

## **Draft Pastoral (Church Buildings Disposal) Scheme**

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners (“the Commissioners”) this ..... day of ..... 20.... under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.

### **Background**

By a Scheme of the Commissioners made under the Pastoral Measure 1983 on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2005 (“the 2005 Scheme”) the closed church building of Saint Bartholomew, Chichester and the land annexed or belonging thereto (“the property”) together shown hatched on the attached plan was appropriated to use as a chapel for Chichester College , including use for worship by any Church which is a member or associate member of or an official observer at Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and/or for educational and/or cultural and/or community purposes and for purposes ancillary thereto and the Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance was empowered to lease or license the property for the said uses.

The property is no longer used or required for the said uses and it is now desired to make new provision for its future.

NOW, it is provided as follows:-

### **Future of the church building and annexed land**

1. Clauses 2 and 3 of the 2005 Scheme are hereby revoked.
2. The property shall be appropriated to use as a Dance Studio and for educational and/or cultural and/or community and/or for office and studio purposes and for purposes ancillary thereto.

### **Disposal**

3. The Commissioners are hereby empowered to sell the property for any or all of the said uses.
4. The contents of the building shall be disposed of as the Bishop shall direct subject to listed building consent, if required, being granted.

### **Coming into operation of this Scheme**

5. This Scheme shall not come into operation until such date or dates as the Commissioners shall determine following the making of this Scheme and different provisions of the Scheme may be brought into operation on different dates and the Commissioners shall not be obliged to bring the Scheme or any part thereof into operation until such time as they are satisfied that the conditions specified in Schedule 1 have been complied with but may do so if they so determine.

In witness of which this Scheme has been duly executed as a deed by the Church Commissioners.

Executed as a Deed by the Church Commissioners for England acting by two authorised signatories:

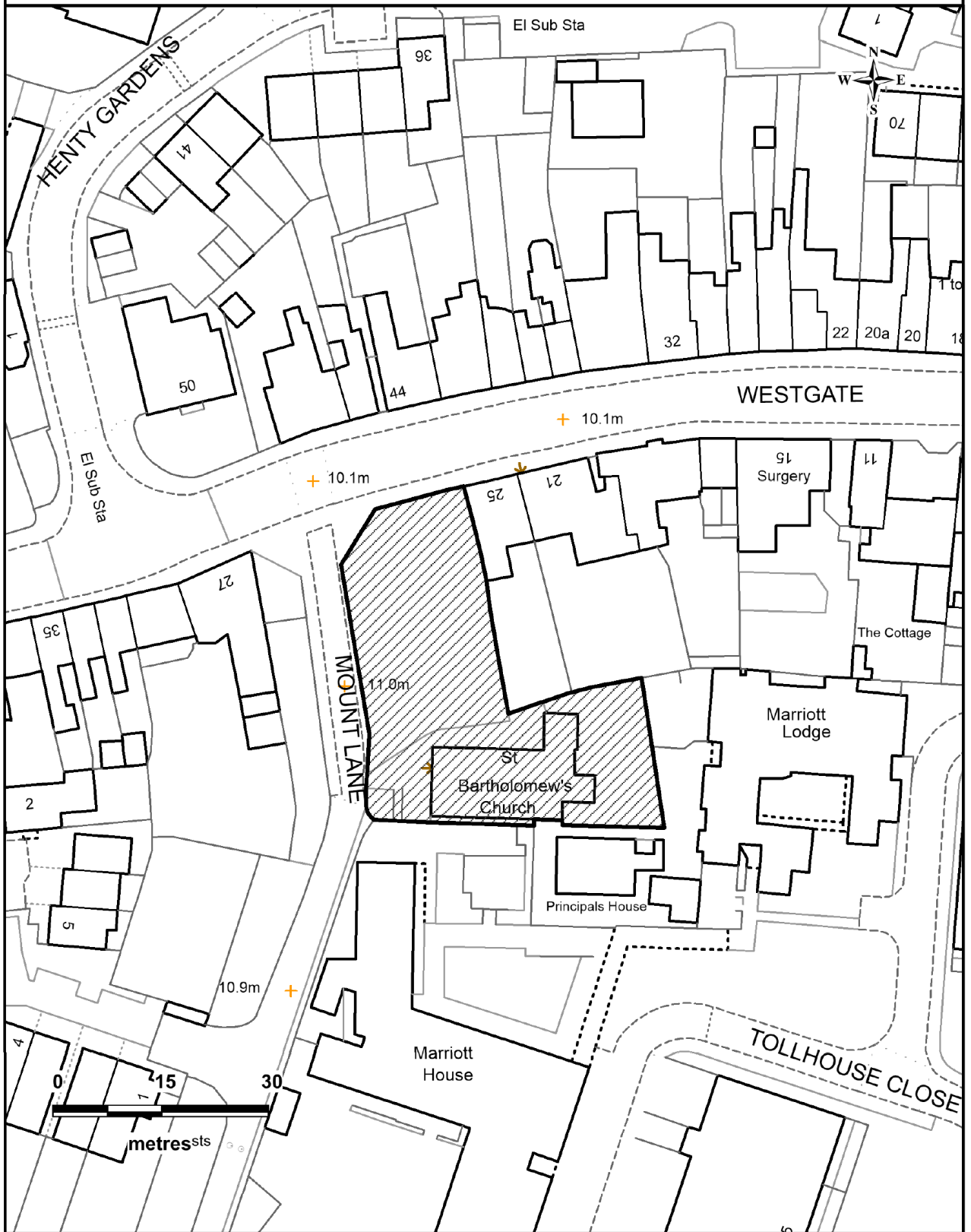
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Signature of Authorised Signatory

