



Katie Lowe  
Pastoral Case Advisor

Our ref: NB46/302/kl

2 September 2020

**Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011**  
**Diocese of Leeds**  
**Benefice of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden**  
**Church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme**

The Bishop of Leeds has asked us to prepare a draft Pastoral Scheme in respect of pastoral proposals affecting this benefice.

I attach a copy of the draft Scheme and a glossary of terms used together with the Notice. 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) preferably by email or by post to reach me no later than midnight on **Monday 19 October 2020**. 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 for whom we can identify an address – “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 normally 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. Meetings are normally held at Church House, Westminster, but during the current circumstances they may need to be held virtually via 'Zoom'. If a hearing is held, we will let you know the arrangements for attending (in person or virtually) and details will also appear on our website. 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 they consider all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by their staff and any points raised at the meeting. If the Commissioners do 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.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) 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.**

Katie Lowe

## Notes

### 1. PCC Secretaries

The draft Scheme is sent to you to ensure that the PCC as a body is able to make a representation on the draft if it wishes.

#### **You are required as soon as possible to:**

- i) print and display the Notice(s) **(to avoid spread of Covid-19, please display single-sided)** at or near the main door of **every** parish church, chapel of ease or licensed place of worship in your parish; (if you are unable to print the Notice(s) please get in touch with me and I will make arrangements for copies to be sent to you for display);
- ii) make arrangements for the Announcement (see 2. below) 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 (including any that are 'streamed').

**Please e-mail or telephone me confirmation 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 confirming this.**

Although the following are not legal requirements, to ensure that as many of those who habitually attend public worship, as is practicable, are aware of the contents of the Notice, you are also encouraged to take (or make arrangements for), where possible, such of the following steps as is appropriate in your parish:

- i) arrange for copies of the Notice to be posted to members of the worshipping community who are shielding or self-isolating (in accordance with the general advice to parishes this should be by the postal service and not hand delivered);
- ii) insert the Notice in the parish magazine or newsletter;
- iii) use Facebook/social media posts;
- iv) send emails; and
- v) spread by word of mouth, including pastoral telephone calls.

**Please make a note of what you have been able to do regarding steps i) to v) above in case the consultation process is queried.**

If you are no longer the PCC Secretary, please pass this communication to the current Secretary and let me have a note of his or her name and email/postal address.

**Further action required as there is a proposed church closure**

In addition to the above, a copy of the draft Scheme must be made available for inspection in the locality – the arrangements for this will already have been made with the parishes concerned.

**If you are the person doing this, will you please let me know that you have taken this additional step.**

## **2. The Announcement**

Anybody taking services (including those that are 'streamed') during the Notice Period should ensure that the following announcement is made.

***“A Notice giving the objects 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.”***

**PCC Secretaries** – please note that it is essential that:

- i) Notices are displayed; and
- ii) arrangements are made for Announcements.

### **3. Incumbents/priests-in-charge/rural deans**

Please ensure that the required Notices are displayed and Announcements made.

If a PCC Secretary is not able to carry out these requirements, please could you arrange for these matters to be dealt with as soon as possible. Please also let me know if there has been a recent change of Secretary in any of the parishes.

### **4. Local planning authorities and parish councils**

We serve notice on the local planning authority and parish council of the parish in which the affected church building is situated as interested parties under the Mission and Pastoral Measure. Although County and Town Councils are not defined as interested parties under this Measure, please copy this correspondence to either of these parties if you feel this would be helpful. Ward Councillors for the affected parish have been sent a copy of the draft Scheme.

### **5. Circulation List**

The Statutory Advisory Committee of the Church Buildings Council  
National Churches Trust  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission  
Historic England (regional office)  
Joint Committee  
War Memorials Trust  
The Revd John Jukes, incumbent and acting PCC Secretary for Cornholme  
The Revd Nancy White, Assistant Curate  
The Revd John Flood, Permission to officiate  
The Bishop of Leeds, Joint Patron  
Leeds Diocesan Board of Patronage c/o Deborah Thorley, Joint Patron  
The Ven Dr Anne Dawtry, Archdeacon of Halifax  
The Revd Canon Kathia Shoesmith, Rural Dean  
Mr Mark Johnston, Deanery Synod Lay Co-Chairman  
Local Planning Authority, Calderdale Council  
Todmorden Town Council  
Cllrs Anthony Greenwood, Pat Ripley, Ken White, Ward Councillors  
Mrs Janet Milner, PCC Secretary for Todmorden  
Ms Irene Bateman, PCC Secretary for Walsden

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

*Part I of this draft Scheme provides for*

- *dissolving the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme;*
- *transferring the area of the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme to the parish of Todmorden and the consequential amendment of parish name;*
- *the church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme to cease to be a parish church;*

*Part II of this draft Scheme provides for:*

- *the church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme to be declared closed for regular public worship;*

*all within the diocese of Leeds.*

**DRAFT**

**PASTORAL CHURCH BUILDINGS SCHEME**

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners ("the Commissioners") this            day of            202    in pursuance of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, the Right Reverend Nicholas, Bishop of Leeds, having consented thereto.

**PART I**

**Dissolution of parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme and transfer of its area to the parish of Todmorden**

1. The parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme, being one of the three constituent parishes of the benefice of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden in the diocese of Leeds, shall be dissolved.

2. The area of the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme shall be transferred to the parish of Todmorden.

**Alteration of parish name**

3. The name of the parish of Todmorden shall be altered to "The Parish of Todmorden with Cornholme".

**Church of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme**

4. (1) The church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme, being the parish church of the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme, shall, upon the date on which Part I of this Scheme comes into operation, cease to be a parish church.

