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16 November 2021

**Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011  
Diocese of Manchester  
Benefices of Bacup and Stacksteads; Saint Anne Edgeside; Goodshaw and  
Crawshawbooth; Newchurch; Rawtenstall and Constable Lee; Saint  
Bartholomew, Whitworth and Saint John, Facit**

The Bishop of Manchester has asked us to prepare a draft Pastoral Scheme in respect of pastoral proposals affecting these benefices.

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) by post or, preferably, by email to reach me no later than midnight on **Monday 20 December 2021**. 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

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

***This draft Scheme provides for:***

- ***terminating the team ministry established for the area of the benefice of Bacup and Stacksteads;***
- ***the union of the benefice of Bacup and Stacksteads, the benefice of Saint Anne Edgeside, the benefice of Goodshaw and Crawshawbooth, the benefice of Newchurch, the benefice of Rawtenstall and Constable Lee and the benefice of Saint Bartholomew, Whitworth and Saint John, Facit (their constituent parishes to remain distinct); and***
- ***the establishment of a team ministry for the new Rossendale Benefice. It also provides for:***
  - ***the cure of souls in the new benefice to be shared by a team rector and two team vicars,***
  - ***the appointment of the team rector and one team vicar;***
  - ***the housing arrangements for the team; and***
  - ***the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice; all within the diocese of Manchester.***

## **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 2011 Measure”), the Right Reverend David, Bishop of Manchester, having consented thereto.

### **WHEREAS**

1. by virtue of a Scheme made by the Commissioners in pursuance of the Pastoral Measure 1983 on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2004 (“the 2004 Scheme”) a team ministry was established for the area of the new benefice of Bacup and Stacksteads in the diocese of Manchester;

2. the said Bishop has approved proposals for, amongst other things, terminating the said team ministry;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby provided as follows:-

#### **Termination of team ministry**

1. The team ministry established by the 2004 Scheme shall be terminated.

#### **Union of benefices**

2. The benefice of Bacup and Stacksteads, the benefice of Saint Anne Edgeside, the benefice of Goodshaw and Crawshawbooth, the benefice of Newchurch, the benefice of Rawtenstall and Constable Lee and the benefice of Saint Bartholomew, Whitworth and Saint John, Facit in the diocese of Manchester shall be united to create a new benefice which shall be named **"The Rossendale Benefice"**, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of Christ Church with Saint John, Bacup, the parish of Holy Trinity, Tunstead with Saint Saviour, Bacup, the parish of Saint Anne Edgeside, **the parish of Saint Mary and All Saints, Goodshaw with Saint John, Crawshawbooth**, the parish of Newchurch Saint Nicholas with Saint John and Saint Michael, the parish of Saint Mary, Rawtenstall, the parish of Saint Paul, Constable Lee, the parish of Facit and the parish of Whitworth, which parishes shall continue distinct.

#### **Archdeaconry and deanery**

3. The new benefice and its constituent parishes shall belong to the archdeaconry of Bolton and the deanery of Bury and Rossendale.

#### **Establishment of team ministry**

4. (1) A team ministry (to be known as "The Rossendale Team Ministry") shall be established for the area of the new benefice.

(2) The cure of souls in that area shall be shared by the incumbent of the new benefice, whose office shall be that of rector in the team ministry, and two other ministers, each of whom shall have the title of vicar and a status equal to that of an incumbent of a benefice.

(3) That area shall be in the pastoral care of those who are to share the cure of souls therein together with all other persons who are from time to time authorised by licence or permission of the Bishop to serve in that area as members of the team.

### **The office of rector in the team ministry**

5. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Rodney Bevan holds an ecclesiastical office in any of the benefices referred to in clause 2 hereof he shall be the first rector.

### **Presentation of rector**

6. Subject to clause 5 hereof, the rector shall be presented by a patronage board (to be known as "The Rossendale Team Ministry Patronage Board") constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule hereto.

### **The offices of vicar in the team ministry**

7. (1) Subject to clause 8 hereof, the vicars in the team ministry shall also be chosen by the patronage board constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule hereto

(2) The licence of the Bishop under his episcopal seal appointing the holder thereto may (subject to variation or revocation of any such provision with the consent of the rector and the vicar by subsequent licence under seal) -

1. (a) assign to a vicar a special cure of souls in respect of a part of the said area and, if appropriate, the name of vicar of a church in that part;
2. (b) assign to a vicar a special responsibility for a particular pastoral function;
3. (c) provide that any such special cure or responsibility shall be independent of the rector's general responsibility;
4. (d) assign to a vicar a general responsibility to be shared with the rector for the cure of souls in the said area as a whole.

8. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Janet O'Neill holds an ecclesiastical office in any of the benefices referred to in clause 2 hereof she shall be the first holder of one of the offices of vicar in the team ministry.

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

9. (1) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation all or any of the following of the Reverend Derek Allen, the Reverend Leila Marie Allen, the Reverend John Alastair Whyte, the Reverend Scott Gordon Richardson, the Reverend Julie Anne Barratt and the Reverend Joanna Margaret Watson hold the office of assistant curate (however described) in any of the benefices referred to in clause 2 hereof he,

she or they shall, in consequence of the termination of the team ministry and union of benefices effected by the Scheme hold that office subject to the same terms of service in The Rossendale Benefice.

(2) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any other person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in any of the benefices referred to in clause 2 hereof he, she or they shall as consequence of the termination of the team ministry and union of benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in The Rossendale Benefice.

### **Places of residence**

10. (1) The parsonage house of the benefice of Saint Anne Edgeside (known as Saint Annes Vicarage, Ashworth Road, Rossendale, BB4 9JE) shall be the place of residence of the rector.

(2) Subject to the direction of the Bishop, the vicars in the team ministry shall severally reside in:

1. (a) the parsonage house of the benefice of Bacup and Stacksteads (known as Christ Church Vicarage, Greensnook Lane, Bacup, OL13 9DQ);
2. (b) the parsonage house of the benefice of Rawtenstall and Constable Lee (known as Saint Paul's Vicarage, Hollin Lane, Rossendale, BB4 8HT);
3. (c) such other conveniently situated house or houses as may, with the Bishop's approval, be provided in substitution therefor.

### **Transfer of parsonage houses**

11. (1) The parsonage house of the benefice of Bacup and Stacksteads (known as Christ Church Vicarage, Greensnook Lane, Bacup, OL13 9DQ), 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 Manchester Diocesan Board of Finance to be held by the said Board as part of the diocesan glebe land of the diocese of Manchester.

(2) The parsonage house of the benefice of Rawtenstall and Constable Lee (known as Saint Paul's Vicarage, Hollin Lane, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, BB4 8HT), 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 Manchester Diocesan Board of Finance to be held by the said Board as part of the diocesan glebe land of the diocese of Manchester.

(3) The parsonage house of the benefice of Newchurch (known as The Rectory, 539, Newchurch Road, Newchurch, Rossendale, BB4 9HH), 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 Manchester Diocesan Board of Finance for diocesan purposes.

### **Disposal of parsonage house**

12. The parsonage house of the benefice of Goodshaw and Crawshawbooth (known as Goodshaw Vicarage, Goodshawfold Road, Rossendale BB4 8QN), 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 Manchester Diocesan Board of Finance for disposal in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 8 of Schedule 3 to the 2011 Measure.

### **Disposal of proceeds of sale of former parsonage house**

13. The moneys held by the Manchester Diocesan Board of Finance arising from the disposal of the parsonage house of the benefice of Saint Bartholomew, Whitworth and Saint John, Facit shall be paid into the Manchester Diocesan Pastoral Account.

### **Coming into operation of this Scheme**

14. This Scheme shall come into operation upon the date of it being made by the Church Commissioners.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **Constitution of the Patronage Board**

The patronage board referred to in clauses 6 and 7(1) of this Scheme shall consist of:-

(1) the following in right of their respective offices:-

1. (a) the Bishop of Manchester, who shall be chairman of the board and shall have one vote as a member of the board and a casting vote as chairman;
- (b) the archdeacon of the archdeaconry to which the new benefice shall for the time being belong, who shall have one vote;
- (c) the Chancellor of the diocese of Manchester, who shall have one vote;
- (d) any vicar in the team ministry, any deacon authorised to serve in the team ministry, and any person having special responsibility for pastoral care under section 34(8) of the 2011 Measure who shall jointly have one vote which shall be exercised by such one or more of them (acting alone, unanimously or by a majority) as may be present at the meeting in question;
- (e) for the purpose only of meetings at which the person to be appointed a vicar in the team ministry is considered and chosen, the rector of the team ministry who shall have one vote;

(2) the Church Pastoral Aid Society Patronage Trust of Unit 3, Sovereign Court One, Sir William Lyons Road, University of Warwick Science Park, Coventry, CV4 7EZ, who shall have three votes;

(3) the Warden, Fellows and Scholars of Keble College in the University of Oxford, who shall have one vote;

(4) the Trustees of Christ Church, Bacup who shall have one vote and shall be represented at any meeting of the board by one representative authorised to act and vote on behalf of the Trustees;

(5) the Church Society Trust, whose registered office is at Church Society, Ground Floor, Centre Block, Hille Business Estate, 132 Saint Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE, who shall have one vote.

