CONSTITUTION

DIOCESAN MISSION AND PASTORAL COMMITTEE

1. The functions of the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee ('DMPC') as set out in Part 2 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (the '2011 Measure') shall be exercised by the Bishop’s Council of the Diocese of Ely.

2. The provisions of Schedule 1 of the 2011 Measure shall apply to the constitution and procedures of the DMPC.

Overriding principles

3. In carrying out any of its functions the DMPC shall have regard to worship, mission and community as central to the life and work of the Church of England.

4. In carrying out any of its functions the DMPC shall also have regard to:

   a. the financial implications for the Diocese and the Church of England as a whole;

   b. subject to paragraph 17, the need to allocate appropriate spheres of work and to ensure that appropriate conditions of service are enjoyed by those employed or holding office in the Diocese and, where relevant, that reasonable remuneration is provided for all those engaged in the cure of souls;

   c. the traditions, needs and characteristics of particular parishes; and

   d. any other aspects of the policies of the Diocesan Synod to which the Synod has requested the DMPC to have regard in discharging its responsibilities.

Functions and duties of DMPC

5. It shall be the duty of the DMPC:
a. to make or assist in making better provision for the cure of souls in the Diocese as a whole and, to the extent that the DMPC thinks appropriate, in particular parts of the Diocese or in particular parishes;

b. from time to time, as the Bishop may direct, or as the DMPC thinks fit, to review arrangements for pastoral supervision and care in the Diocese as a whole and, to the extent that the DMPC thinks appropriate, in particular parts of the Diocese or in particular parishes (including sharing agreements in respect of a church or parsonage house and any proposals for sharing agreements);

c. from time to time, as the Bishop may direct, or as the DMPC thinks fit, to prepare strategies or proposals for carrying out the DMPC's functions under paragraphs (a) and (b) for submission to the Bishop and the Diocesan Synod for their approval;

d. to maintain an overview of matters relating to church buildings in the diocese and their use, other than matters which are within the jurisdiction of the consistory court or within the functions of the Diocesan Advisory Committee;

e. in conjunction with the Ely Diocesan Churches Uses Committee, in the case of listed buildings or buildings in a conservation area, to make, in accordance with section 55 of the 2011 Measure, every endeavour to find a suitable alternative use or suitable alternative uses for churches which are proposed to be closed and buildings which have been closed for regular public worship in the diocese under a pastoral church buildings scheme and, in the case of any other such building, to develop proposals for the suitable alternative use or uses of the building or for the demolition of the building and the disposal of its site;

f. where it considers it desirable, to make recommendations to the Bishop in accordance with section 6 or 21 for any of the matters for which provision may be made under the 2011 Measure (other than section 50) by a pastoral scheme or order; and

g. to carry out any other functions conferred upon the DMPC by any enactment.

6. The DMPC shall, in carrying out any of its functions, to the extent that it thinks appropriate, consult any other persons or bodies, whether within the Church of England or not, which exercise functions or carry out activities relevant to the functions of the DMPC.
7. Nothing in this section shall enable the DMPC:

   a. to exercise functions conferred on any other person or body by or under any enactment, or
   b. to fix or alter the terms of service of any person employed or holding office in the diocese.

Conventional districts

8. It shall be the duty of the DMPC from time to time as may be directed by the Bishop, and in any event at least once every five years, to review the arrangements for pastoral supervision in each conventional district in the Diocese and, in cases where they consider it desirable, to make recommendations to the Bishop in accordance with section 6 or 21 for any of the matters for which provision may be made under the 2011 Measure (other than section 50) by a pastoral scheme or pastoral order.

Delegation

9. In accordance with the power to delegate its functions to a sub-committee set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Schedule 1 of the 2011 Measure, the DMPC shall establish for each Archdeaconry in the Diocese an Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committee (‘ADMPC’) to undertake the functions of the DMPC (excepting the duty under section 6(5) or 21(4) to afford opportunities to incumbents of benefices and vicars in team ministries and persons subject to Common Tenure to meet the DMPC itself and its functions under Schedule 4).