(2) The marriage register books appertaining to the church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme shall be dealt with in accordance with section 62 of the Marriage Act 1949 and, subject to any provisions of the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978 that apply thereto and any directions thereunder, any other register books and records of that church which remain in parochial custody shall be dealt with as the Bishop shall direct.

**Assistant curates: consequential provision**

5. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme he, she or they shall as consequence of the dissolution of the parish effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the rparish renamed Todmorden with Cornholme pursuant to clause 3 hereof.

PART II

**Declaration of closure for regular public worship**

6. (1) The church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme, which pursuant to clauses 2 and 4(1) hereof is now a chapel of ease in the enlarged and renamed parish of Todmorden with Cornholme, shall be declared closed for regular public worship by Part II of this Scheme.

(2) The marriage register books (if any) appertaining to the said church shall be dealt with in accordance with section 62 of the Marriage Act 1949 and, subject to any provisions of the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978 that apply thereto and any directions thereunder, any other register books and records of that church which remain in parochial custody shall be dealt with as the Bishop shall direct.

PART III

**Coming into operation of this Scheme**

7. (1) Part I of this Scheme shall come into operation upon the first day of the month following the date of it being made by the Commissioners.

(2) Part II of this Scheme shall come into operation upon such date as the Commissioners, after consultation with the Bishop, shall determine.

(3) Part III of this Scheme shall come into operation upon the date on which it is made by the Commissioners.

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

SIGNED by the )  
 )  
Right Reverend Nicholas, )  
 )  
Bishop of Leeds. )

Executed as a Deed by the Church Commissioners for England acting by two authorised signatories:

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Signature of Authorised Signatory

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**Notes by the Church Commissioners' office (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:

**The parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme is no longer sustainable as a separate administrative unit. There is a very small congregation and finding people to serve as parish officers is very difficult. Sunday services have ceased, with the only service being a mid-week one. The parish is also struggling financially to maintain the large church building.**

**It is therefore proposed to dissolve the parish and transfer its area to the parish of Todmorden, one of the other parishes in the benefice of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden. The church of Saint Michael and All Angels will become a chapel of ease within the enlarged and renamed parish and act as a mission hub until a new use can be found, at which time the church will be closed for regular public worship under Part II of the proposed Scheme. If the mission hub proves to be successful and the parish request that this facility remains, then the building will not be closed although currently it is considered that the future mission and pastoral needs of this area can be met from St Mary's church, Todmorden.**

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.

**Church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme**

1. Part I of this Scheme includes provision for the parish church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme to become a chapel of ease in the renamed and enlarged parish of Todmorden with Cornholme. Banns of marriage may not be called nor marriages solemnized in the church from the date on which Part I of this Scheme comes into operation (unless the building is subsequently licensed under Section 20 of the Marriage Act 1949).

2. Part II of this Scheme, if implemented, would have the effect of closing Saint Michael and All Angels' church, Cornholme for public worship and vesting it in the Leeds Diocesan Board of Finance for care and maintenance pending a decision on its future. Any such decision would be the subject of a second Scheme, called a Pastoral (Church Buildings Disposal) Scheme, which would be prepared and published by the Church Commissioners, and with regard to which an opportunity would be given for representations to be made. In terms of implementing this Pastoral Church Buildings Scheme subject to the consideration of any representations, the Commissioners will need to be satisfied that all aspects of title relating to the church, including access and any rights of way, are in order before they make the Scheme. Banns of marriage may not be called nor marriages solemnized in the church from the date of closure.

#### **Parish church of Saint Mary, Todmorden**

3. Saint Mary's church, Todmorden will remain the parish church of the enlarged and renamed parish of Todmorden with Cornholme.

#### **Assistant curates: consequential provision**

4. Clause 5 has been included to ensure that any person holding an office of assistant curate (however described) shall as consequence of the dissolution of the parish of Cornholme effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the enlarged and renamed parish of Todmorden with Cornholme. Although there is currently no such unnamed office holder in post, this clause is included in case any such office holder is appointed before this Scheme comes into operation.
5. The Reverend Nancy White will continue as assistant curate to the benefice of Todmorden with Cornholme and Waldsden and the Reverend John Flood will continue to have permission to officiate, neither are affected by this draft Scheme.





2 September 2020

## Notice

### Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 Draft Pastoral Church Buildings Scheme

The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft Scheme in respect of proposals sent to them by the Bishop of Leeds. Part 1 provides for dissolving the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme; transferring the area of the parish of Saint Michael and All Angels Cornholme to the parish of Todmorden; the consequential amendment of parish name; and for the church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme to cease to be a parish church. Part II provides for the church of Saint Michael and All Angels, Cornholme to be declared closed for regular public worship.

A copy of the draft Scheme may be inspected on the noticeboard at St Mary's Church, Todmorden and on the church door of St Michael and All Angels, Cornholme.

The draft Scheme is also on our website [www.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) or you may obtain a copy from me. **Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.** Anyone may make representations **for** or **against** all or any part of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) preferably by email to [katie.lowe@churchofengland.org](mailto:katie.lowe@churchofengland.org) or by post to reach me no later than midnight on Monday 19 October 2020. If I have not acknowledged its receipt, please ring or e-mail me. 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 for whom we can identify an address – “the primary petitioner”.

- When making a representation, please 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 Commissioners regarding your representation if they 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 Commissioners' Committee that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to it.

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The Church Commissioners are a registered charity (number 1140097)

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 if a hearing is to be held nearer the time.
- The 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.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) for further information about the procedure.

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