may comment further. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will be published on the Commissioners’ website if the matter needs to be considered by us.

Those making representations should indicate whether they would like an opportunity to speak to the Commissioners regarding their representations in the event the Commissioners decide a hearing should be held regarding the case. If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting(s) of the Commissioners that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to the Commissioners’ Committee. Otherwise, if a hearing is not to be held, the case will be considered in private and you will be informed accordingly.

When we acknowledge representations we will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of our Committee's meetings. We will confirm the actual date of any hearing nearer the time. The Commissioners will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when it considers all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners' staff and any points raised at the meeting. If it does so decide, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.

You will be informed of the Commissioners' decision and the reasons for it.

Please see www.ccpastoral.org for further information about the procedure.

PCC Secretaries, incumbents/priests-in-charge/rural deans, persons taking services during the Notice Period and local planning authorities should refer to the relevant notes below for important additional information concerning them.



Rex Andrew

Notes

PCC Secretaries

The draft Scheme is sent to you as PCC Secretary and you should ensure that the PCC as a body is able to make any comments on the draft if it wishes.

I enclose:

- (1) a yellow advice note regarding Notice(s) to be displayed and announcements to be made at services about the proposed reorganisation;
- (2) a blue copy (or copies) of the Notice;
- (3) an additional copy (or copies) of the draft Scheme, together with a glossary; and
- (4) a green acknowledgement form including the wording of the announcement and
- (5) a reply-paid envelope.

You are required to:

- i) display the Notice(s) at or near the main door of every parish church, chapel of ease or licensed place of worship in your parish; and
- ii) make arrangements for the announcement to be made at as many services as possible at every parish church, chapel of ease or licensed place of worship in your parish where a service is held during the notice period, as detailed in the yellow advice note.

The Commissioners are not able to complete the Scheme until all the legal requirements of the Measure are met. It is therefore essential that:

- (1) the Notices are displayed; and
- (2) arrangements are made for the announcements.

Please return the green form as soon as you have displayed the Notice(s) and made arrangements for the announcements to be made. Do not wait until the end of the notice period before returning the completed green form.

If you are no longer the PCC Secretary, please pass these papers to the current Secretary who should let me have a note of his or her name and address.

To anybody taking services during the Notice Period

Please ensure that the following announcement is made.

“A Notice giving details of proposed pastoral reorganisation affecting this parish has or will be displayed near the main door and on the Church of England website. The Notice includes the last date by which representations regarding the proposed reorganisation may be made to the Church Commissioners.”

If the Notice has not yet been displayed by the PCC Secretary please print one from the Church of England website at www.churchofengland.org/consultation.

Incumbents/priests-in-charge/rural deans

Please ensure that the Notice(s) are displayed and the announcement(s) made.

If the PCC Secretary of any parish is not available to carry out these requirements, please could you arrange for these matters to be dealt with by someone else as soon as possible. I can send you the relevant paperwork on request. Please also let me know if there has been a recent change of Secretary in any of the parishes.

SUMMARY OF MAIN PROVISIONS OF DRAFT SCHEME (NOT PART OF THE DRAFT SCHEME)

This draft Scheme provides for:

- (i) the dissolution of the benefice of East Malling, Wateringbury and Teston and the benefice of Mereworth with West Peckham; and*
- (ii) the creation of two new benefices of: (a) East Malling and Teston; and (b) Mereworth, Wateringbury and West Peckham, the appointment of their first incumbents and their places of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefices*

in the diocese of Rochester.

DRAFT

PASTORAL SCHEME

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners this day of 201 in pursuance of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, the Right Reverend James, Bishop of Rochester, having consented thereto.

Dissolution of benefices

1. The benefice of East Malling, Wateringbury and Teston and the benefice of Mereworth with West Peckham in the diocese of Rochester shall both be dissolved.

Creation of new benefice of East Malling and Teston

2. (1) A new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of East Malling and Teston" shall be created in the diocese of Rochester, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of East Malling and the parish of Teston, which parishes shall continue distinct.

(2) The new benefice and its constituent parishes shall belong to the archdeaconry of Tonbridge and the deanery of Malling.

