

Team Rector Appointment – a layman’s technical guide which is useless without prayer!

What or who is a Patron?

A patron is someone with an historic ‘say’ in the appointment of an incumbent, often associated with the initial funding of the construction of the church building. Typically the patron proposes a candidate and the bishop and two lay members of the PCC (known as the Parish Reps) each have a veto. Great Chesham was formed by the joining of three separate parishes in 1980 and in those there were two patrons. The Peache Trust - who recently passed its patronage duties to the Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS), and Mr Robert Dorrien-Smith (who’s family were behind the construction of St John the Evangelist, Ashley Green). It was therefore agreed that a Patronage Board would be formed to fulfil the duties of a patron.

Who undertakes the shortlisting and interviews of candidates?

All the persons on the Patronage Board plus the Parish Reps take part in the shortlisting and interviews.

Who are the Parish Reps?

These were appointed unopposed at the ‘Section 11’ meeting of the PCC held on 4 November 2019 and are the St Mary’s wardens – Mr Paul Brooks and Mrs Ruth Brown.

Who is on the Patronage Board and how do they reach a decision on who to propose?

Clearly, for the benefit of the parish they would try to reach an unanimous decision (as they did for the previous incumbent) but to help that process they can vote as follows;

| Patronage Board | Patron CPAS | Patron Mr Dorrien-Smith | Bishop | Team Vicars x2 | Lay members of PCC x3 * |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| | Rev. Mike Duff | Mr Dorrien-Smith | Bishop Alan (Chair) | Rev. John Shepherd (other post vacant) | To be appointed. |
| Vote | 1 vote | 1 vote | 1 vote and casting vote | 1 vote | 1 vote |

* It is anticipated that the three lay members on the board will be appointed at the January 2020 meeting of the PCC.

What happens then?

The patronage board then propose a candidate to the bishop and to the Parish Reps. – and individually they decide whether to accept or reject the proposal.