In witness of which this Scheme has been duly executed as a deed by  
the Church Commissioners.

SIGNED by the ) ) Right Reverend David, ) ) Bishop of Manchester. )

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

----- Signature of Authorised Signatory

----- Signature of Authorised Signatory

### **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 were formulated following a period of extensive local consultation on multiple levels which included both lay and ordained within the deanery context. Primary engagement was with the PCCs of the constituent parishes which it is envisaged will make up the proposed Team Ministry. The principle of the proposals emerged following a sudden reduction in stipendiary provision as clergy from within the Rossendale context moved on to other posts across the wider Church; vacancies were given due consideration regarding deployment in accordance with current Diocesan policy and the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee's current stipendiary provision protocols. The changing context provided a unique opportunity for creative thinking around collaborative working across the existing parochial boundaries within the Rossendale valleys.*

*Following initial reluctance, the consultation has borne considerable fruit and culminated in a real and positive desire for all of the parishes involved to actively and collaboratively work together, including across differing theological and liturgical traditions. The parishes concerned are keen to see their worshipping communities grow in the medium and short*

***term and to engage proactively in discipleship to ensure that parishes engage with their surrounding communities as well as sharing resources with one another such as work with children, youth and young families – this will be achieved by utilising the current Diocesan strategic project: Children Changing Places, which will be enable this focused work to be rolled out across the proposed Team.***

***At the heart of the vision is a strong emphasis to work more closely together with the desire to release both lay and ordained to engage in a new way of working which will develop leadership on all levels in the spirit of the precepts of the Setting God's People Free agenda. It is envisaged that the ordained stipendiary leadership within the Team will provide a more enabling oversight and thus developing both lay and ordained local and focal leaders within each parish setting who***

***in turn will work collaboratively across the Team when required; this will ensure that parochial ministry will both survive and thrive.***

***There is a real sense of excitement and engagement within the existing parishes to work with one another but with the clear understanding that this will undoubtedly bring extensive change to existing patterns of ministry and worship. This is evidenced in the recognised need to appoint a Team Rector who in turn will be supported by two Team Vicars, all of whom will have responsibility to ensure and enable the growth and expansion of non-stipendiary lay and ordained ministry across the wider proposed Team.***

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.

Team chapter and team

1. Under section 34(1) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 the persons who are to share the cure of souls within the area of the benefice will constitute a team chapter and the team chapter together with the other persons referred to in clause 4(3) will constitute the team.
2. Section 13(1) and paragraphs 19 and 20 of Schedule 2 to the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 apply to the appointment of a team rector whereby the registered patron of a vacant benefice shall not make any priest an offer to present him or her to a benefice until the making of the offer to the priest in question has been approved by parish representatives of each parish in the team and the Bishop.



3. Paragraph 2(6) of Schedule 3 to the Mission and Pastoral Measure provides that before the body or other persons who are entitled to choose a person to be a vicar in a team ministry make their choice, they shall consult -
  - (a) the other members of the team;
  - (b) the parochial church council of every parish in the team ministry;and
  - (c) if a special cure of souls in respect of a part of the area is to be assigned in accordance with section 34(7)(a) to the vicar, any district church council concerned.
4. Paragraph 2(7)(a) of Schedule 3 to the Mission and Pastoral Measure provides that the body or other persons who are entitled to choose a person to be a vicar in a team ministry shall not make to any person an offer of appointment as such until the making of the offer to the person in question has been approved by the parish representatives of each parish in the team.

#### Churches etc

5. 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.

#### Clauses 9 and 14

6. The Reverend Derek Allen has undertaken to resign as team vicar in the Bacup and Stacksteads team ministry benefice before any Scheme is made (assuming of course that it is capable of reaching that stage) in order that it might progress without delay. Immediately upon his resignation, the Bishop will license him as an assistant curate (to be known as associate priest in the Bacup and Stacksteads benefice) and the effect of this clause will be to automatically license him and the other assistant curates to hold such office (or offices) subject to the same terms of service in The Rossendale Benefice.

7 Clause 9(2) 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 effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new Rossendale Benefice. 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.