VACANCIES FLOWCHART

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Is the benefice suspended?

Your Vicar, Rector or Priest-in-Charge is leaving and there is to be a vacancy. What happens next? This flowchart should guide you through the main steps. However there is much more information on the Church Society Trust webpages.

All posts are now under Common Tenure.

Is any consideration being given to pastoral reorganization in the area? This means there ought to be some proposals under consideration at a Deanery or Diocesan level.

If a scheme is already being considered an Incumbent can be appointed but with Qualified Common Tenure.

The patrons rights are restricted usually for 1 year. This prevents a patron making an appointment without permission from the Bishop and Diocesan Pastoral Committee.

Consultation takes place about possible suspension. Various parties must be consulted. The Bishop and Diocesan Pastoral Committee must both agree in order for the suspension to go ahead. It is usual to suspend for a period of 5 years.

The suspension of the Benefice means that an incumbent cannot be appointed. Instead a Priest-in-Charge will be appointed. They do not hold the freehold of the properties and properly speaking are not the Vicar or Rector.

This is technically the Bishop's appointment and some of the legislation does not apply. Resolution B, requiring that only a man be appointed is still binding.

Is some link with another nearby benefice proposed in which the Incumbent or Priest-in-Charge of that parish will become Priest-in-Charge of your parish?

Yes

For further information go to www.churchsocietytrust.org.uk

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