

Role Descriptions for those considering being nominated as either a Churchwarden or PCC member

First of all, thank you for thinking about how you can serve God in this place. We are trying to clarify the roles of Churchwarden and PCC members across the benefice. If, after reading these notes, you have any questions, please raise them with the current Churchwardens or vicar. Please prayerfully consider what you can offer, we need a cross-section of people to fill these roles and you will find it really rewarding.

Churchwardens and PCC members are servants of the church and have a responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the local fellowship, members of the benefice and the believers and non-believers in the wider community. Churchwardens and PCC members should be prepared to share in this work to the benefit of all. We are all charged with sharing God's love to all, encouraging our fellow believers and bring the good news to the non-believers. We are called to be examples of God's love and to demonstrate to all what this love means both inside and outside the church.

Churchwardens

Overview:

With the clergy, they share the administration of the Parish, and in the care of the church buildings.

They:

- are the legal owners of all the movable property of the Church - they are responsible for the maintenance, safekeeping and availability of all the consecrated and unconsecrated goods and ornaments.
- have the right in law to remove from the Church and/or Churchyard anyone who is causing a disturbance or who threatens to do so. In this regard, they are assisted by the Sidesmen.
- are members of the Parochial Church Council ex-officio.
- are responsible for all things financial but normally this is delegated to the treasurer.
- promote the whole mission of the church, which is pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

In particular, at this point in the development of the mission and ministry of the five churches benefice, Churchwardens are required to engage at a strategic level; developing the plan for resourcing mission and ministry across the benefice. This means having an interest in challenging and rethinking the part each parish church plays in the whole, working with the other churchwardens and the licensed ministers to build a strong leadership team.

This means that they will need to feel confident about sharing practical tasks with other church members and members of the wider community, in order to build the local parish team and have the time and perspective to engage at benefice level.

PCC Members

Overview:

Under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 the PCC has the following functions:

1. Co-operation with the minister in promoting the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
2. The consideration and discussion of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest.
3. Making known and putting into effect any provisions made by the diocesan synod or the deanery synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the council on any particular matter.
4. Giving advice to the diocesan synod and the deanery synod on any matter referred to the Council.