

**The Rt Revd Ian Bishop**

Bishop of Thetford

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## House for duty priest-in-charge of the Hemsby and Lound parishes

Dear colleague,

Thank you for your interest in this post, as together we seek to discern who God may be calling to serve as House for duty priest-in-charge of the Hemsby and Lound parishes. These notes are intended to supplement the information given in the Benefice Profile, adding a slightly wider perspective and with some further information.

### The Parishes and this job

These two parishes, equidistant north and south from Great Yarmouth, have been part of two separate multi-parish benefices. Both are petitioning parishes, under the care of the Bishop of Richborough. After consultation and exploring various ways forward, we have come to the view that they will flourish best by being removed from their current benefices and joined as two parishes under the care of a House-for-Duty priest-in-charge. The formal process to make these changes will take some time to work through, but there is willingness, from all involved, to proceed to an appointment on this basis.

The profiles, prepared by the PCCs, give a good flavour and account of these communities and the life of the churches.

### Ministry

Central to the role of all our clergy is the need to encourage and nurture the vocation of the lay members of our churches, recognising that ministry and mission belong to all God's people. In part, this is a theological imperative, but it is also driven by the need to rethink and refocus ministry in a period that is challenging for the church as it is for every other voluntary organisation and business. The Diocese is at an interesting and exciting point with a new vision emerging under a still relatively new diocesan bishop, and much work is currently underway on the development of strategies for the outworking of the vision across the diocese.

We would love to hear from you if you feel that God might be calling you to this new role in this beautiful part of the county, or if you have questions about this role.

### **Diocese and Deanery**

Under the leadership of the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, a vision is emerging for the Diocese – *Transformed by Christ: Prayerfully, Pastorally and Prophetically*. Work is currently underway on the strategies that will help us live out and deliver this vision.

Bishop Graham has written an Ethos and Culture Statement, available on the diocesan website - <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/app/uploads/2020/12/Our-Life-Together-2021.pdf> - which gives details of our structures and the character of the Diocese.

Attendance at Deanery Synod and Chapter is an expectation, and all diocesan clergy are encouraged to give some part of their time and energies to the wider life of the Diocese, although it is understood that the person appointed to this role will have the blessing of being a member of two deanery chapters and may wish to alternate attendance.

### **Housing**

The house is in Corton, closer to Lound than Hemsby. Please direct questions about the house to me in the first instance.

### **Patronage**

The Patron of the parishes of Hemsby and Lound is the Society for the Maintenance of the Faith.

### **Enquiries, Applications and Interviews**

An application can be made through Pathways, via [Diocese of Norwich Jobs | Pathways \(churchofengland.org\)](https://www.churchofengland.org/pathways).

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 11.59pm, with interviews to be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Any priest wanting an informal discussion before deciding whether to apply is welcome to be in touch by telephone or e-mail with me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Ian Thetford". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**The Rt Revd Ian Bishop**

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