

**MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011
DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF A PARISH AND CLOSURE OF A CHURCH
BENEFICE OF TODMORDEN WITH CONRHOLME AND WALSDEN**

SUMMARY OF MAIN PROVISIONS OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

These draft Proposals provide for:

- *dissolving the parish of Walsden*
- *transferring the area of the parish of Walsden to the parish of Todmorden with Cornholme;*
- *altering the name of the parish of Todmorden with Cornholme to “The Parish of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden”;*
- *the church of the parish of Walsden to be declared closed for regular public worship*

all within the Diocese of Leeds

DRAFT PROPOSALS

Part I

Dissolution of parish of Walsden

1. The parish of Walsden in the diocese of Leeds shall be dissolved.

Transfer of area of parish

2. The area of the parish of Walsden shall be transferred to the parish of Todmorden with Cornholme.

Alteration of name of parish

3. The name of the parish of Todmorden with Cornholme shall be altered to “The Parish of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden”.

Assistant curates: consequential provision

4. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in the parish of Walsden he, she or they shall as consequence of the dissolution of parish effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the renamed parish of Todmorden with Cornholme and Walsden.

Part II

Declaration of closure for regular public worship

5. (1) The church of Saint Peter, being the parish church of the parish of Walsden, shall be declared closed for regular public worship by this Scheme.
(2) Subject to any provisions of the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978 which apply thereto and any directions thereunder, any register books and records of that church which remain in parochial custody shall be dealt with as the Bishop shall direct.

Part III

Coming into operation of these Draft Proposals

6. (1) Parts I and II of these draft proposals shall come into operation upon such date or dates as the Commissioners, after consultation with the Bishop, shall determine.
- (2) Part III of these draft proposals shall come into operation upon the date on which a Scheme prepared is made by the Commissioners in pursuance of these proposals.

Notes by the Diocesan office (not forming part of the Draft Proposals)

The rationale behind the diocesan proposals is as follows:

The church of St Peter Walsden has been closed on health and safety grounds following a quinquennial inspection that identified severe water ingress in the tower which had resulted in damage to the internal plaster work and electrics. Other urgent major repairs to the church were also identified totaling over £670K.

The PCC do not have the funds to pay for these works. A public meeting was held where the future of the church building was discussed. Sunday worship is continuing in another local venue. A community group was set up to ascertain local views on the building's future. This group concluded that although there was interest in retaining the building for community use, there was no interest in retaining it for worship.