



Rector of the United Benefice
of Condover with Ryton,
Acton Burnell, Frodesley
and Pitchford
and
Rural Church Missioner
of Condover Deanery



A warm welcome awaits the person
who God has identified as the next
Rector of Condover Benefice and our
first Deanery Rural Church Missioner!

Can you take us from Winter to
Spring?



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP RICHARD

Thank you for your interest in the post of Rector of the United Benefice of Condover with Ryton, Acton Burnell, Frodesley and Pitchford and Rural Church Missioner of Condover Deanery in the Diocese of Hereford.

The Diocese of Hereford is the smallest in the Church of England in terms of population, and we believe that our parishes are at the heart of diocesan life. We are committed to supporting local ministry and enabling ministers to thrive. Being a small diocese means we place a high value on relationships. While we offer proper structures—such as Ministerial Development Review (MDR), and access to confidential wellbeing support including accompaniment and counselling—we also know that informal support is just as important. The accessibility of senior staff and a rich diocesan social life contribute significantly to the sense of community here. I also have access to a discretionary fund to provide emergency financial support when needed.

Our benefices are diverse—socially, economically, and theologically. We are fortunate not to experience the kind of aggressive partisanship found in some other places. On Living in Love and Faith (LLF), I have always affirmed that clergy will be supported to act according to their conscience, within the proper order of the Church.

We have a diocesan strategy, but it is intentionally light-touch. Our purpose is clear: to proclaim Christ and grow disciples. We shape our churches around three core values—**Christlikeness, prayerfulness, and engagement**. These values have been explored in diocesan-wide ‘Years of Prayer, Discipleship, and Engagement,’ but their local expression is left to the discernment of each parish. In areas where there is limited relational connection—particularly with young people—we are working alongside the national church on creative outreach initiatives. Thanks to our total return accounting policy, we are also able to fund innovative local projects.

I hope you will find the Diocese of Hereford to be a happy, supportive, and enriching place in which to live and minister. I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours in faith,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Rt Revd Richard Jackson
Bishop of Hereford

LIFE AS A MEMBER OF THE CLERGY IN THE DIOCESE OF HEREFORD

As you will read, the Diocese of Hereford is a place of contrasts. We're geographically large, but our population is small. We straddle six local authorities (Herefordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Monmouthshire, Telford & Wrekin, and Powys) and two countries (England and Wales), but we are one Diocese with one Bishop. We are predominantly rural, with scattered communities, but we have a vibrant cathedral city, several historic market towns and post-industrial towns, and serve estate communities as well.

We are all committed, whatever our context, to our calling to make Christ known, to love God, one another and our neighbours, and to work for the common good. We do this not only through our churches but also through our church schools and academies which are an integral part of our Diocese.

We are small enough (in terms of numbers) that clergy can get to know one another and the diocesan staff quite easily.

In the Diocese of Hereford, we want to appoint and work with clergy who are excited by the demanding and exciting common task of "Proclaiming Christ and Growing Disciples". Our Diocesan Values encourage all of our church members become more Prayerful, more Christ-like and more Engaged with God's mission in the wider community.



This means that we seek church leaders committed to equipping and releasing the whole people of God, empowering them according to their unique gifts, inspired by the vision in Ephesians 4. These leaders will inspire and enable others to actively participate in God's mission locally, focusing on growing leaders and developing teams rather than doing everything themselves - a collaborative approach often called Oversight Ministry.

Recognising that this model can be challenging, we provide comprehensive training and support through Ministry Development opportunities and the Accompanying programme - a mentoring scheme for all clergy new in post, whether this is their first role post-curacy or a new appointment.

The Accompanying programme pairs each new incumbent with an experienced priest who serves not only as a mentor but also collaborates closely with the incumbent and their Parochial Church Councils (PCCs). Together, they discern how God is guiding them to fulfil the plans and hopes outlined in the parish profile.

