

## Resolution to suspend the rule disqualifying churchwardens after six years

The following resolution will be put to the Annual Meeting of Parishioners of St Michael le Belfrey (the APCM) on Wednesday 24 April 2024:

'This meeting resolves to disapply section 3 of the Churchwardens Measure 2021, concerning personal disqualification from being chosen for the office of churchwarden after six successive periods of office, until a meeting of the parishioners resolves to reapply the disqualification.'

### Background

The current Wardens have committed, where possible to serving until we are back into St Michaels post Impact and we have appointed a new Vicar.

The suspension can be revoked at a subsequent meeting of the parishioners, and does not mean that the current wardens will not face the annual election process nor preclude others from standing for election.

In spring 2023, in the light of the uncertainty surrounding the appointment of a vicar and the church's 'exile' from the St Michael's building during the Impact construction phase, the churchwardens committed, where possible, to serving until the congregation was re-established in St Michael's and a permanent vicar was appointed post-Impact.

Under the normal rules one warden (Daniel Brookes), having served continuously since 2019, is due to be disqualified at the end of his term of office starting at this year's annual meeting (ie. in spring 2025), with other wardens following suit in subsequent years, hence the need to disapply the rules temporarily. This is best done a year ahead of needing to take effect, hence the resolution being presented to this year's annual meeting..

The relevant section of the Churchwardens Measure 2021 reads as follows:

### Disqualification after six periods of office

3 Without prejudice to section 2 above, a person shall be disqualified from being chosen for the office of churchwarden when that person has served as a churchwarden of the same parish for six successive periods of office until the annual meeting of the parishioners to elect churchwardens in the next year but one following the date on which that person vacated office at the end of the last such period:

Provided that a meeting of the parishioners may by resolution decide that this section shall not apply in relation to the parish concerned.

Any such resolution may be revoked by a subsequent meeting of the parishioners.

(See the context here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/leadership-and-governance/legal-services/church-representation-rules/supplementary-material>)