

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

This draft Scheme provides for:

- *the dissolution of the parish of Twigworth, being one of the parishes within the area of the benefice of Twigworth, Down Hatherley, Norton, The Leigh, Evington, Sandhurst and Staverton with Boddington;*
- *the parish church of the parish of Twigworth to be declared closed for regular public worship;*
- *parts of the area of the parish of Twigworth to be transferred to the parishes of Down Hatherley; Sandhurst; and Wotton Saint Mary Without (also known as "Longlevens"); and*
- *part of the area of the parish of Saint John the Evangelist, Churchdown and Innsworth to be transferred to the parish of Wotton Saint Mary Without;*

all in the diocese of Gloucester.

DRAFT
PASTORAL CHURCH BUILDINGS SCHEME

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners ("the Commissioners") this day of 201 in pursuance of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, the Right Reverend Rachel, Bishop of Gloucester, having consented thereto.

PART I

Dissolution of parish and alteration of areas of parishes

1. (1) The parish of Twigworth, being one of the six parishes which comprise the area of the benefice of Twigworth, Down Hatherley, Norton, The Leigh, Evington, Sandhurst and Staverton with Boddington shall be dissolved.

(2) The area of the parishes of Twigworth; Down Hatherley; Sandhurst; Saint John the Evangelist, Churchdown and Innsworth; and Wotton Saint Mary Without (also known as "Longlevens") shall be altered in the manner described in the Schedule to this Scheme and delineated on the annexed map.

Declaration of closure for regular public worship

2. (1) The church of Saint Matthew, being the parish church of the parish of Twigworth, shall be declared closed for regular public worship by this Scheme.

(2) The marriage register books appertaining to the said church shall be dealt with in accordance with section 62 of the Marriage Act 1949 and, subject to any provisions of the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978 that apply thereto and any directions thereunder, any other register books and records of that church which remain in parochial custody shall be dealt with as the Bishop shall direct.

PART II

Coming into operation of this Scheme

3. (1) Part I of this Scheme shall come into operation upon such date as the Commissioners, after consultation with the Bishop, shall determine.

(2) Part II of this Scheme shall come into operation upon the date on which it is made by the Commissioners.

Schedule to the Scheme

1. All those parts of the parish of Twigworth which are striped and lettered "A" on the annexed map shall be transferred to the parish of Down Hatherley.
2. All that part of the parish of Twigworth which is cross-hatched and lettered "B" on the annexed map shall be transferred to the parish of Sandhurst.
3. All that part of the parish of Twigworth which is striped and lettered "C" on the annexed map shall be transferred to the parish of Wotton Saint Mary Without.
4. All that part of the parish of St John the Evangelist, Churchdown and Innsworth which is hatched and lettered "D" on the annexed map shall be transferred to the parish of Wotton Saint Mary Without.

In witness whereof the Church Commissioners have caused their Common Seal to be hereunto affixed.

SIGNED by the)
)
Right Reverend Rachel,)
)
Bishop of Gloucester.)

Executed as a Deed by the affixing of the)
)
Common Seal of the Church)
)
Commissioners in the presence of:-)

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

Notes by the Church Commissioners' office (not forming part of the draft Scheme)

The Commissioners have been told by the Bishop on the advice of her Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee that the rationale behind the diocesan proposals is as follows:

The closure of the church of St Matthew was proposed by the parish itself, in part due to the precarious state of the building internally and lack of funds to effect repairs but also because this is a church in an area of many churches. There is development in this area and it was hoped that this would help swell the church attendance but unfortunately for Twigworth the main focus of the development lies away from this linear village and correspondingly most people look to Wotton Saint Mary Without rather than Twigworth – hence the proposed boundary changes. Locally it is considered there is no future for this building as a parish church and no likelihood of being able to raise the money to make substantial repairs. At no time has this church been a local

centre as Twigworth itself has no discernible centre or focal point and has grown up along the road between Gloucester and Tewkesbury.

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 5

This Scheme, if implemented, would have the effect of closing Saint Matthew's church, Twigworth for public worship and vesting it in the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finance for care and maintenance pending a decision on its future. Any such decision would be the subject of a second Scheme, called a Pastoral (Church Buildings Disposal) Scheme, which would be prepared and published by the Church Commissioners, and with regard to which an opportunity would be given for representations to be made. In terms of implementing this Pastoral Church Buildings Scheme subject to the consideration of any representations, the Commissioners will need to be satisfied that all aspects of title relating to the church, including access and any rights of way, are in order before they make the Scheme. Banns of marriage may not be called nor marriages solemnized in the church from the date of closure.

Churchyard

This Scheme, if implemented, would not affect the status of the churchyard of Saint Matthew. This would remain open and become a churchyard of the parish of Down Hatherley. Any burials of individuals not resident in the parish of Down Hatherley will be subject to the consent of the minister for Down Hatherley under the guidance of the Parochial Church Council.

Archdeaonries and deaneries

The parts of the parish of Twigworth lettered A and B on the annexed map shall belong to the archdeaconry of Gloucester and the deanery of Severn Vale and that part of the parish of Twigworth lettered C on the annexed map shall belong to the archdeaconry of Gloucester and the deanery of Gloucester City. That part of the parish of St John the Evangelist, Churchdown and Innsworth lettered D on the annexed map shall belong to the archdeaconry of Gloucester and the deanery of Gloucester City.