Incumbents who have participated in the Accompanying programme have praised it as "one of the strengths of the welcome offered by Hereford Diocese." They highlight how it creates a safe space where clergy can nurture one another, share knowledge, and build supportive relationships marked by good humour and growing trust. Participants also value the programme's focus on relevant topics that address the challenges of adapting to new responsibilities. Crucially, it offers space for reflection on God's vision for the benefice, helping incumbents deepen their understanding and commitment as they settle into their roles.

OUR DIOCESE – THE FACTS AND FIGURES

Our worshipping community is made up of people of all ages and backgrounds. We are responsible for 406 churches, 12 Deaneries, 86 Benefices, and 344 parishes, serving approximately 326,000 people - we are the Church of England in Herefordshire, south Shropshire, and parts of Monmouthshire, Powys, and Worcestershire. We were founded in 676 AD and cover roughly 1,650 square miles, with many of our church buildings of historical importance.

Nearly 12,000 children attend one of our 78 schools and academies, although 40% of these schools have fewer than 100 pupils; there are more pupils in our C of E schools than regular attendees at Sunday services. In 2022, we maintained over 110 properties across the diocese which are occupied mainly by our stipendiary clergy and curates. We have the fewest stipendiary ministers but the highest clergy level per person simply because we're a rural diocese.



Welcome from the Venerable Fiona Gibson Archdeacon of Ludlow

The Condover parishes are in vacancy following the retirement of their most recent Rector, who was also the Rural Dean. The post has been reduced from full-time to 0.5 and the parishes are working in the vacancy to prepare for the changes that will mean. There are two hardworking and capable Readers in the Benefice both of whom will be ready to offer support and work with their new Rector, understanding that he or she will be part-time. The expectation is that the new Rector will work on Sundays in the Benefice, 17.5 hours as Rural Church Missioner and the rest of the time within the Benefice to include a rest period of 36 hours.

The role of Rural Church Missioner for the Deanery is a new role and is very much an opportunity to work together with the Archdeacon, Rural Dean and others to discern how best to support rural parishes. This role was identified as part of the Vision and Strategy for Church Growth 2024-2030 of the Diocese of Hereford. The essence of the role is to support parish incumbents to develop clear missional plans for the future of every church community and building in the Deanery. As this is a new role the intention would be that the post-holder would develop a blueprint for this work at a pace that is right for the post-holder and the Deanery. The recently revised Deanery Mission Action Plan very much connects with this work and so the post holder would play a key role in the Mission Action Plan implementation.



This post is a permanent, part-time incumbency that has been combined with a part-time Rural Church Missioner (RCM) role. This exciting new RCM role is for an initial three-year period and is considered central to our future Diocesan Strategy and ambition to keep as much resource as possible in front-line parochial ministry. The Diocesan Board of Finance wish for a three-year pilot before they review the findings and potentially extend the role into other parts of the Diocese by appointing further part-time RCMs in combined posts. It is expected that funding for the Condover RCM post will continue if all parties consider the pilot to be a success, but for clarity an extension to this aspect of the role will be subject to renewed DBF funding once the three-year period concludes. The part-time incumbency aspect of the role is not time limited.

Fiona

A message from the Rural Dean



The Condoover Deanery consists of six Benefices stretching from Craven Arms in the south, up along the A49 through the Strettons and Steeplewood Fold Benefice with Condoover being the most northerly of the Benefices.

The Wenlock team is to the east and the Apedale Benefice is between Much Wenlock and Church Stretton.

Ten licensed clergy form the Chapter made up of six full time, one house for duty, one self supporting and two curates – one full time and one part-time/self-supporting. We are also fortunate to have several lay readers and retired clergy with permission to officiate

There are regular Chapter meetings and at least one Greater Chapter in the year.

The Deanery is a Group Ministry meaning that all clergy (at the invitation of the relevant incumbent) minister across Benefice boundaries thus supporting one another. Recent discussions amongst the Chapter have been focused on how clergy support one another to ensure the best possible provision for the cure of souls in the Deanery. Chapter meets monthly for mutual support and encouragement with a good dose of laughter!

