

# Summary of changes and actions

Following the latest government and subsequent national advice, further guidance is now given which now supersedes previous guidance issued. A summary of the basic changes and rules is set out below, together with an *Appendix (A)* and timetable (*Appendix (B)*).

## Summary of main changes – September 2020:

- **A further extension of latest APCM date has been granted:**

Bishop Steven has signed a formal instrument giving one final extension to the date by which 2020 APCMs need to happen, which is now **30 November 2020**.

- **APCM postal voting:**

In the same instrument, provision is made for postal voting to be allowed if desired for APCMs (which several parishes have been asking for). *Appointing someone as your proxy in the meeting however, is not permitted by the [Church Representation Rules](#). Proxy voting is where someone attending a meeting casts a vote on behalf of someone else who is not attending the meeting.*

- **Meetings in church buildings:**

This is yet to be formally confirmed, but we have provisionally been advised that APCMs and PCC meetings may go ahead in church buildings subject to social distancing etc, notwithstanding the 'Rule of Six'.

Alternatively:

- **APCMs can now be held electronically**

- [Guidance](#) issued in July by the Diocesan Secretary advised that APCMs may now be held electronically, where this is considered the most appropriate option, as decisions in this form now have the same force as if taken at a physical meeting

- **APCM date of electoral roll revision**

As you'll be aware, if the APCM was not held before lockdown, but the electoral roll revision already initiated, then unfortunately it is necessary to repeat the process of electoral roll revision to coincide with your new APCM date.

## Other useful information:

### How to calculate your date of revision of electoral roll for your APCM

Following the guidance as set out in the Church Representation Rules (CRRs), this means that **the date of the APCM needs to allow between four and six weeks before it for the revision of the electoral roll.**

The roll must be revised annually and notice of the proposed revision (in the required form 2) should be displayed on the church doors for 14 days before the proposed revision (CRR rule 3(1,2)). That revision must then take place no more than 28 days (but not less than 15 days) before the APCM.

For example, where the date for the APCM is to be Sunday 25 October

- The revision of the roll must take place between **27 September and 10 October**, meaning that church door notices will have to be displayed for 14 days before whichever date is chosen between those dates for the revision (and so as at that exact date).
- If the revision date chosen for example is to be **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October**, church notices must have been displayed by **20<sup>th</sup> September**.
- The date of revision of the roll is the date that determines eligibility to be on the roll

Please note that it has been determined nationally that attendance at live-streamed services does not count as establishing habitual attendance. However, the Registrar has advised that where an individual has established habitual attendance by attending services physically in the weeks since churches reopened, then this will be sufficient.

**See Appendix B for timetable**