



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

**Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich**

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sudbury

Date: January 2025

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

1 Details of post	
Role title	Rector
Name of benefice	Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland
Deanery	Gipping Valley
Archdeaconry	Sudbury
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	Archdeacon of Sudbury, The Ven Dr David Jenkins

2 Role purpose
General
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 Rector 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 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 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. nb. LEP covenant agreement with local URC congregation.

Schools
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.
Specific tasks and responsibilities
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 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.

3 Key contacts										
<table> <tr> <td>Generic</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bishops</td> <td>The Deanery Chapter & Synod</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Archdeacon</td> <td>The Churchwardens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Rural Dean</td> <td>The Lay Chair</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The PCCs</td> <td>Headteachers</td> </tr> </table>	Generic		Bishops	The Deanery Chapter & Synod	The Archdeacon	The Churchwardens	The Rural Dean	The Lay Chair	The PCCs	Headteachers
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Bishops	The Deanery Chapter & Synod									
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<p>Specific Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop's licence, office holders and administrative staff)</p>										
<p>Aspirational To develop vocations, including licensed and authorised ministries and ordained ministry</p> <p>To further develop the environmental standing of the parishes</p>										
<p>Supportive The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post. The Lay Chair, the Rural Dean and Assistant Rural Dean Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry</p>										

<p>Patrons Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Board of Patronage Lord Chancellor</p>
<p>Role context and any other relevant information</p> <p>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 Parish 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 Bishop expects and encourages 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>4 Benefice Summary</p>	
<p>Parishes</p>	<p>Haughley Stowupland Wetherden</p>
<p>Churches</p>	<p>Haughley : The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Grade I) Stowupland : Holy Trinity (Grade II) Wetherden : St Mary the Virgin (Grade I)</p>
<p>PCC</p>	<p>The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.</p>
<p>Schools and Colleges</p>	<p>Haughley: Crawford's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School Stowupland: High School Stowupland: Freeman Community Primary School</p>
<p>Churchwardens</p>	<p>2 in Wetherden and Stowupland; 1 in Haughley</p>
<p>Ministers</p>	<p>1 Lay Elder, 1 Lay Elder in training, 1 SSOM Curate</p>
<p>Buildings</p>	<p>Stowupland: Church Hall (next to church) Haughley: Post Office and 'Maxwell Charnley' Community Room, Small Meeting Room (in Church)</p>
<p>Churchyards (Open or closed)</p>	<p>Haughley : The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (open) Stowupland : Holy Trinity (closed) Wetherden : St Mary the Virgin (open)</p>

Population	Haughley : 1,638 Stowupland : 2,263 Wetherden : 543
Average Sunday Attendance	Haughley : 21 Stowupland : 15 Wetherden : 22
Parish Share	2024 - £74,452 : £55,671 Received (74.77%) 2023 - £72,464 : £52,486 Received (72.43%) 2022 - £68,440 : £59,109 Received (86.36%)
Expenses	Reimbursed in full
Resolutions	None
Church Tradition	Central
Pastoral re-organisation	None planned
Presence of other Christian denominations	Wetherden: Baptist Church Stowupland: URC Stowmarket: Roman Catholic Church
Presence of other faith communities	