Following the recent appointment of a new Rural Dean, Revd Prebendary Christobel Hargraves and a new lay co-chair, Mrs Andrea Graham, the Deanery has embarked on a refreshed Mission Action Plan which it hopes will invigorate the Deanery Synod in determining its role and purpose in Condoover Deanery.

The appointment of a Rural Missioner will be central to this work and Chapter members are excited at the potential it offers.

The appointment of a Pioneer Minister in late 2023 to establish a new worshipping community in Craven Arms is an exciting development in the Deanery.

Other initiatives such as the “Butty Van” (supporting local farmers) operating in the Apedale Benefice, “Filling Stations” in Craven Arms and in Leebotwood, a Food Bank in Church Stretton are just some of the ways the Deanery is seeking to become more engaged with local communities and to build His Kingdom.

Chris

Where we are and who we are

The five churches have shared a Rector since the Benefice was formed in the 1980s.

The churches, whilst formerly accommodating some diversity of opinions and tastes in the provision of church services, have moved over the past decade to increasingly uniform patterns of service. Holy Communion services throughout the Benefice are now all Common Worship Order 1 in contemporary language.

There is a monthly All Age Worship service in Condover and a monthly Evensong at Acton Burnell.

Frodesley has become a Festival Church.

The Benefice is eager to work with the new incumbent to maximise the opportunities for worship.

Although the five churches are combined in a single Benefice, each parish has its own character though there are occasions during the year when parishes work together cooperatively, and this is something that could be developed further.



Condover holds a Lent Course and has a small but active choir and a bell ringing group. There is a monthly Benefice magazine and a free online newssheet for Acton Burnell and Frodesley.

We are disability friendly within the limitations of our church architecture and are Dementia Friendly too. The challenge remains of providing toilet facilities in all our buildings.

Monthly Service Pattern



Day	Condover	Ryton	Acton Burnell	Frodesley	Pitchford
1st Sunday	8 am H C				10.30 am HC
2nd Sunday	10 am HC		8.45 am HC*		
3rd Sunday	10 am Family Service		6.30pm Evensong	11.30am HC or 3pm Occasional Festival Service	
4th Sunday	10 am HC	9 am HC			

*As of summer 2025 we have stopped the 8.45 Holy Communion at Acton Burnell due to very low attendance

On a 5th Sunday a Group Benefice Service rotates around the churches which is usually Holy Communion or sometimes a Songs of Praise.

The Rectory

The Rectory is a large detached 1970s house adjacent to the much older Old Vicarage and about 200 metres from Condover Parish Church.

It has a small entrance hall with a good-sized study and cloakroom. A further door divides this area from the living accommodation.

On the ground floor are a lounge, dining room, kitchen with pantry, and a utility room leading into a garage.

On the first floor are four bedrooms, a shower room and a bathroom. The property is double glazed.

It has an oil-fired boiler for hot water and central heating. The kitchen has modern cupboard units and worktops.

The garage is of a good size and there is plenty of parking space.

The garden is mainly down to lawn with fruit trees along the boundary and is not over-large!



The Rectory cont..

All the churches in the Benefice can be reached from the Rectory without having to use or cross a major road.

However, farm machinery or animals can delay even short journeys significantly! Despite this the Benefice is in a location with easy access to the A49, A5, M54 and the motorway network beyond.

Shrewsbury is not more than 10 minutes away by car giving good access to rail and it can also be reached by bus from Condover.



The Community

The area is predominantly rural with farming, tourism, education, care and associated occupations playing a major part in the life of the parishes.

Whilst there is the usual mixture of ages and families in the Benefice, a significant proportion of the population is actively retired.

Overall there are good levels of health and wellbeing, but it is recognised that there is rural poverty.

A number of people travel to nearby towns or further afield to work in the professions, light industry, business and service industries. Some people work from home and there are a number of small business enterprises as well as a number of self-employed local people.