(3) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Nicholas Lindsey Williams holds an ecclesiastical office in the benefice of East Malling, Wateringbury and Teston he shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice.

(4) The parsonage house of the benefice of East Malling, Wateringbury and Teston (known as 2, The Grange, East Malling, West Malling, ME19 6AH) shall without any conveyance or other assurance be vested in the incumbent of the new benefice in his corporate capacity as his official residence.

(5) Subject to clause 2(3) hereof, the right of presentation to the new benefice shall on each occasion be exercised jointly by the Peache Trustees, care of Church Pastoral Aid Society Patronage Department, Sovereign Court One (Unit 3), Sir William Lyons Road, University of Warwick Science Park, Coventry, CV4 7EZ; and the corporate body established for the Cathedral Church of Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary, Rochester.

Creation of new benefice of Mereworth, Watringbury and West Peckham

3. (1) A new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of Mereworth, Watringbury and West Peckham", which shall be a rectory, shall be created in the diocese of Rochester, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of Mereworth, the parish of Watringbury and the parish of West Peckham, which parishes shall continue distinct.

(2) The new benefice and its constituent parishes shall belong to the archdeaconry of Tonbridge and the deanery of Malling.

(3) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Patricia Margarita Dickin holds an ecclesiastical office in the benefice of Mereworth with West Peckham she shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice.

(4) The parsonage house of the benefice of Mereworth and West Peckham (known as 72, The Rectory, The Street, Mereworth, Maidstone, ME18 5NA) shall without any conveyance or other assurance be vested in the incumbent of the new benefice in her corporate capacity as her official residence.

(5) Subject to clause 3(3) hereof, the right of presentation to the new benefice shall on each occasion be exercised jointly by the corporate body established for the Cathedral Church of Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary, Rochester; and the Right Honourable the Viscount Falmouth, of The Old Rectory, Saint Michael Penkivel, Truro, TR2 4AJ.

Assistant curates: consequential provision

4. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in either of the benefices referred to in clause 1 hereof he, she or they shall as consequence of the dissolution of the said benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in either of the new benefices created by this Scheme as the Bishop shall direct.

Coming into operation of this Scheme

5. This Scheme shall come into operation upon the first day of the month following the date of it being made by the Commissioners.

In witness whereof the Church Commissioners have caused their Common Seal to be hereunto affixed.

SIGNED by the Right Reverend James,)
)
Bishop of Rochester.)

Executed as a Deed by the affixing of)
)
the Common Seal of the Church)
)
Commissioners in the presence of:-)

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

Notes (not forming part of the draft Scheme)

The Commissioners have been told by the Bishop on the advice of his Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee that the rationale behind the diocesan proposals is as follows:

These proposals are the result of much work by the local clergy within Malling Deanery to determine a Deanery Plan which would address issues surrounding clergy numbers and ministerial deployment in the area.

Publication of this draft Scheme by the Commissioners does not mean that we have taken a view on the merits of the diocesan case. We have a duty to publish draft Schemes based on diocesan proposals.

If we receive representations against the draft Scheme, we will send all representations, both for and against, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors will then receive copies of our correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and they may comment further in writing to us in light of the diocesan response if they so wish.

If there are no representations against the draft Scheme, we will make the Scheme and arrange for it to be brought into effect.

Clause 4

The above clause has been included to ensure that any person holding an office of assistant curate (however described) shall as consequence of the dissolution of the benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in either of the new benefices as the Bishop shall direct. Although there is currently no such office holder in post, this clause is included in case any such office holder is appointed before this Scheme comes into operation.

Churches etc

This Scheme does not alter the existing status of any of the churches, chapels of ease or licensed places of worship in the affected parishes.

