

West of Stroud Deanery Update June 2016

Thank you to the PCCs who have responded to the draft proposals for the formation of a Team Ministry. There were many positive responses and the Bishop's council has also responded positively; a formal note to this effect will be sent to PCC secretaries (once meetings have been arranged for those with concerns). The next step is to meet with those PCCs that have asked for a meeting in order to voice their concerns and ask questions. My secretary Alison is arranging two meeting dates; if you are a PCC member please keep a look out for the dates. Letters will be sent to the PCC secretaries of those PCCs that have requested meetings.

Because of the concerns raised, we will not be able to circulate the formal scheme until those meetings have taken place. Depending on the outcome of those meetings, I would hope the formal scheme could be circulated for the formal consultation during August.

At that stage, any objections to the formal scheme do not come to Diocesan Church House but go to the Church Commissioners at Church House Westminster. If there are objections at that point, we will be in the hands of the Church Commissioners for a hearing.

If there are no objections to the formal scheme, then the Bishop will be able to make the scheme and we can start the process of making appointments.

Thank you to all the church wardens, ministry teams and PCC members who are doing so much to ensure that worship, mission and ministry continue in all the parishes currently in vacancy. Due to the length of vacancies, interim ministry is being offered in the Stanleys and Selsley (and Eastington and Frocester on the 4th Sunday) by the Revd Pat Freeth, and will be offered to the Cotswold Edge benefice by the Revd John McHale from 1st September. Other retired and local clergy are also taking services, for which I know there is much gratitude.

Archdeacon Jackie June 2016