With only one Public House in the Benefice (currently closed and looking for a community buy-out) plus a Social Club in Condover, people rely upon Village Hall events and church events as a major source of social interaction.

The population of the Benefice is just under 1800, but it should be noted that census wards and village boundaries do not coincide.



Statistics for 2024

Village	Population	Electoral Roll	Usual Sunday
Condover	1000	58	16
Acton Burnell	300	7	6
Ryton	200	Included with Condover	8
Frodesley	155	36	6
Pitchford	120	23	12

Occasional Offices 2024

Village	Baptism	Wedding	Funeral
Acton Burnell	3	3	2
Condover with Ryton	4	4	12
Frodesley	1	0	0
Pitchford	1	0	0



What the church community says about itself



As part of putting together this profile we asked church members what they wanted to affirm about their church, what they felt they could do better and what were the changes and challenges that lay ahead for them.

Affirm

Almost unanimously the people commented on the friendly, supportive and welcoming congregations and their willingness to help each other out. They love the beauty & history of the churches, and the peaceful atmosphere that is so conducive to worship. They commented on the value of a good organist and choir (at Condover), and of the Benefice magazine. They liked the use of the church building by the school. And though many liked their traditional services, many commented on their willingness to do things differently and to help with fresh ideas etc. The role of the lay readers is hugely valued.

Better

Suggestions included widening the range of hymns to include more contemporary ones; encouraging people to be more willing to travel to other churches in the Benefice, offering transport if necessary; offering a wider range of services and developing a greater degree of informality. There is a desire to be more visible and relevant, to be more involved in community events and to celebrate the arts and to reintroduce regular bible study and Messy Church.

Changes/challenges

There is a great need to get toilet and catering facilities under the tower in Condover so that they are able to use the church more for the wider community and perhaps provide an income. They recognise the need to increase the congregation and widen their appeal to younger families and children which will include revisiting the worship pattern. Several people thought that a later start to the service at Condover would help. There is a desire to become the hub of the village, and to reach out to the unchurched and to address the 'We've always done things this way,' mentality. They would like to see more lay people involved in leading worship. There were suggestions of new easy win things e.g. baptism anniversary cards, bereavement cards, using the noticeboard for mission.

Education

There are two pre-school groups in Condover with the only primary school in the benefice also being also in Condover. Primary school age children from the smaller villages tend to go to school in Church Preen or Longnor (both in the Deanery).

Secondary school age children in Condover go to Shrewsbury or Church Stretton whilst children from the smaller villages attend Church Stretton or Much Wenlock (both of which are in the deanery).

Further Education is available in colleges either in Shrewsbury or Ludlow. There are also several well-regarded independent schools in the area, notably Concord College in the parish of Acton Burnell which is an independent college with largely overseas students. Condover Hall is the site of the JCA outdoor activities centre which specialises in residential outdoor courses for many age groups.

Condover CE Primary School is part of the Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust. A small rural school in the heart of Condover, Shropshire living out their Christian vision of Love each other and know we are loved (John 13:34-35).

The Executive head teacher, Kerrie Lewis, looks forward to a new incumbent who is enthusiastic about supporting the school's Christian values of Love, Trust and Forgiveness .

The children and staff enjoy the weekly acts of worship led by the Church lay reader who has been involved with the school for many years. Additionally, the school regularly visits St Andrew and St Mary's Church to lead acts of worship , as well as investigate and discover more about the life of the Church and its history and significance.

The whole school community is excited to meet the new incumbent and flourish together as a church community.



Our Churches: Condover Parish: St Andrew and St Mary

The Domesday Book records a church and priest in Condover in 1086. It is a large church of uncoursed and dressed pink sandstone with ashlar dressings and machine-tiled roofs.

Church tradition is middle of the road and vestments are worn for the main Sunday morning Eucharist. The church has a choir and an active team of bell ringers and there are weekly services.

There is a variety of social activities in the village. These include WI, Pilates, Toddler Group, Brownie Pack, Thursday walking group, a monthly Wednesday coffee morning and a monthly film club. Clubs also run for Bridge, Football, Cricket and Golf.