Glossary of words commonly used in Pastoral Reorganisation

A fuller version is available in the Code of Recommended Practice to the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/parish-reorganisation-and-closed-church-buildings/mission-and-pastoral-measure-2011-and-code#na>

Archbishop	Senior bishop with authority over a Province - of Canterbury and of York.
Archdeacon	An office held by a senior clergyman appointed by the bishop with an administrative responsibility over an archdeaconry. Some of his duties are laid down by law but in other respects his duties vary according to diocesan practice: they include care for church property.
Archdeaconry	Sub-division of the diocese over which an archdeacon has administrative responsibility.
Benefice	An ecclesiastical office carrying certain duties. An incumbent's benefice is therefore not a geographical area (see parish) but the office to which (s)he is appointed and may comprise one or more parishes. A benefice may be a rectory or vicarage from which the incumbent is called rector or vicar.
Bishop	In the Church of England the bishop is the central focus of organisation and ministry within his diocese. He is the chief pastor and authority and shares the cure of souls with all the incumbents of that diocese. He is also, in his own person, the chief representative of the diocese in the work of the wider church. He may be assisted by suffragan or assistant bishops.
Common Tenure	The basis on which all Church of England offices will eventually be held under the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009. Existing holders of freehold offices may decide not to opt-in to Common Tenure but new office holders will be on Common Tenure.
Chapel of Ease	A consecrated church that it is not a parish church but is within a parish that does have a parish church. Originally for the ease of parishioners who could not attend the parish church.
Church Representation Rules	Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 but updated as a separate booklet. They contain the mechanism for the setting up of representative bodies in the Church of England from parochial church councils to the House of Laity of the General Synod.
Cure of Souls	'Cure' means 'care'. The bishop has the universal cure of souls in a diocese but, subject to this, the incumbent of a benefice (or team rector and team vicar(s) in a team ministry) has the exclusive cure of souls within his or her parish or parishes. The expression should not be confused with the more general phrase 'pastoral care'.
Deanery	A sub-division of an archdeaconry usually comprising between 10 and 20 parishes.
Declaration of closure for regular public worship	The act of closing a church for public worship under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Diocesan Board of Finance	A company constituted by the diocesan synod and regulated by the Companies Acts. A board of finance holds property for Church of England purposes, transacts business in that connection and acts as a committee of the diocesan synod. It normally also acts as the diocesan trust.
Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee	Statutory Committee established by the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011. Its duty is to review the arrangement for pastoral supervision in the diocese and, as appropriate, to make recommendations to the bishop.
Diocese	One of 41 main territorial units of the Church of England over which a bishop has responsibility. Divided into archdeaconries, deaneries and parishes.
District Church Council	If a parish comprises two or more places of worship or churches then individual councils can be set up for the districts in which each place of worship or church is situated to exercise such functions as may be delegated by the parochial church council.
Glebe	Land or buildings vested in the Diocesan Board of Finance that either provides a rental income to augment the Diocesan Stipends Fund or provides housing for those involved in the cure of souls.
Group Council	Where a group ministry is established the parochial church councils of the individual parishes can form a group council to act in the area as a whole in such matters as the individual PCCs together decide.
Group Ministry	An arrangement, authorised by the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 whereby the clergy of two or more separate benefices can assist each other to make the best possible provision for the cure of souls in the area as a whole.
Incumbent	Holder of a benefice (which can be either a freehold or a Common Tenure office) – and can be either a rector or a vicar - with responsibility for the cure of souls. May be assisted by curate, deacon, licensed lay worker, retired priest etc.
Interested Party	One of the statutory persons or bodies that the Diocesan Pastoral Committee is required to consult in

Glossary of words commonly used in Pastoral Reorganisation

accordance with s.6 / 21 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.