10. The constitution for each ADMPC shall be in the form set out as Schedule 1 to this constitution.

11. Subject to paragraph 10 and the provisions of Part 2 and Schedule 1 of the 2011 Measure, the ADMPCs shall have power to regulate their own procedure and to provide for any other matters which they think fit.

12. In accordance with the power to delegate its functions to a sub-committee set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Schedule 1 of the 2011 Measure, the DMPC shall establish for the Diocese of Ely a Church Uses Committee (‘CUC’) to undertake the functions of the DMPC as particularly set out in clauses 5(d), 5(e) and 5(f) of this Constitution and Parts 4 and 6 of the 2011 Measure.
13. The constitution for the CUC shall be in the form set out as Schedule 2 to this constitution.

14. Subject to paragraph 13 and the provisions of Parts 4 and 6 and Schedule 1 of the 2011 Measure, the CUC shall have the power to regulate its own procedure and to provide for any other matters which it thinks fit.
2. Appointment of mission and pastoral committees

(1) The diocesan synod of every diocese shall establish a committee which shall have the functions conferred on it under this Measure.

(2) The committee established under subsection (1) may be called by such name as the diocesan synod may decide but, in this Measure and in any other enactment, instrument or document, shall be known as the mission and pastoral committee.

(3) The mission and pastoral committee shall not be the same body as the pastoral committee established under section 1 of the 1983 Measure unless it is reconstituted in accordance with subsection (4) but, otherwise, subject to that subsection, may be an existing body or a new body established to carry out the functions referred to in subsection (1) and may have other functions in addition to those functions.

(4) The diocesan synod shall provide the mission and pastoral committee with a written constitution or, if the committee is reconstituted as mentioned in subsection (3), an amended or new written constitution, which shall comply with the provisions of Schedule 1.

(5) The mission and pastoral committee shall present annually to the diocesan synod a report on its activities during the preceding year and shall also present annually to the Commissioners a report on the exercise of its functions under section 3(3)(e).

3. Functions of mission and pastoral committees

(1) In carrying out any of its functions the mission and pastoral committee shall, without prejudice to section 1, have regard to worship, mission and community as central to the life and work of the Church of England.

(2) In carrying out any of its functions the mission and pastoral committee shall also have regard to—

(a) the financial implications for the diocese and the Church of England as a whole;

(b) subject to subsection (5), the need to allocate appropriate spheres of work and to ensure that appropriate conditions of service are enjoyed by those employed or holding office in the diocese and, where relevant, that reasonable remuneration is provided for all those engaged in the cure of souls;

(c) the traditions, needs and characteristics of particular parishes; and

(d) any other aspects of the policies of the diocesan synod to which the synod has requested the committee to have regard in discharging its responsibilities.

(3) It shall be the duty of the mission and pastoral committee—

(a) to make or assist in making better provision for the cure of souls in the diocese as a whole and, to the extent that the committee thinks appropriate, in particular parts of the diocese or in particular parishes;

(b) from time to time, as the bishop may direct, or as the committee thinks fit, to review arrangements for pastoral supervision and care in the diocese as a whole and, to the extent that the committee thinks appropriate, in particular parts of the diocese or in particular parishes (including sharing agreements in respect of a church or parsonage house and any proposals for sharing agreements);

(c) from time to time, as the bishop may direct, or as the committee thinks fit, to prepare strategies or proposals for carrying out the committee’s functions.
under paragraphs (a) and (b) for submission to the bishop and the diocesan synod for their approval;

(d) to maintain an overview of matters relating to church buildings in the diocese and their use, other than matters which are within the jurisdiction of the consistory court or within the functions of the Diocesan Advisory Committee;

(e) in the case of listed buildings or buildings in a conservation area, to make, in accordance with section 55, every endeavour to find a suitable alternative use or suitable alternative uses for churches which are proposed to be closed and buildings which have been closed for regular public worship in the diocese under a pastoral church buildings scheme and, in the case of any other such building, to develop proposals for the suitable alternative use or uses of the building or for the demolition of the building and the disposal of its site;

(f) where it considers it desirable, to make recommendations to the bishop in accordance with section 6 or 21 for any of the matters for which provision may be made under this Measure (other than section 50) by a pastoral scheme or order; and

(g) to carry out any other functions conferred upon a mission and pastoral committee of a diocese by any enactment.

