

Parish of the Itchen Valley –Policy Guidance

- 1 This Policy Guidance relates to the Parish of the Itchen Valley created by the merger of the Parishes of Avington, Easton, Itchen Abbas and Martyr Worthy. It is the Policy Guidance referred to in the Scheme under the Pastoral Measure 1983 which comes into effect in April 2014, in full replacement of all previous provisions for the constitution of parish governance.
- 2 The Policy Guidance will be reviewed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) from time to time. It will be annexed to the Scheme and presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at least every five years.
- 3 It is the intention of the Parochial Church Council to keep the four parish churches open for regular and festival worship. The four parish churches are St Mary Avington, St Mary Easton, St John the Baptist Itchen Abbas and St Swithun Martyr Worthy.
- 4 The PCC will not make major changes or alterations to a church building without the prior agreement of the churchwardens nominated under the Scheme as wardens of that church and of the District Church Council for that church.
- 5 The PCC will delegate to the District Church Councils the day-to-day administration of their church and responsibility for maintaining the fabric of the church and churchyard and the management of projects relating to them, with funds allocated by the PCC. The District Church Councils may make recommendations to the PCC on the use of PCC funds restricted to their church.
- 6 For each church, the churchwardens nominated under the Scheme as wardens of that church and the District Church Council may, if they wish to do so, appoint assistant churchwardens, vergers or sacristans for their church. These positions are honorary and have no legal status but their holders may attend PCC meetings and District Church Council meetings as observers.
- 7 The PCC will use committees as appropriate to ensure the efficient conduct of business. Committees will operate under delegated authority from the PCC and will report regularly to the PCC, including for the budgeting, management and accounting of any funds allocated to them. Membership of the Standing Committee will comprise the Rector, the churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.
- 8 The finances of the Parish, both income and expenditure, will be generated, budgeted, managed and reported on a parish-wide basis. There will be a Finance Committee whose detailed terms of reference will be agreed by the PCC.

Approved by the PCC.....

Resolved by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.....