

Act, 1874, and of the Acts mentioned therein, have prepared and now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council the following Scheme which we have prepared with the consent of the Right Reverend Tom. Bishop of Hereford (in witness whereof he has signed and sealed the same), with respect to the rural deaneries of Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Burford, and Stottesdon within the archdeaconry of Ludlow in the diocese of Hereford.

“SCHEME

“As from the day on which any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette (and without any assurance in the law other than such duly gazetted Order) the said rural deanery of Stottesdon shall cease to exist and the parishes or cures or churches formerly comprising the said rural deanery shall be transferred to and shall comprise part of the rural deaneries of Ludlow, Bridgnorth and Burford as specified in the First, Second and Third Parts of the Schedule hereto.

“SCHEDULE

“FIRST PART

“Parishes or Cures or Churches forming part of the rural deanery of Stottesdon to be transferred to the rural deanery of Ludlow.

Cleeton St. Mary
Farlow
Silvington.

“SECOND PART

“Parishes or Cures or Churches forming part of the rural deanery of Stottesdon to be transferred to the rural deanery of Bridgnorth.

Aston Botterell
Billingsley St. Mary
Burwarton
Cleobury North
Ditton Priors
Middleton Scriven
Neenton All Saints
Sidbury
Stottesdon
Wheatthill with the Chapelry of Loughton.

“THIRD PART

“Parishes or Cures or Churches forming part of the rural deanery of Stottesdon to be transferred to the rural deanery of Burford.

Dodddington
Cleobury Mortimer
Hopton Wafers
Kinlet
Neen Savage.”

And whereas the provisions of the said Acts relating to the preparation and submission of this Scheme, have been duly complied with:

And whereas the said Scheme has been approved by Her Majesty in Council:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her said Council, is pleased hereby to ratify the said Scheme, and to order and direct that the same and every part thereof shall be effectual in law immediately upon the publication of this Order in the London Gazette pursuant to the said Acts.

And Her Majesty, by and with the like advice, is pleased hereby to direct that this Order be forthwith registered by the Registrar of the said diocese of Hereford.

W. G. Agnew.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 7th day of April, 1955.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Church Commissioners have duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a Scheme bearing date the 7th day of January, 1955, in the words and figures following, that is to say:

“We, the Church Commissioners, acting in pursuance of the Pastoral Reorganisation Measure, 1949, and the Union of Benefices Measures, 1923 to 1952, now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council the following Scheme which we have prepared with the consent of the Right Reverend Walter Hubert, Bishop of Blackburn (in witness whereof he has signed the Scheme), for effecting the union of the benefice of

Blackburn and the benefice of Saint Paul, Blackburn, both situate in the diocese of Blackburn.

“SCHEME

“1. *Union of Benefices.* The benefice of Blackburn and the benefice of Saint Paul, Blackburn shall be permanently united together and form one benefice with cure of souls under the style of ‘The United Benefice of Saint Mary the Virgin and Saint Paul, Blackburn’, and the parishes of the said benefices shall also be united into one parish for ecclesiastical purposes.

“2. *Taking effect of union.* (1) If upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council affirming this Scheme is published in the London Gazette the benefice of Saint Paul, Blackburn shall be vacant, the union shall forthwith take effect, but if upon that day the said benefice of Saint Paul, Blackburn shall be full the union shall take effect immediately upon the next vacation thereof.

“(2) If upon the union taking effect the Very Reverend William Kay is the incumbent of the benefice of Blackburn he shall with his consent (testified by his signature hereto) be the first incumbent of the united benefice.

“3. *Parish Church.* The parish church of the parish of Blackburn (being the cathedral church of Blackburn) shall be the parish church of the united parish.

“4. *Registers.* The marriage registers current at the church of Saint Paul, Blackburn, shall be dealt with in accordance with Section 62 of the Marriage Act, 1949, and the register books (if any) of baptism and burials and other the records and muniments deposited in the said church shall be transferred to the church of Saint Mary the Virgin, Blackburn.

“5. *Parsonage House.* Upon the union taking effect the parsonage house at present belonging to the benefice of Blackburn shall be the house of residence of the incumbent of the united benefice and the parsonage house belonging to the benefice of Saint Paul, Blackburn, and the site and appurtenances thereof and the grounds heretofore usually occupied and enjoyed therewith shall be sold and disposed of by us for a nominal consideration to the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance as trustees to be used as a house of residence for an assistant curate of the united benefice.

“6. *Taking down of Church.* (1) As soon as conveniently may be after the union has taken effect the church of Saint Paul, Blackburn, shall be taken down and the materials and site thereof, together with any ground annexed thereto and necessary for the use and enjoyment thereof, shall be sold and disposed of by us, at such time or times and in such manner in all respects as to us shall seem expedient subject to the conditions and restrictions imposed by the said Measures.

“(2) The net proceeds to arise from such sale or sales after payment of the expenses attendant thereon and upon the taking down of the church and all other expenses incidental to these matters shall be carried to the curacy fund referred to in clause 8 of this Scheme.

“(3) The font, communion table and plate used for the purpose of the Holy Communion in the said church of Saint Paul, Blackburn, shall not be sold, but shall in accordance with the provisions of the said Union of Benefices Measures and as the bishop of the said diocese of Blackburn may direct, be transferred to some other church or churches within the said diocese and the bells, organ and other furniture and fittings of the said church of Saint Paul, Blackburn, or such of them as the said bishop shall select, shall be removed to any other church or chapel or churches or chapels within the said diocese which the bishop may direct or shall be sold and in such case the proceeds shall be added to the said curacy fund.

“7. *Patronage.* The patronage of the united benefice shall belong wholly to the patron of the benefice of Blackburn.

“8. *Employment of a curate or clerical or lay assistance.*

“(1) Upon the union taking effect the incumbent shall, in order to assist him in performing the duties of the united benefice, employ a curate or curates or such other clerical or lay assistance as the bishop of the diocese may from time to time direct.

“(2) Upon the union taking effect there shall be appropriated as a fund towards the cost of providing such assistance as aforesaid—

“(a) the net proceeds of the sales effected pursuant to clause 6 of this Scheme,