

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

This draft Scheme provides for:

- (i) terminating the group ministry established for the benefice St John, Farncombe and the benefice of Godalming;*
- (ii) terminating the team ministry established for the area of the benefice of Godalming;*
- (iii) the union of the benefice of Godalming and the benefice of Busbridge and Hambledon and their constituent parishes, for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice and for his parsonage house to be that of the benefice of Busbridge and Hambledon, for the transfer of the parsonage house of the benefice of Godalming to the Guildford Diocesan Board of Finance for diocesan purposes and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice*

in the diocese of Guildford.

DRAFT

PASTORAL SCHEME

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners ("the Commissioners") this day of 20 in pursuance of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, the Right Reverend Andrew, Bishop of Guildford, having consented thereto.

Termination of group ministry

1. The group ministry established for the benefice of Saint John, Farncombe (also known locally as Farncombe) and the benefice of Godalming in the diocese of Guildford by a Scheme made by the Commissioners in pursuance of the Pastoral Measure 1983 ("the 1983 Measure") on the 15th day of March 2005 shall be terminated.

Termination of team ministry

2. The team ministry established for the area of the benefice of Godalming in the diocese of Guildford by a Scheme made by the Commissioners in pursuance of the 1983 Measure on the 22nd day of May 2001 shall be terminated.

Union of benefices and parishes

3. (1) The benefice of Godalming and the benefice of Busbridge and Hambledon in the diocese of Guildford shall be united to create a new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of Godalming Minster".

 (2) The parish of Godalming, the parish of Busbridge and the parish of Hambledon shall also be united to create a new parish which shall be named "The Parish of Godalming Minster" and shall comprise the area of the new benefice.

Parish churches and number of churchwardens

4. (1) The church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, being the parish church of the parish of Godalming, the church of Saint John the Baptist, being the parish church of the parish of Busbridge, and the church of Saint Peter, being the parish church of the parish of Hambledon, shall all be parish churches of the new parish.

(2) The number of churchwardens to be appointed to the new parish of Godalming Minster created pursuant to clause 3(2) hereof shall be two.

Archdeaconry and deanery

5. The new benefice and parish shall belong to the archdeaconry of Surrey and the deanery of Godalming.

Designation of first incumbent

6. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Simon Dominic Kent Taylor is incumbent of the benefice of Busbridge and Hambledon he shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice.

Assistant curates: consequential provision

7. (1) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Simon Peter Willetts and/or the Reverend Sheila Tarona Samuels and/or the Reverend Patrick Solomon Samuels hold the office of assistant curate (however described) in either of the benefices and/or any of the parishes referred to in clause 3 hereof he, she or they shall, in consequence of the union of benefices and parishes effected by the Scheme hold that office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice and/or parish as the Bishop shall direct.

(2) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any other person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in either of the benefices and/or any of the parishes referred to in clause 3 hereof he, she or they shall as consequence of the union of benefices and parishes effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice and/or parish as the Bishop shall direct.

Place of residence

8. The parsonage house of the benefice of Busbridge and Hambledon (known as Spinney Copse, Hambledon Road, Godalming, GU7 1PJ) shall be the place of residence of the incumbent of the new benefice.

Transfer of parsonage house

9. The parsonage house of the benefice of Godalming (known as The Rectory, Westbrook Road, Godalming, GU7 1ET), together with the site and appurtenances thereof and the grounds usually occupied and enjoyed therewith, shall without any conveyance or other assurance be transferred to the Guildford Diocesan Board of Finance for diocesan purposes.

Patronage

10. The patronage of the new benefice shall be vested in the Church Pastoral Aid Society Patronage Trust, whose registered office is at Sovereign Court One (Unit 3), Sir William Lyons Road, University of Warwick Science Park, Coventry, CV4 7EZ.

Coming into operation of this Scheme

11. If on the date on which this Scheme is made by the Commissioners ("the Scheme Date") the Reverend Canon John Patrick Harkin ("Canon Harkin") has ceased to hold an ecclesiastical office in the benefice of Godalming it shall come into operation on the first day of January 2024; but if on the Scheme Date Canon Harkin holds such an office this Scheme shall then come into operation on the date on which he ceases to do so or on the first day of January 2024, whichever is the later.

The Reverend Canon John Harkin

Canon Harkin's current licence as Interim Minister will come to an end on 31 December 2023. The diocesan intention is that following the coming into effect of the proposed Scheme he will be licensed to continue to minister in the new parish of Godalming Minster as assistant curate until his retirement in June 2024, after which time a new appointment will be made in order to ensure ministry will continue. Canon Harkin will continue to live in The Godalming Rectory until his retirement.

Other clergy provision

It is the diocesan intention that the Reverend Andrew Spencer, the Reverend Margot Spencer, the Reverend Hilary Pettman and the Reverend David Jenkins will all continue to serve in the area of the new benefice and/or parish with Permission to Officiate.

The Godalming Rectory

Once Canon Harkin retires and vacates the Godalming property, it will be available for use as a place of residence for one of the clergy of the new benefice and parish in agreement with the new PCC.

Clause 7(2)

The above clause has been included to ensure that any person holding an office of assistant curate (however described) shall as consequence of the union of the benefices and parishes effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice and/or parish as the Bishop shall direct. 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.

Number of churchwardens

Clause 4(2) limits the number of churchwardens to the proposed new parish to two notwithstanding that there will be three parish churches in it. Section 41(5) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 allows for such a provision which takes precedence over the Churchwardens Measure 2001 requirement that each parish church has two churchwardens.

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. St Mark's, Ockford Ridge will continue as a licensed place of worship serving the area under the Reverend Sheila Samuels who will have oversight of the mission and ministry here as Associate Minister.

Patronage arrangements in relation to the proposed Godalming Minster benefice

The Bishop of Guildford is the sole patron of the current team ministry Godalming benefice.

The Church Pastoral Aid Society Patronage Trust is the sole patron of the Busbridge and Hambledon benefice.

The Bishop is happy to relinquish his patronage interest in the proposed arrangements, so clause 10 makes provision for CPAS to be the sole patron of the new benefice.

Other related matters

The Godalming team ministry is being terminated as it is no longer considered to be appropriate to the mission and ministry envisaged here.

The group ministry established for the two benefices of St John, Farncombe; and Godalming is also being terminated as it is no longer required for the delivery of mission and ministry in the area. The other existing pastoral care arrangement in relation to the St John, Farncombe benefice will be unaffected by these proposals, with the Reverend James Rattue continuing to be its incumbent living in The Rectory at Farncombe Hill, Godalming.

Not a matter for the current 2011 Measure Scheme process:

Representation of the laity

It is intended that this will be dealt with as per the Church Representation Rules 2020 and a scheme under Rule M34 of the Rules which will be voted on in a Special PCM of the new parish (should the proposed Scheme be capable of reaching that stage) in January 2024. The intention is that the new PCC will include 15 elected laity as set out in the July 2022 'Godalming Minster Evaluation' paper, which anticipated that: eight would be from the congregations of Busbridge; three from the congregation of Hambledon; and four from the congregations of Godalming (three from St. Peter and St. Paul's church, and one from St. Mark's).