

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

This draft Scheme provides for:

- *the dissolution of the benefice of Fairlight and Pett; the benefice of Winchelsea and Icklesham; and the benefice of Westfield and Guestling,*
- *the creation of a new benefice of Westfield, Guestling and Fairlight, for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice, her place of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice,*
- *the creation of a new benefice of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett, its place of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice,*

all in the diocese of Chichester

DRAFT

PASTORAL SCHEME

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

Dissolution of benefices and disposal of parsonage house

1. (1) The benefice of Fairlight and Pett, the benefice of Winchelsea and Icklesham, and the benefice of Westfield and Guestling in the diocese of Chichester shall be dissolved.

(2) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in any of the benefices referred to in clause 1(1) hereof he, she or they shall as consequence of the dissolution of benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice of Westfield, Guestling and Fairlight, and/or the new benefice of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett as the Bishop shall direct.

(3) The parsonage house of the benefice of Westfield and Guestling (known as The Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Westfield, Hastings, TN35 4SD) 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 Chichester Board of Finance for disposal in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 8 of Schedule 3 to the 2011 Measure.

Creation of new benefice of Westfield, Guestling and Fairlight

2. (1) A new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of Westfield, Guestling and Fairlight", which shall be a rectory, shall be created in the diocese of Chichester, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of Westfield,

the parish of Guestling, and the parish of Fairlight, which parishes shall continue distinct.

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

(3) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Sandra Ruth Wickens holds an ecclesiastical office in the benefice of Westfield and Guestling and/or the benefice of Fairlight and Pett she shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice.

(4) The parsonage house of the benefice of Fairlight and Pett (known as The Rectory, 15c Battery Hill, Fairlight, Hastings, TN35 4AP), 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 2(3) hereof, the patronage of the new benefice shall on each occasion be exercised jointly by the Bishop of Chichester in his corporate capacity and the Martyrs Memorial Trust (whose registered office is at The Martyrs Memorial Trust, Sovereign Court One (unit 3), Sir William Lyons Road, University of Warwick Science Park, Coventry, CV4 7EZ).

Creation of new benefice of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett

3. (1) A new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett", which shall be a rectory shall be created in the diocese of Chichester, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of Winchelsea, the parish of Icklesham, and the parish of Pett, which parishes shall continue distinct.

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

(3) The parsonage house of the benefice of Winchelsea and Icklesham (known as The Rectory, St Thomas Street, Winchelsea, TN36 4EB), shall without any conveyance or other assurance be vested in the incumbent of the new benefice in their corporate capacity.

(4) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any person has been licensed by the Bishop to serve within the area of either of the benefices referred to in clause 1(1) hereof as priest-in-charge that person shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice. However, if immediately before this Scheme comes into operation no such person has been so licensed the first incumbent of the new benefice may be selected by the Bishop after consultation with the other patron of the new benefice and the parochial church council of the parish in the area of the new benefice.

(5) The patronage of the new benefice shall on each occasion be exercised jointly by the Bishop of Chichester in his corporate capacity and the Trustees of the Guild of All Souls (whose registered office is at The Guild of All Souls, Dalton House, 60 Windsor Avenue, London, SW19 2RR).

Coming into operation of this Scheme

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

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

SIGNED by the)
)
Right Reverend Martin,)
)
Bishop of Chichester.)

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:

Since September 2022, a cross-licensing arrangement has been in place, whereby the Reverend Sandra (Sandi) Wickens has been priest-in-charge of Westfield and Guestling and also of Fairlight and Pett (with particular responsibility for Fairlight) and the Reverend Jonathan Meyer (recently retired) was Rector of Winchelsea and Icklesham and assistant curate for the benefice of Fairlight and Pett (with particular responsibility for Pett).

The DMPC (East) have been informed that the arrangement has been working very well and have been asked to move forward with a formal union of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett into one benefice, to be served by the next

incumbent, and of Westfield, Guestling, and Fairlight into one benefice to be served by the Reverend Sandi Wickens.

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 1(2) and 3(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 union/dissolution/creation of the benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefices of Westfield, Guestling and Fairlight; and the benefice of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett.

Clause 1(2) will take into account Reverend Kizzy Anna Penfold who will be licensed as assistant curate to the benefice of Westfield and Guestling; and the benefice of Fairlight and Pett.

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.

Selection of First Incumbent – clause 3(5)

It is intended to appoint a priest-in-charge to the existing benefices as soon as possible and this clause has been included to allow the priest-in-charge to become the first incumbent of the proposed new benefice. The patrons and parishes concerned will be fully consulted over the appointment of the priest-in-charge. If it is not possible to appoint a priest-in-charge before the Scheme comes into effect the first incumbent of the new benefice may then either be selected by the Bishop under the authority contained in clause (4) or appointed under the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986, depending on how far the process of appointing a priest-in-charge has progressed.