(4) The mission and pastoral committee shall, in carrying out any of its functions, to the extent that it thinks appropriate, consult any other persons or bodies, whether within the Church of England or not, which exercise functions or carry out activities relevant to the functions of the committee.

(5) Nothing in this section shall enable the mission and pastoral committee—

(a) to exercise functions conferred on any other person or body by or under any enactment, or

(b) to fix or alter the terms of service of any person employed or holding office in the diocese.

4. Conventional districts

It shall be the duty of the mission and pastoral committee of a diocese from time to time as may be directed by the bishop, and in any event at least once every five years, to review the arrangements for pastoral supervision in each conventional district in the diocese and, in cases where they consider it desirable, to make recommendations to the bishop in accordance with section 6 or 21 for any of the matters for which provision may be made under this Measure (other than section 50) by a pastoral scheme or pastoral order.
Section 55 of the 2011 Measure (delegated functions)

55. Functions of mission and pastoral committee concerning buildings closed for regular public worship

(1) The mission and pastoral committee shall be under a duty, in respect of each building proposed to be closed or closed for regular public worship (except where it is proposed to close a building and make provision for the future of the building under section 58)—
   (a) in the case of a listed building or a building situated in a conservation area, to make every endeavour to find a suitable alternative use or suitable alternative uses for the building, and
   (b) in the case of any other building, to develop proposals for the suitable alternative use or uses of the building or for the demolition of the building and disposal of its site.

(2) In carrying out its functions under this section the mission and pastoral committee shall obtain advice from the Commissioners, persons having expertise in the management, development and disposal of property and such other professional advisers as it thinks fit.

(3) The mission and pastoral committee shall report to the Commissioners at such times as it thinks appropriate on the progress made in discharging its duties under subsection (1) and, in any case, within the period of six months from its last report, and also when required to do so by the Commissioners.

(4) When the mission and pastoral committee has found a suitable alternative use or suitable alternative uses for the building or has reached the conclusion that no such use can be found or has developed proposals in accordance with subsection (1)(b) it shall report to the Commissioners with its recommendations or proposals.

(5) The Commissioners may, in the case of any building closed for regular public worship, require the mission and pastoral committee to refer the case to them and, thereupon, the duties under subsection (1) shall be discharged by the Commissioners instead of the committee, but the Commissioners shall, in carrying out that duty, consult the committee.
1. There shall be a person to be known as “the Chair”.

2. The bishop, if he so wishes, may be a member and may also be the Chair.

3. Unless the bishop is the Chair, the Chair shall be appointed by the bishop.

4. All archdeacons in the diocese shall be members or, if there is only one archdeacon, that archdeacon shall be a member.

5. Subject to paragraphs 1 to 4, the members of the committee shall be such number of persons and appointed or elected in such manner and for such period of office as the diocesan synod shall determine, but so as to secure that the number of members who are of the clergy and the number of members who are of the laity are, as nearly as possible, the same.

6. The written constitution of the committee shall provide for a quorum.

7. Subject to paragraph 6, the committee may act notwithstanding any vacancy in the membership or any defect in its composition.

8. The committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees and to appoint to them persons who are not members of the committee but the constitution may prescribe the minimum numbers or proportion of members of a sub-committee who are members of the committee.

9. The committee may delegate any of its functions to a sub-committee except the duty under section 6(5) or 21(4) to afford opportunities to incumbents of benefices and vicars in team ministries and persons subject to Common Tenure to meet the committee itself and its functions under Schedule 4.

10. The committee and any sub-committee shall have power to appoint persons who have appropriate expertise whether or not as members of another body to provide advice on any of their functions.

11. The committee shall have power to make provision for the appointment of a secretary to the committee and any sub-committee.

12. Subject to the preceding provisions of this Schedule and to any directions given by the diocesan synod, the committee shall have power to regulate its own procedure and that of any sub-committee and to provide for any other matters which it thinks fit.