

Role description signed off by: The Archdeacon of Sudbury Date: November 2024

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	North Bosmere
Deanery	Gipping Valley
Archdeaconry	Sudbury
Initial point of contact on terms of service	The Ven Dr David Jenkins Archdeacon of Sudbury

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 and ensure a plan for growth (PFG) is in place within 6 months.

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.

To ensure compliance and effective practice regarding all safeguarding matters including training.

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 *Growing in God* strategy.

3 Key contacts

Generic

Bishops The Archdeacon The Rural Dean The PCCs The Deanery Chapter & Synod The Churchwardens The Lay Chair Headteachers

Specific

Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop's licence, office holders and administrative staff)

Aspirational

to actively promote the Christian faith in our primary schools and foster their relationships with the church, and who will support and encourage families, children and young adults in their involvement with our churches.

Supportive

The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post. The Lay Chair The Rural Dean Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry

Patrons

Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Board of Patronage Pembroke College Cambridge

Role context and any other relevant information

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 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.

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.

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.

4 Benefice Summary				
Parishes	Coddenham Gosbeck Hemingstone Crowfield Stonham Aspal & M Creeting St Mary Creeting St Peter Earl Stonham with S			
Churches	Coddenham Gosbeck Hemingstone Crowfield Stonham Aspal Mickfield Creeting St Mary Creeting St Peter Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva	St Peter St Mary the Virgin	Grade 1 Grade 2* Grade 1 Grade 2* Grade 1 Grade 2* Grade 1 Grade 1	

PCC	The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.	
Schools and Colleges	2 Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary schools; one in Creeting St Mary and the other in Stonham Aspal.	
Churchwardens	Coddenham : 2 Gosbeck : 1 Hemingstone : 1 Crowfield : 1 Stonham Aspal & Mickfield : 1 Creeting St Mary : 1 Creeting St Peter : 0 Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva : 2	
Ministers	Lay Elders : 5 Readers : 2 Assistant Priest (SSM) 1 There is also regular assistance from a retired priest	
Buildings	Three – Creeting St Mary, Creeting St Peter and Earl Stonham have small halls known as church rooms. The others all have access to good village halls.	
Churchyards (Open or closed)	All have churchyards; all are open.	
Population	Coddenham -:500 Gosbeck : 220 Hemingstone : 245 Crowfield : 375 Stonham Aspal : 589 & Mickfield : 190 Creeting St Mary : 650 Creeting St Peter : 200 Earl Stonham : 600 with Stonham Parva : 370	
Average Sunday Attendance	Coddenham : 9-19 Gosbeck : 7-11 Hemingstone : 9-11 Crowfield : 8 Stonham Aspal & Mickfield : 10-15 Creeting St Mary : 11 Creeting St Peter : 8-14 Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva : 12	
Parish Share	2023 : £75,797 – 100.12% Received 2022 : £71,460 – 101.62% Received 2021 : £71,077 – 100.19% Received	
Expenses	Reimbursed in full	

Resolutions	n/a
Church Tradition	Central
Pastoral re- organisation	None planned
Presence of other Christian denominations	Baptist Chapel Stonham Parva Independent Evangelical Church in Mickfield The Faith Mission in Earl Stonham
Presence of other faith communities	