



# Role Description

## **Diocese of Carlisle**

**Date** December 2016

### **1. Details of Post : House for Vision / Pioneer Minister**

Role Title ( as on Licence ): Priest in Charge

Name Parish Coniston and Torver

Archdeaconry of Westmoreland and Furness

Deanery of Furness

Initial point of contact on terms of Service : Archdeacon

### **2. Role Purpose**

To proclaim the Kingdom of God in the villages of Coniston and Torver so as to set before the two communities the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all its fullness with the aim of making new disciples of Jesus Christ and growing the church, building on the faithful ministry of the past. Coniston and Torver are looking for a man or woman of vision who will lead the people of these vibrant communities into fresh mission and discipleship for the building up of the Body of Christ in this place. This is a calling to a front line ministry.

### **3. General**

#### **1. Spirituality**

To know and love the Lord Jesus in a strong personal relationship with Him, and a passion for developing this through Bible Study, Prayer and personal discipline enabling him or her to be on fire with a love for the Lord, in the power of the Holy spirit, which is both infectious and compelling. Someone with a mature Theological grasp and a capacity for Spiritual reflection and support network which may include a Spiritual Director and/or Mentor.

#### **2 Personal Development**

To continue to grow in in personal skills and knowledge, in relation to ministry through the cultivation of fellowship, courses of study, attending conferences and other opportunities for drawing on the availability of world-wide Christian Knowledge.

#### **3. Self-management**

To seek to follow a work/life balance which caters for the body as well as for the soul, in the demands and pressures of life in the ministry. Nowhere is this more possible than in the Lake District National Park in which the Parish of Coniston and Trover is situated. Gifts of time management, the chairing of meetings, personal and church organisation, working both alone or in a team and the capacity to encourage and inspire are all part of this role.

#### 4. Leadership

We are looking for a Vicar with a gift of leadership, to enable the church to make a fresh impact within the community, building on the strong leadership over the past years. "The local church is the hope for the world", and this is a unique moment of opportunity in the life of this Parish church. For the first time in many years there is the possibility of developing a family ministry. Until this year youth and children's work has come under the auspices of a village Crusader Class, but the leaders of that long standing group are retiring and moving away. There are now therefore, together with other Churches in the village new possibilities for St Andrew's to reach families, children and young people.

There are three groups for a ministry focus in the village

- (a) The indigenous Coniston community who have, by and large little contact with the Church. Here lies a mission field
  
- (b) The Holiday visitors. The opportunities are endless and a pioneer minister has real evangelistic possibilities to reach out to those who come to Coniston on holiday who own second homes here.
  
- (c) The Christians in the village from all the churches. There are now new opportunities to work together not as "The Coniston Community Church", but rather as "The Coniston Church Community" to make a new and real impact within the neighbourhood. The opportunities are new and call for innovative and gifted evangelism.

The following leadership gifts and opportunities await the leader whom God calls to this role:

- 4.1 Priestly.** There is a place in Coniston for the strong application of the priestly ministry, of leading the church, upholding and presiding at the Eucharist and fulfilling the primary calling of a holy and disciplined life and calling, supporting pastorally the people of the Parish and receiving their support and understanding in return.
  
- 4.2 Pastorally.** There is a need to nurture and care for the current members of the Church Family.
  
- 4.3 Prophetic.** The prophetic role is significant, listening to God for the way ahead for the church in this community and listening to the Community in order to speak prophetically to them. Here is a real opportunity in a new situation to once more enable the church (in every sense of the meaning of the word) to be the centre of village life once more.
  
- 4.4 Presence.** So often churches today seem irrelevant to the community in which they are found. A true Christian Presence, the presence of Jesus, enables a priestly, prophetic, pioneering and proclaiming ministry to be effective. Coniston is ready for a Priest who will build on the achievements of recent Vicars and congregations in both churches, to take the church forward in a new and exciting ways.

**4.5 Pioneering.** Coniston is ready to receive a Pioneer Minister, a man or woman of God who will reach into the community touching the life in all its different aspects and build the Kingdom of God in this place.

**4.6. Proclaiming.** Evangelism and discipleship are the key needs of the church today. Jesus said “Go and make disciples”. Discipleship is the secret to church growth. A new pioneering leader will need to be able to inspire and lead the current faithful congregations in Coniston and Torver, while at the same time, building the church into the next generation. The potential is exceptional at the present time. May God guide all involved to the right choice of the next pioneering Vicar for Coniston and Torver for the years ahead. If a man or woman of God were able to commit for a number of years this would enhance the mission and ministry of God in this community, and see the church experience a real period of growth, and make a significant impact in both Coniston and Torver.