There is a Social Club situated next door to the Village Hall. The village also has a Post Office and a Deli shop.

The village (approximately 1000 population) has an ageing population, but Condover is also a commuter village for younger members of the community.

There are no really big employers in Shrewsbury, but people find work in a variety of occupations there or in Telford or further afield. Condover industrial estate and two sand and gravel quarries provide local employment. Other local employers include Berriewood Riding School, Anchorage Care Services, JCA Adventure Centre based in Condover Hall and there is a local taxi firm.



Our Churches: Condover Parish: St Andrew and St Mary- cont

Our large pink sandstone church is in good order though some work recommended in the last quinquennial inspection report (2018) is not completed. A quinquennial inspection report was completed in late 2023 and repairs to the roof and tracery on the south gable are now being instigated. Little remains of the original Norman church and much of the present church dates from the 17th century. It is cruciform with two small transepts; the southern one having been converted to a meeting room as a millennium project. The west tower houses the bells, “a fine ring of eight”. A project has been investigated to provide a toilet and kitchenette on the ground floor of the tower and to re-instate a first floor in the tower to accommodate the bell ringers. This remains under review.



Our Churches: Condover Parish: St Thomas Ryton

To the south of Condover village lie the smaller settlements of Great Ryton, Little Ryton and Wheathall.

Ryton church was built of red brick as a mission room in 1896 and was dedicated to St Thomas on its centenary.

It can seat 50. There is a celebration of Holy Communion monthly and to mark other festivals in the church year.

The population (approx. 200) consists of commuters, farmers, retired people and young families.

In the past the 1662 service of Holy Communion was preferred by the regular members of the congregation. However, in the last 5 years the congregation has welcomed the adoption of Common Worship Order 1 as its preferred form of service.

There is a newly built Village Hall with an enthusiastic management committee.

The local pub, The Fox at Ryton, closed in 2022. However, a big community push raised the money to purchase it as a Community Benefit Society in March 2025. Ambitious plans to refurbish and reopen it as a community pub, with a community café and pop-up shop are on course to be completed in time for a grand reopening in November 2025.



Our Churches: Pitchford Parish: St Michael and All Angels



The beautiful ancient church of St Michael and All Angels lies away from the village and is adjacent to the manor house of Pitchford Hall. The latter is an extremely fine grade 1 listed timber framed building which has been owned by the Coulthurst family since 1473.

Sold in 1992, and falling into disrepair, the house was bought back by the family in 2016. The current owners are working hard to renovate it and parts are now re-open for tours as part of the association of Historic Houses and they have developed one wing of the house and other buildings on the estate as holiday accommodation.



There could be considerable scope in linking the estate church into these tours and to benefit from the tourism. The Church is Grade 1 listed and the roof has had major repairs in the last 30 years with further work done in the last 2 years including essential cleaning of the roof, maintenance of the tower and repairs to guttering. Some internal repairs have been completed to the choir stalls, and the maintenance of the churchyard is carried out by members of the PCC.

Our congregation is boosted by visitors staying on the Estate and by visitors searching out an ancestral connection to the village. A traditional sung service is important to the congregation, some of whom travel regularly from other parts of the Benefice, but we are open-minded and will participate actively in services. Our congregation is a mix of working and retired people.

Pitchford is fortunate to also have a village hall, which also serves the villages of Acton Burnell and Frodesley. Recently it has had some major renovation work completed and is in a good state of repair.



Our Churches: Acton Burnell: parish of St Mary's

The Parish of Acton Burnell comprises the village of Acton Burnell where St Mary's church stands next to the castle, plus the hamlets of Ruckley, Langley, Acton Pigott and Evenwood. There is a redundant 17th century chapel, now in the care of English Heritage, in Langley.