Joint Parochial Church Council	Where a benefice comprises two or more parishes the parochial church councils of the individual parishes can form a joint parochial church council to act in the benefice as a whole in such matters as the individual PCCs together decide.
Leave to Appeal	Any person who makes a representation to the Commissioners against a pastoral scheme has a right to apply for leave to appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council against a decision of the Commissioners to proceed notwithstanding that representation.
Members ('Other') of a Team Ministry	May be clerical or lay (see s.34 of Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011). They share the pastoral care of the area with the team rector and team vicars, but NOT the cure of souls.
Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011	The Measure of the General Synod which authorises changes in pastoral reorganisation. Designed to "make better provision for the cure of souls". Part of the law of the land and equivalent to an Act of Parliament.
Mission, Pastoral and Church Property Committee	A Committee of the Commissioners' Board of Governors which makes decisions on representations on pastoral, church buildings, houses and glebe matters. It is chaired by the Third Church Estates Commissioner.
Parish Centre of Worship	An unconsecrated Place of Worship designated by the bishop under s.43 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 whereupon for most purposes (other than marriage) it is regarded as a parish church.
Parish Church	A consecrated building in a parish in which, subject to canon law, the statutory services must be held. Parishioners have a right to be married, baptised etc. in the parish church. S.41(2) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 requires that any new church or existing building which is to become a parish church must be approved by the bishop, subject to the bishop having consulted both the Diocesan Pastoral Committee and the Diocesan Advisory Committee.
Parochial Church Council	Representative body of parishioners elected from those on the electoral roll in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Usually chaired by incumbent.
Parsonage House	The official place of residence of an incumbent of a benefice. The house belongs to the incumbent in right of his or her office.
Pastoral Order	A document which effects changes in pastoral reorganisation made under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011. Differs from a pastoral scheme mainly in that it deals with lesser matters.
Pastoral Scheme	A document which effects more complex changes in pastoral reorganisation made under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Patron	The person or body owning an advowson (i.e. right to present a priest to a benefice) who may be a private individual or a corporation (ecclesiastical or lay).
Plurality	The holding of two or more separate benefices by one incumbent who then has the freehold of all the benefices. This can only be authorised by a scheme or order under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Priest in Charge	A priest given charge of a benefice by licence of the bishop. (S)he has not been presented and is not the incumbent but holds office under common tenure.
Representations	The Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 requires that any draft scheme or order be published and made available to the public. Any person can make written representations to the Commissioners either for or against what is proposed.
Team Council	Where a team ministry is established a team council can be established, either under the authority of a scheme or under the Church Representation Rules. Such a council is similar to a joint parochial church council and provides a formal structure for all the parishes in the team to discuss matters of mutual concern.
Team Ministry	A special form of ministry whereby a team of clergy and possibly lay people share the pastoral care of the area of a benefice. Can only be established by a pastoral scheme.
Team Rector	The priest in a team ministry who heads the team and owns the property of the benefice. (S)he shares the cure of souls with the team vicars.
Team Vicar	A priest of incumbent status in a team ministry, other than the team rector. (S)he shares the cure of souls with the team rector and other team vicars.

Notice
Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011
Draft Pastoral Scheme

31 May 2019

The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft Pastoral Scheme in respect of proposals sent to them by the Bishop of Rochester providing for:

- (i) the dissolution of the benefice of East Malling, Watringbury and Teston and the benefice of Mereworth with West Peckham; and
- (ii) the creation of two new benefices in the diocese of Rochester of: (a) East Malling and Teston; and (b) Mereworth, Watringbury and West Peckham, the appointment of their first incumbents and their places of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefices.

A copy of the draft Scheme may be inspected at the churches in the affected parishes.

You may also access the draft Scheme on our website at www.churchofengland.org/consultation or obtain or inspect a copy during normal office hours by applying to me. **Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.**

- Anyone may make representations **for** or **against** all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) in writing or by email to reach me no later than **Tuesday 16 July 2019**. If we have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring or e-mail me (tel: 020 7898 1743 or e-mail: rex.andrew@churchofengland.org) to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and we will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory – “the primary petitioner”.
- When making a representation, please also indicate the nature of your interest in the proposals (e.g. parishioner, member of parochial church council, etc) and whether you would like an opportunity to speak to the Committee regarding your representation if the Commissioners decide a hearing should be held regarding the case.
- If we receive representations against the draft Scheme, we will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and will be told whether a hearing is to be held. They and individual petitioners may comment further to the Commissioners. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will be published on the Commissioners’ website if the matter needs to be considered by the Commissioners.
- If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting of the Mission, Pastoral and Church Property Committee that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to the Committee. Otherwise the case will be considered in private.
- When we acknowledge representations we will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of the Committee’s meetings. We will confirm the actual date if a hearing is to be held nearer the time.
- The Commissioners’ Mission, Pastoral and Church Property Committee will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when it considers all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners’ staff and any points raised at the meeting.
- The Commissioners will notify all representors of their decision and give a statement of the reasons for it.
- If they so decide, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.
- Please see www.ccpastoral.org for further information about the procedure.

Rex Andrew, Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