The prayers of the PCC and church members are earnest in seeking the man or woman God has for this next exciting period in the life of the church here.

## **5. Working collaboratively**

To work collaboratively with everyone, (including as appropriate clergy colleagues, churchwardens, PCC, staff and volunteers), ensuring individual’s gifts and talents are identified and used effectively in any given situation or task. To share ministry as appropriate, encouraging and building up the community of faith and reaching out into the community.

## **6. Communications**

To communicate effectively and appropriately in both written and verbal form and familiar with the social media for people of all ages and situations in society, inside and outside of the church.

## **7. Management & organisation**

To work with the PCC and churchwardens or other colleagues to put in place appropriate structures and resources for the Christian community. This will include clear boundaries and accountabilities of roles. To ensure appropriate processes and policies in relation to services, weddings, baptisms and funerals, health and safety, financial, fabric, staff and volunteer management, etc. To ensure that the structures and processes meet appropriate diocesan and legal requirements.

## **8. Outreach**

To develop a ministry that encourages new people to Christian faith and will support existing Christians to evangelism and discipleship. To develop relations with community, external organisations and, positive links with the church.

## **9. Worship**

To lead worship prayerfully, competently and confidently. To plan, organise and conduct a programme of worship that supports the vision and needs for ministry including appropriate use of resources, music, teaching, preaching and open to renewal.

## **10. Preaching**

To preach the full gospel in a way that will encourage faith and spiritual growth. To adapt content and style for different audiences, occasions and purposes using biblical interpretation, doctrine, pastoral care, ethical teaching and other models as the spirit leads.

## **11. Teaching**

Working alongside “Churches Together” and God for All. To teach at different ages and levels of faith or knowledge, in support of faith development. This may include admission to Holy Communion, confirmation, school assemblies, introduction to Christianity (Alpha, Emmaus, etc) nurture courses, and pastoral care courses. This may be in formal teaching environments or in small groups. To plan, organise and conduct a programme of teaching which supports the vision and needs of the church community.

## **12. Pastoral Care**

To identify pastoral care needs and put in place appropriate structures and skills to provide this to the community (including, parish visitors, pastoral assistants, local volunteers.) To lead the Christian community in giving support to those in need of pastoral care as appropriate, including baptism and marriage preparation, care to the sick and dying, bereavement, individual support and visiting.

## **13. Specific**

The House for Vision Priest will work in close relationship with the other Church leaders in the community and to develop areas of collaborative working across the benefices.

## **3. Key contacts**

### **Generic**

- Licenced Lay Minister (Reader)
- Local Lay Ministers (Commissioned)
- Churchwardens
- PCC
- Deanery Chapter
- Local Head Teachers
- Ecumenical partners
- Deanery Network Youth Church Leader
- Free Expression Enabler

### **Specific**

- PCC .
- Churches Together in Coniston

### **Speculative**

- Other secular and community organisations within the Parish.

**Supportive:**

Archdeacon  
Rural Dean  
Ministry Development Officer  
Spiritual Direction Contact  
HR Advisor  
Safeguarding Advisor  
Free Expression Enabler (Richard Passmore)  
Carolyn Dykes (Projects Development Officer – Carlisle Diocese)

**4. Role context and any other relevant information**

This is a House for Vision post requiring the Vicar to work as directed by the Diocese.

**5. Benefice summary:**

**Parishes:** St Andrew`s Coniston and St Luke`s Torver

**Patron:** Peache Trust

**Clergy:** The Priest in Charge

**PCC:** St Andrew`s and St Luke`s

**Churchwardens:** Mr Nick Monk and Mrs Linda Inman

**Licenced Lay Minister (Reader):** Mr Peter Fox

**Local Lay Minister** Mrs Pamela Hull, Mrs Val Towndrow, Mrs Linda Inman, Mrs Hazel Bowness.

**Buildings:** St Andrew`s Coniston and St Luke`s Torver. Old School Room Torver

**Population:** Around a 641 in Coniston. Torver around 93

Usual Sunday Attendance: 30 St Andrew`s. 10 St Luke`s Torver

Resolutions: None

**Role Description signed off by** Archdeacon of South Carlisle