Both the parish church and Langley chapel are listed in Simon Jenkins' "England's Thousand Best Churches". Both the castle, now a ruin, and the parish church were built in the late 13th century by Robert Burnell, then Chancellor of England and Bishop of Bath and Wells.

The former manor house at Acton Burnell is now Concord College, Concord College is an independent, international school, with 580 boarding and day pupils of 40 different nationalities aged from 14+, who study for GCSEs, A levels and university entrance exams. The school is a major local employer and many of the school staff live on the college premises. The college has also bought up several of the houses in the village to house their staff and this has had a significant impact on the nature of the village community. However the church has had a number of requests for weddings from staff members, and the caretaking staff have taken on responsibility for opening closing the church on a daily basis for us. The Hall has previously been a Roman Catholic convent school and there is a RC burial ground adjoining St Mary's churchyard.

The Church is generally in good repair. Over the years the roof has been well maintained, new lighting installed and improvements made to the drainage. The churchyard attracts many visitors in the Spring when the snowdrops and daffodils are a major feature which have been afforded RHS heritage status.



Our Churches: Acton Burnell: parish of St Mary's cont.

Until recently there were two services each month at St Mary's using Common Worship Order 1 for Holy Communion and the Book of Common Prayer for Evensong.

Holy Communion was dropped when the attendance fell to one or two people but attendance at Evensong averages 6 people. All church festivals are celebrated, and the parish works together with Frodesley and Pitchford for joint events such as the annual harvest supper.

Whilst the chapel at Langley is the responsibility of English Heritage, there is one service each year on an autumn afternoon. This attracts a keen congregation from across the Benefice and further afield.

Acton Burnell has a small Post Office/shop, largely supported by the College and its students. Public transport is limited but a mobile library calls once a week.



Our Churches: Frodesley Parish: St Mark

The origins of St Mark's can be traced back to 1291 and the present church, probably the third on this site was built in 1809.

It originally comprised of a nave and chancel with a small western bell tower. A vestry was added in 1900, but later demolished, and in 1959 the gothic style north aisle was built. Currently the church is in reasonably good repair.

The church is a Festival church holding a few afternoon services and some Holy Communion services.



In short....



We have identified the following opportunities within the Benefice:

- Worship – there is plenty of scope for developing the worship pattern in order to be more accessible to the wider community and encouraging the church congregations.
- Lay Participation – the gifts and talents of the laity need to be nurtured and developed so that they can confidently play a full role in all aspects of the management, mission and ministry of the churches.
- Generous giving – a stewardship campaign is needed to ensure adequate funds for the future mission of the churches.
- New things – there is plenty of scope for new things to develop. You can use your own giftings and enthusiasms to determine what these might be!

We would like our Rector to be someone who:

- Has a real heart for rural communities and is willing to get 'stuck into' village life.
- Will inspire and encourage us in mission and help us grow in faith.
- Is decisive, able to delegate and willing to take risks.
- Is a good listener who will offer pastoral care to all
- Is patient, enthusiastic and resilient.
- Values the traditional as well as the new.
- Will take up the reins and help guide us forward.

In return we can offer you:

- A comfortable and well-maintained Rectory
- A warm welcome
- Our support, encouragement and prayer
- Supportive colleagues in the deanery
- Two well regarded Lay Readers
- Willing co-workers for the kingdom
- All the natural beauties and treasures of South Shropshire!





Rural Church Missioner

Job Purpose:

- To support smaller rural churches to develop clear missional plans for the future of every church community and building in the Deanery.
- To manage the Deanery Co-ordinator (this post has yet to be appointed to and the post-holder will be part of the recruitment process).
- To work across Condover Deanery in Ludlow Archdeaconry.

Accountabilities:

Primary responsibilities:

The RCM will work under the direction of the Archdeacon, working closely with the Rural Dean of Condover, while being line managed by the Director of Mission and Ministry.

The initial phase of work will involve meeting with incumbents and PCCs to agree how to work together and identify the status of each church building / community as:

- a) a Healthy Growing Church;
- b) a potential Healthy Growing Church;
- c) a Traditional Parish Church (weekly or fortnightly services);
- d) a Festival Church (fewer services); and
- e) a church which the PCC believes may need to close.