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Signature of Authorised Signatory

**Schedule 1: Conditions**

- (i) That planning permission has been obtained for some or all of the proposed uses.
- (ii) That Listed Building Consent has been obtained for such alterations as are necessary to enable the implementation of all or some of the proposed uses.

# Former Church of Chichester St Bartholomew



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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

### MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011 DRAFT PASTORAL (CHURCH BUILDINGS DISPOSAL) SCHEME CHICHESTER ST BARTHOLOMEW DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER

This note accompanies a draft scheme under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 which makes provision for the future of a closed church building, The Church Commissioners provide this information so that individuals and interested parties can understand the background to the proposals, make a reasoned judgement on the merits of the draft scheme and, if they see fit, a reasoned expression of support or objection to it.

#### **The Current Proposals**

The Commissioners have agreed to publish a draft Pastoral (Church Buildings Disposal) Scheme providing for the former church of Chichester St Bartholomew to be appropriated to use as a Dance Studio and or educational and/or cultural and/or community purposes and/or for office and studio purposes and empowering the Commissioners to sell the building and its churchyard for these purposes.

#### **Background**

St Bartholomew's was closed by a Scheme made under the Union of Benefices Measures on 13 May 1959 and appropriated to use as a chapel by the Chichester Theological College. After the College closed in 1995, in 1998 a Scheme made under the Pastoral Measure 1983 empowered the Diocese of Chichester to lease the building for worship, services and other religious activities by the Chichester Team Ministry and the Community of the Servants of the Cross. That lease terminated in 2004 and by a further Scheme made in October 2005 the Diocese was empowered to lease the building and churchyard for use by Chichester College as a chaplaincy centre and for educational purposes and as a performance venue.

Following the termination of this lease in 2018, the Diocese explored whether the Church had any further need for the building before deciding to place it on the market. Marketing during 2020 produced an offer from the Rosemary Bell Academy of Dance to use the building as a dance school to train children and adults in ballet dancing. The Academy, which has operated locally from hired accommodation for a number of years, now seeks a permanent basis to sustain its future and allow further growth.

The proposed use will involve minimal structural alterations to the property, focussed on providing w.c. and office facilities.

#### **The Building**

St Bartholomew's is a Grade II listed building situated in a churchyard in Mount Lane, off West Gate, to the west of Chichester City Centre. The churchyard walls are listed Grade II

and the property is situated in a conservation area. The church was built in 1830 to the designs of George Draper in a mid-Georgian style. The chancel was added in 1929 to designs by MacDonald Gill when the small west tower was removed. The building now consists of a nave and chancel with a sacristy to the north. It is constructed of local grey limestone and ashlar blocks and the roofs are of slate.

### **Burials and the Churchyard**

The churchyard will be included in the sale. No disturbance of human remains or further relocation of the tombstones (many of which have been previously placed against the perimeter walls) is proposed. Connection to mains drainage will be routed beneath existing paths. Restrictive covenants will prohibit further changes without the Commissioners' consent. The site is believed to stand within the area of a Roman cemetery and to be of considerable archaeological importance.

### **Making the Draft Scheme**

Before they allow the Scheme to proceed the Commissioners will need to be satisfied that planning permission and listed building consent has been granted for the proposed alterations to the building.

### **Correspondence**

Further information about the proposals may be obtained from the Case Officer, Adrian Browning by e-mail at [adrian.browning@churchofengland.org](mailto:adrian.browning@churchofengland.org) or by telephone at 01722 438664.

### **Representations against or in support of the draft Scheme**

Anyone may make a representation for or against any provision of the draft Scheme.

Representations should be sent to:

**Representations  
Closed Churches Division, Church Commissioners  
Church House  
Great Smith Street  
London SW1P 3AZ**

Or by e-mail to: [closedchurches.reps@churchofengland.org](mailto:closedchurches.reps@churchofengland.org)

Any communication received after Thursday 27 May 2021 cannot be treated as a representation.

If we receive representations against the draft Scheme, we will send all representations, both for and against, to the Bishop, whose view will be sought. Individual representors will then receive copies of our correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and they may comment further in writing to us in light of the diocesan response if they so wish.

If no representations against the Scheme are received the Commissioners shall make the Scheme and bring it into effect as provided for in the scheme and explained above.

Information on the Mission and pastoral Measure 2011 and its procedures can be found on the Church Commissioners' web-site at [www.ccpastoral.org](http://www.ccpastoral.org) where there are also links to download copies of these notes and the draft scheme.

A M G Browning  
19 April 2021