



Role description signed off by: Archdeacon Suffolk

Date: October 2022

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and at each Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

<b>1 Details of post</b>	
Role title	Priest in Charge, part-time 4 days/week plus Sundays (0.8)
Name of benefice	Alde River
Deanery	Saxmundham
Archdeaconry	Suffolk
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	Archdeacon Jeanette Gosney Archdeacon of Suffolk

<b>2 Role purpose</b>
<b>General</b>
To share with the Bishop both in the cure of souls and in responsibility, under God, for growing the Kingdom in this benefice.
To ensure that the church communities in the benefice flourish and engage positively with 'Growing in God' and the Diocesan Vision and Strategy.
To work together as the Priest in Charge to this benefice, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy and other relevant legislation.
To collaborate within the deanery both in current mission and ministry and, through the deanery plan, in such reshaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require. To attend Deanery Chapter and Deanery Synod and to play a full part in the wider life of the deanery.
To work with the ordained and lay colleagues as set out in their individual role descriptions and work agreements, and to ensure that, where relevant, they have working agreements which are reviewed. This involves discerning and developing the gifts and ministries of all members of the congregation.
To work with the PCCs towards the development of the local church as described in the benefice profile, and to review those needs with them. To recognise and value the individuality of each community.

To ensure compliance and effective practice regarding all safeguarding matters including training.
To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching, and pastoral care is provided.
To work together, as appropriate, with other Christian denominations which have a presence in the parishes and the wider deanery.
<b>Schools</b>
To work closely with the local schools. The diocese is committed to working with both community and church schools and this should be seen as a key part of the priest's role.
<b>Specific tasks and responsibilities</b>
Develop and exercise a local oversight role, working collaboratively with the ministry team to enable effective and fruitful ministry across the whole benefice.
Working with the parishes, develop a shared vision and plans for Growing in God; encourage lay participation in services; identify and develop people's talents.
Share the Christian faith with people of all ages and work with parishes to widen the age profile of congregations through building on some of the initiatives already implemented.
Teach and encourage an understanding of Christian stewardship across the benefice.
Strengthen and encourage links with young people, families, and other groups of people including the newly retired to help expand outreach, and offer pastoral care and visiting capabilities for those in need such as the elderly, lonely and isolated.
Be willing to contribute to community life in the town and villages of the benefice.
It is expected that you will help start two new worshipping communities in the parish/benefice within the first five years of the post, as part of the <i>Growing in God</i> strategy.

<b>3 Key contacts</b>
<b>Generic</b> The PCCs The Deanery Chapter & Synod The Church Wardens The Rural Dean and Lay Chair
<b>Specific</b> Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop's licence, office holders and administrative staff)
<b>Aspirational</b> Parish Councils

<p><b>Supportive</b>  The Archdeacon of Suffolk, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post.  The Rural Dean and Lay Chair  Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry  Archdeacon for Rural Mission</p>
<p><b>Patrons</b> (jointly)  The Rt Hon Piers Edward Brownlow, The Earl of Guilford  Major Philip William Hope-Cobbold (Deceased)  The St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Board of Patronage  The Church Pastoral Aid Society  Miss Sophie Florine Rhoda Heycock-Hollond  Richard Keane of Aldeburgh Suffolk, personal representative of Mrs Audrey Clare Vernon Wentworth</p>
<p><b>Role context and any other relevant information</b>  The diocesan ministry deployment principles affirm an intention to maintain stipendiary clergy numbers if possible, subject to the availability of financial resources, and to develop an understanding of local episcopal oversight ministry and local ministers in parishes ministering in teams or clusters. A key aim of this is to reduce clergy isolation and increase mutual support.</p>
<p>An understanding of the Centenary Share process and how it is applied across the benefice and deanery and its importance for the sustainability of ministry across the diocese is fundamental.</p>
<p>The Bishops expect and encourage clergy to take their rest days, holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent.</p>

<p><b>4 Benefice Summary</b></p>	
<p><b>Parishes</b></p>	<p>Benhall: St Mary  Blaxhall: St Peter  Farnham &amp; Stratford St Andrew: St Mary  Great Glemham: All Saints  Little Glemham: St Andrew  Snape: St John the Baptist  Sternfield: St Mary Magdalene</p>
<p><b>Churches</b></p>	<p>Benhall, St Mary : Grade II*  Blaxhall, St Peter : Grade II*  Farnham &amp; Stratford St Andrew, St Mary : Grade II*  Great Glemham, All Saints : I  Little Glemham, St Andrew : I  Snape, St John the Baptist : II*  Sternfield, St Mary Magdalene : II*</p>

<b>PCC</b>	Benhall: St Mary Blaxhall: St Peter Farnham & Stratford St Andrew: St Mary Great Glemham: All Saints Little Glemham: St Andrew Snape: St John the Baptist Sternfield: St Mary Magdalene
<b>Schools and Colleges</b>	St Mary's VC Church of England Primary School, Benhall Snape Primary School
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Benhall: St Mary x 2 Blaxhall: St Peter x 1 Farnham & Stratford St Andrew: St Mary x 0 Great Glemham: All Saints x 1 Little Glemham: St Andrew x 0 Snape: St John the Baptist x 1 Sternfield: St Mary Magdalene x 1
<b>Ministers</b>	SSM Assistant curate x 1 Lay Elders x 4
<b>Buildings</b> (that the PCC are responsible for)	none
<b>Churchyards</b> (Open or closed for burial)	Benhall: St Mary - closed Blaxhall: St Peter - open Farnham & Stratford St Andrew: St Mary - open Great Glemham: All Saints - open Little Glemham: St Andrew - open Snape: St John the Baptist - open Sternfield: St Mary Magdalene - open
<b>Population</b>	Benhall : 521 Blaxhall : 194 Farnham with Stratford St Andrew : 118 & 185 = 303 Great Glemham : 224 Little Glemham : 187 Snape : 611 Sternfield : 132 (This information is from 2011 census)
<b>Average Sunday Attendance</b>	There is an average attendance of 30-40 at the weekly benefice Holy Communion. There is an additional service on alternate Sundays elsewhere in the benefice so the HC numbers drop as people choose which service to attend.
<b>Parish Share</b>	2021    £53,156    84.40% 2020    £51,287    79.76% 2019    £61,247    100.01%

<b>Expenses</b>	Reimbursed in full
<b>Resolutions</b>	None
<b>Church Tradition</b>	Central
<b>Pastoral re-organisation</b>	There is a possibility of pastoral reorganisation in the deanery in order to enable sustainable ministry as vacancies arise.
<b>Presence of other Christian denominations</b>	Plymouth Brethren
<b>Presence of other faith communities</b>	None