Where there is agreement, the RCM will work closely with the incumbent and PCC to ensure that there is a plan for each church's future, with support from the Deanery Coordinator (DC), Archdeacon's team and central diocesan team as appropriate.

In the last four types of church, this may involve the following:

Potential Healthy Growing Churches

- Begin to assess areas of strength and opportunities for growth.
- Establish a plan to enable the church to move towards being a Healthy Growing Church.

Traditional Parish Churches

- Formulate a plan for continuing parish ministry, including missional worship led by lay and ordained volunteers as well as stipendiary clergy.
- Where needed, train and encourage local ministers in offering missional worship and events.
- Ensure that people who engage with the church are able to access further spiritual care and discipleship opportunities.
- Ensure a financial and buildings maintenance plan is in place.

Festival Churches

- Formulate a plan for missional Festival Services, led by volunteer lay and ordained ministers.
- Where needed, train and encourage local ministers in offering missional worship and events.
- Ensure that people who engage with the church are able to access further spiritual care and discipleship opportunities.
- Ensure a financial and buildings maintenance plan is in place.

Church buildings which may need to close

- Refer these to the Archdeacon who will lead on support for this legal process.
- Ensure a financial and buildings maintenance plan is in place until building is closed and consider any capacity issues relating to the PCC officers prior to closure.

Other responsibilities:

- Champion the needs and concerns of smaller rural churches.
- Keeping a record of relevant issues, the progress of Smaller Rural Churches and review plans as needed, co-operating fully with the diocesan evaluation and learning process.
- Build links with other agencies and organisations as appropriate such as Borderlands, Anna Chaplaincy, Rural Ministries and Rural Officers from the Church of England.
- Manage the Deanery Co-ordinator who will provide administrative support and co-ordination for the work of the RCM.
- Any other activities agreed with the line manager and Archdeacon and Rural Dean as suitable for this role.

Qualifications & Experience

Area	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge/ Qualifications/ Membership of Professional bodies (or equivalent)	This role is for those who are experienced Clergy <i>Knowledge:</i> Of rural multi-parish ministry.	Legal issues relating to multi-parish benefices. Of the Diocese of Hereford, its policies and procedures and the resources and support available.
Type of Experience required	Of parish ministry, working collaboratively and missionally. Of training other ministers (lay and ordained). Of developing a team.	Of rural multi-parish ministry. Of supporting a church to become a Festival Church or through closure.

Key working relationships:

- The Archdeacon of Ludlow
- The Director of Mission and Ministry
- The Rural Dean of Condover
- Incumbents and PCCs
- Existing and potential lay and ordained ministers in the Deanery
- The central diocesan team (especially Mission & Ministry, Buildings and Finance teams)

Competencies

Essential	Desirable
<p>Skills/ Aptitudes:</p> <p>Ability to engage with incumbents and PCCs with sensitivity and care.</p> <p>Ability to formulate missional, financial and pastoral plans for churches.</p> <p>Ability to train others in missional worship and events and develop a team.</p> <p>Ability to line manage.</p> <p>Personal Attributes:</p> <p>Prayerful, Christ-like and Engaged</p> <p>An ability to work collaboratively and enable others</p>	<p>Training in mentoring, coaching or supervision.</p> <p>Participation in training course or programme looking at church growth.</p>

Our vacancy Prayer

Heavenly Father, we hold before you all who live and work in our United Benefice, and all who gather to worship you at Condover, Ryton, Acton Burnell, Frodesley and Pitchford.

Lord Jesus, we know you have plans for our Benefice and we trust that those plans are good.

Wise and Holy Spirit, guide those who are seeking the right priest to be our next Rector and Rural Church Missioner of Condover Deanery and those who are seeking the right next step in their ministry.

Together we may discern your way for the future and be further equipped to grow your kingdom in this place.

Amen



