**Covid Step 4**

The Government has removed the legal requirement for social distancing and face coverings. People are encouraged to wear face coverings in crowded public spaces. We ask everyone attending services to respect the Government’s advice and to take personal responsibility for the health of others as well as themselves.

We will continue to make available the NHS QR code and paper copies of the Test and Trace form.

Based on current levels of Covid infection we will defer the resumption of congregational singing during Sunday services over the summer, but hope this may restart from mid September following the next PCC meeting.

The following parts of our usual worship remain suspended; Offertory, collection plate passed during Offertory hymn, Peace, sharing of the Chalice.

We will continue to observe good practice to protect health during the Prayer of Consecration; the Celebrant will not sing at the altar, the Eucharistic elements will remain covered during the prayer, the Celebrant will use hand sanitiser before handling the Eucharistic elements.

At the administration of Holy Communion the Celebrant will resume saying the words of giving Communion.

Arrangements for weddings and funerals will differ in that where families or couples wish to invite or include a greater number of people and to sing during the service we will respect that decision. Our usual encouragement to follow Government advice remains in place as does the provision of NHS Test and Trace facilities. Where a member of the clergy feels that the numbers present may constitute a risk to their own health or that of those attending they may decline to officiate at the service.