

## **HARDINGTON VALE POST PASTORAL REORGANISATION**

For clarity there follow extracts from Canon Law concerning the duties of churchwardens and deputy wardens/chapel wardens. They are shown in italics and red. These have been precisely copied and consequentially do not reflect the wish of the PCC to call the 4 “churchwardens” who will have parish-wide responsibilities **PARISH WARDENS**, and the specific church based “deputy or chapel wardens” **WARDENS**.

There will be no limit on the number of WARDENS reflecting that for the most part this is simply a change of name rather than duties – however as agreed by the PCC only ONE for each church will be on the PCC. Whether this is the same WARDEN or whether a church may choose to send a different warden according to the business will be for that church to determine. However, each year prior to the APCM each church will nominate the wardens, having agreed at a Friends or Fabric Committee meeting who they are to be for that year and indicate which warden will normally attend the PCC as their representative.

### **PARISH WARDENS**

At the PCC meeting held in Rode Memorial Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 the PCC agreed, that with effect from the APCM on April 2017 and consequential upon the pastoral reorganization of the Parish and the designation of St Leonards Farleigh Hungerford, St Mary’s Hemington, St Mary’s Laverton and All Saints, Tellisford as Chapels of Ease, that the four church wardens to be elected at the APCM should be called Parish Wardens and be supported in each church, as appropriate by Chapel Wardens or Wardens. The PCC also resolved that, for a trial period, the Parish Wardens would have specific responsibilities across the whole Parish with the duties relating to a specific church being delegated to the (deputy) wardens for each church.

The following are extracts from the Churchwardens Measure 2001:

*The **churchwardens’ main duties** are summarised in Canon E1 paragraphs 4 and 5. Under those paragraphs, once churchwardens take up their office, they:-*

- a. are the officers of the bishop (not the incumbent or PCC) (E1.4);*
- b. must be the foremost in representing the laity and co-operating with the incumbent (E1.4):*

- c. *must use their best endeavours by example and precept to encourage the parishioners in the practice of true religion and to promote unity and peace among them (E1.4);*
- d. *must discharge the duties assigned to them by law and custom (E1.4). (Examples of this are their duties in relation to the offerings or collections in the church, and the duties imposed on them by section 5 of the Care of Church and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 in relation to the church building and the land and articles belonging to it );*
- e. *must maintain order and decency in the church and churchyard, especially during the time of divine service (E1.4); and*
- f. *hold the title to the movable goods of the church, must keep an inventory of those goods and keep it up to date, and must hand over the goods to their successors, who must check the inventory (E1.5).*

*in addition:-*

- g. *if a person chosen as churchwarden is an actual communicant and has his or her name on the church electoral roll of the parish, that person will automatically become a **member of the PCC** until he or she either ceases to satisfy those qualifications or ceases to be a churchwarden (CRR r.14(1)(d) and (2));*
- h. *if the **PCC fails to appoint a treasurer**, the churchwarden or churchwardens who are members of the PCC will be responsible for discharging the office of treasurer (CRR App II para 1(e)(i));*
- i. *churchwardens may also be **trustees of other parochial charities** by virtue of their office; and*
- j. *during a vacancy in the benefice, the churchwardens will be the **sequestrators** together with the rural or area dean and anyone else whom the bishop appoints (Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 1992 s.1(1)). (In the case of a team ministry, the team vicars and certain other members of the team take the place of the rural or area dean as automatic sequestrators except so far as the bishop directs that any of them are not to be included.)*

## **WARDENS/CHAPEL WARDENS**

*The Churchwardens Measure 2001 states that “Deputy churchwardens have a recognised legal status under the Church Representation Rules (or, in some cases of team ministries, under the Pastoral Measure 1983.) However, unlike churchwardens under s.1(2) of the Measure, deputy churchwardens are not “churchwardens” in the strict legal sense and are not within the terms of the Measure, and their functions are confined to the particular church or place of worship. They are not the bishop’s officers, but exercise functions delegated to them by the churchwardens (in some cases on a mandatory basis under the relevant legislation). For example, deputy churchwardens may have delegated authority to deal with some matters relating to the fabric of the church or place of worship concerned.”*

The Wardens will work with and support the Parish Wardens in four distinct areas:

Buildings

Finance

Pastoral and Outreach activities

Strategy.