



The Diocese of Southwark

The Venerable Simon Gates
Archdeacon of Lambeth

The Venerable Moira Astin
Archdeacon of Reigate

The Venerable John Kiddle
Archdeacon of Wandsworth

The Venerable Dr Jane Steen
Archdeacon of Southwark

The Venerable Dr Rosemarie Mallett
Archdeacon of Croydon

The Venerable Alastair Cutting
Archdeacon of Lewisham &
Greenwich

9th February 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Annual Meetings and APCMs

Thank you for your patience while we waited for the definitive answer to your questions about Annual Meetings of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meetings. Thank you too for all that you continue to do in sustaining the Church through these hard, and undoubtedly longer, pandemic times than any of us either expected or wanted. Please do know that you are very much in our prayers and thoughts.

The next paragraphs set out the way forward on Annual Meetings and APCMs.

You will remember that Bishop Christopher gave permission last year for Annual Meetings and APCMs from 2020 to be completed by 31st May 2021. Many of you took the opportunity of eased lockdowns in the warmer months to complete your meetings. Many others will still have those meetings outstanding.

The position on 2020 meetings remains unchanged: these must be completed by 31st May 2021. The 2021 meetings must also be completed by this date. You may choose to have both meetings on the same day. If you do, please ensure the minutes clearly reflect which meetings are the 2020 meetings and which the 2021.

The Bishop has now additionally signed an instrument setting out expectations and approval for in-person, electronic and mixed mode meetings for parish meetings, deanery synods and the admission of churchwardens. The instrument includes publicising these meetings. We send the instrument and an additional sheet of FAQs.

Once again, thank you for all the ministry you offer to your parishes and congregations and the wider Church and world during these difficult times. You are much in our hearts and we commend you to the Lord's grace.

John Kiddle *Simon Gates* *Moira Astin*
[Signature] *Jane Steen* *Alastair Cutting*

The Archdeacons of the Diocese