

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

This draft Scheme provides for:

- *the union of the benefice of the Draycote Group and the benefice of Leam Valley (their constituent parishes to remain distinct);*
- *for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice and for the parsonage house to be that of the benefice The Draycote Group;*
- *for the transfer to the Coventry Diocesan Board of Finance Limited of the parsonage house of the benefice of the Leam Valley for diocesan purposes; and*
- *for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice; all in the diocese of Coventry.*

DRAFT
PASTORAL SCHEME

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners this day of 2022 in pursuance of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, the Right Reverend Christopher, Bishop of Coventry, having consented thereto.

Union of benefices

1. The Benefice of the Draycote Group and the benefice of Leam Valley in the diocese of Coventry shall be united to create a new benefice which shall be named “The Benefice of Draycote and Leam Valley” and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of Birdingbury, the parish of Flecknoe, the parish of Grandborough, the parish of Leamington Hastings, the parish of Willoughby, the parish of Bourton on Dunsmore (the name of which shall be altered to “The Parish of Bourton-on-Dunsmore with Draycote”), the parish of Stretton on Dunsmore with Princethorpe and the parish of Frankton, which parishes shall continue distinct.

Archdeaconry and deanery

2. The new benefice and its constituent parishes shall belong to the archdeaconry of Coventry and the deanery of Rugby.

Designation of first incumbent

3. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Philip Huw Price is licensed by the Bishop to serve within the area of either of the benefices referred to in clause 1 hereof he shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice.

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 union of benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice of Draycote and Leam Valley.

Place of residence

5. The parsonage house of The Benefice of the Draycote Group (known as Clydfan, Main Street, Thurlaston, Rugby, CV23 9JS) shall be the place of residence of the incumbent of the new benefice.

Transfer of parsonage house

6. The parsonage house of the benefice of Leam Valley (The Vicarage, Lower Street, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8BX), 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 Coventry Diocesan Board of Finance Limited for diocesan purposes.

Patronage

7. Subject to clause 3 hereof the right of presentation to the new benefice shall on each occasion be exercised jointly by the Bishop of Coventry in his corporate capacity; Mr David Stuart Degge Lodder of Whitley, Edge Lane, Henley in Arden, Warwickshire, B95 5DT; Mrs Jennifer Anne Siklossy von Pernesz, 390 Avenue Tervuren, Brussels, Belgium; and Simeon’s Trustees, c/o CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP, Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6AF.

Coming into operation of this Scheme

8. 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 Christopher,)
)
Bishop of Coventry.)

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

Signature of Authorised Signatory

Signature of Authorised Signatory

Notes by the Diocesan office (not forming part of the draft Scheme)

The rationale behind the diocesan proposals is as follows:

As part of its on-going plan of Deanery reorganisation the DMPC of Rugby Deanery propose to unite the Leam Valley and Draycote Group benefices. This is part of a wider ranging plan to over-come a large number of clergy vacancies and ensure that the right level of support is available for new Incumbents, especially those working in more isolated rural areas. Discussions on this proposal have been undertaken at Archidiaconal level as well as with all of the parishes in the two benefices concerned and all parties have agreed that this merger is to the benefit of all concerned. The reasons for making this change are summarised below;
1. The two benefices have already been working together since the merger was proposed and have been working toward sharing an Incumbent.
2. Formally both Benefices – The Draycote Group and Leam Valley Group were staffed with House for Duty priests. Both of the previous Incumbents

have either moved on or retired allowing for a re-appraisal of ministry and mission across this large rural area.

3. The current benefices are geographically adjacent and all lie south of the A45.

4. Bringing the benefices together would allow for the giftings and opportunities in both to be met more easily and efficiently. Each of the existing benefices has a history of its parishes working closely together and there is already a desire to explore how this can be achieved across all 8 parishes under a new Incumbent.

5. Joint meetings of PCCs of both benefices has shown a real heart for working together and sharing ministry resources.

6. There has been some dissatisfaction with the length of HfD appointments. Bringing the two benefices together allows the deanery to deploy a full-time stipendiary priest who can be further supported by an Hfd colleague as well as possible paid lay ministry in future.

7. The parishes are showing a willingness to meet the financial challenge of having stipendiary ministry.

8. The proposed parsonage house for the new benefice is the Draycote Group parsonage (Clydfan, Main Street, Thurlaston, Warwickshire, CV23 9JS) which is centrally located and near to the main A45 which gives good access to all parts of the proposed new benefice. It is proposed that the parsonage house of the Leam Valley Group (The Vicarage, Lower Street, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8BX) will transfer to the DBF for Diocesan purposes for housing a HfD priest.

9. The pandemic has further highlighted the fact that parishes in a rural context are not always able to respond to issues in isolation and need to work together in a spirit of trust and mutual support.

10. In lieu of changes being made a stipendiary appointment of a Priest in Charge, the Revd Phil Price has been made to the Draycote Group and the Leam Valley benefices on the understanding that he will be working across the two benefices and these changes will eventually be made. The Priest in Charge will be named as first incumbent of the new benefice.

11. A robust package of support will be put in place for the new Incumbent to help with the transition and determining how best this enlarged benefice will work together. There is already an Associate Minister working in the Leam Valley Group and support from a number of PTOs, a Reader, and a number of lay people who regularly plan and lead worship.

Publication of this draft Scheme has been approved by the Church Commissioners but does not mean that they have taken a view on the merits of the diocesan case.

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

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

This parish is known locally as “Bourton-on-Dunsmore with Draycote”, but the legal name has been found to be “Bourton on Dunsmore”. At the request of the parish, the draft Scheme now provides for the name to reflect what it is known as locally. The diocese have agreed to the proposed change.

Clause 4

This clause has been included to ensure that any person holding an office of assistant curate (however described) shall as consequence of the union of benefices effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice of Draycote and Leam Valley. 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.

Parsonage house

The property known as Clydfan, intended to be the parsonage house of the new benefice is currently being acquired to be the parsonage of the benefice of the Draycote Group under the Church Property Measure 2018. The Scheme cannot be made until that transaction has completed.

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.