

Role Description: Benefices of Amble and Chevington

1 Introduction

The role description gives an outline of the responsibilities of a position. These may develop while someone is in post and this document will need to be kept up to date. It should be reviewed as necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

2 Details of post

- 2.1 Role title: Priest in Charge of Amble and Chevington
- 2.2 Names of benefices: Amble and Chevington
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Alnwick; Lindisfarne
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne

3 Role purpose: General

- 3.1 To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls.
- 3.2 Ever prayerful and mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you in the Ordinal, the Canons, national Safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, in accordance with the Archbishops' statement *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy*, your ministry will be shaped by the Diocesan vision Seeking, Sharing, Sending and marked by a generosity of spirit, an engagement with the people and situations you serve, and an openness to the promptings of God's love.
- 3.3 Your priestly vocation demands the careful preparation for, and the leading of public worship, the imaginative proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the loving service of all God's people entrusted to your care. Together with your priestly colleagues and lay ministers, you will work collaboratively to enable the gifts of all God's people to be developed in the Service of his Kingdom.
- 3.4 In your priestly ministry you will take an active part in the Diocesan strategy Seeking, Sharing, Sending. This will include collaborative parish conversations and planning for mission and ministry as well as working with colleagues across the Deanery and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants, spiritual directors and Continuing Ministerial Formation programs, and you will be expected to participate in the scheme of Ministerial Development Review.
- 3.5 Above all, you will remember that we are called to minister by a gracious, generous self-giving and loving God, as together we seek the Kingdom, share the faith, search for truth, serve our neighbour and follow Jesus in his suffering love for the salvation of all people.

Role Purpose – Generic and Specific

- 3.6 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parishes of Amble and Chevington.
- 3.7 To be a visible and involved presence in the parishes and to take an active interest in local matters as they impact on local communities, recognising and adapting to the diverse demographic needs in the villages and church communities.
- 3.8 To help lead and nurture new and deepening collaborations across the churches so that the gifts and skills of all are developed, new vocations to a variety of ministries emerge, and the partnership between lay and ordained strengthens.
- 3.9 To work pro-actively in Alnwick Deanery Chapter and Synod, maximising the positive impact of formal and informal links with stipendiary, self-supporting and active retired clergy and playing your part in the implementation of the deanery plan for mission and ministry.
- 3.10 With the PCCs, to develop action plans for the parishes, identifying areas of joint working as appropriate to enable the growth of the local churches in numbers, spiritual depth and missional engagement, developing ways for those interested in exploring faith to learn more about the Gospel.
- 3.11 To review with the PCCs the existing activities with children, young people and their families – including schools work - and to plan for new styles of effective engagement, including suitable acts of worship.
- 3.12 To create opportunities for parishioners to explore the scriptures in small groups and to develop in their Christian knowledge and practical discipleship.
- 3.13 To stimulate the PCCs to develop the use of their buildings so that they better serve the needs of their local communities.
- 3.14 To guide the laity in supporting, jointly with the clergy, those in need of help, welcoming newcomers and nourishing the faith of those already part of the established congregations.
- 3.15 To continually access fresh resources for ministry, to engage in the diocesan programme for Continuing Ministerial Development and to take time to develop personal spirituality.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop and Archdeacon of Lindisfarne;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Councils;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;
- d. Diocesan support staff including Safeguarding, Generous Giving and Vocations teams.

4.2 Specific

- a. Headteachers, staff and pupils of the local schools as they make their transition from a three tier to a primary and secondary model.
- b. Staff and residents of local care home
- c. Local ecumenical partners in the Roman Catholic, Methodist, URC and Free churches
- d. Local businesses, especially those associated with tourism and heritage

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Alnwick Deanery
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.
- d. The Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry

5. Role Context

Situated within the beautiful region of North Northumberland, the parishes lie very close to Northumberland National Park, an SSSI, and an AONB coastline, offering spectacular walks and views. Yet the parishes are also well connected by road networks and are therefore commutable distance to the city of Newcastle and the nearby market towns of Morpeth and Alnwick. The parishes are very different, one with its mining history and the other with its fishing, but both are growing numerically with new housing and offer potential for church growth and increased community engagement, especially through the schools as these transition from a three tier to primary and secondary system.

This will be the first time these two parishes have shared a priest; the PCCs have been working together, eg on eco projects, and seek a priest who will facilitate discernment towards more shared activities. Alnwick deanery has a strong Deanery Development Group with clear vision in the areas of governance, mission and sustainability, and no further pastoral re-organisation is envisaged at this time. Both churches are in good repair and offer opportunities for complementary uses as community engagement grows.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	Two
Churches and listing	St Cuthbert, Amble, Grade II listed St John the Divine, Chevington, unlisted Hawksley Chapel, (Interdenominational Local Ecumenical Partnership)
Parsonage	Modern detached house in Amble.
Other buildings	Amble Parish Hall
Churchwardens	Two in each parish
Ministers (including local ministry)	Two Readers and a Church Army Evangelist at Amble, active retired clergy also serve the parishes. One Reader at Chevington

Population (2021 census)	Amble 6,174 Chevington 4,561
Usual Sunday Attendance	Amble 45 Chevington 15 Hawksley Chapel 10
Parish Share offered (2023)	Amble £31,820 Chevington £6,000
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Central Anglican
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Good links with local schools. Support for food bank at Amble and Hadston Visiting at local care homes. Community events in churches and parish hall and local community centre. Support for local, national and international charities.
Business element	Income from Parish Hall bookings.
Ecumenical links	Both are members of Churches Together, which share in joint services and outreach.

7 Review

The Archdeacon will review this role description with you when you have been in post for six months.