*The text below is draft text to be amended as required which sets out the church’s understanding of and approach to using legitimate interest as the lawful basis of its communication with the congregation. This text or any amendment of it can be inserted into the privacy policy of the church – remember to delete this note!*

### *St N church: legitimate interests*

The data protection regulations that came into force on the 25th May 2018 provide for a range of lawful reasons that we can use (or 'process') your personal information. One of the lawful reasons is called 'legitimate interests'.

Broadly speaking Legitimate Interests means that we can process your personal information if ‘we have a genuine and legitimate reason and we are not harming any of your rights and interests’.

*St N Church* is committed to achieving our mission in our community of ….. To do this we need the support of our regular congregation and our many church friends, support that is expressed in many ways, such as our church Electoral Roll, regular attendance at worship, involvement in a range of church activities and regular planned giving. We believe that those who share our mission and values want to know what we do and how to support us. We will use (process) the personal information you have supplied to us in order to conduct, manage and develop our church’s ministry and mission efficiently, effectively and with due regard to your privacy. These are what we consider to be our 'Legitimate Interests'.

Some typical examples of when we might use this approach are: communicating information about our regular and special church services and church activities, fundraising and stewardship information and requests, communicating news and special events, requests for volunteer assistance in running organisations or church maintenance, using the information you provide to better understand how we can change or improve the ministry we offer to our congregation and community and to make sure our communications are relevant to you and tailored to your interests, as long as this does not harm any of your rights and interests.

We will contact you by post, email and/or telephone, as well as post information on social media, with relevant information about these and other church matters which we believe reflect the legitimate interests both of *St* *N* and our congregation and community as we live as disciples of Jesus. We will also hold information about you so that we can respect your preferences for how you can be contacted by us.

**Your interests**

When we use (process) your personal information for our legitimate interests, we will always consider and balance any potential impact on you and your rights under data protection and any other relevant legislation. Our legitimate interests do not automatically override your interests – we will never use your personal data for activities where our interests are overridden by the impact on you (unless we have your specific consent or are otherwise required or permitted to by law).

*To find out more about the use of Legitimate Interest and how to complete a Legitimate Interest Assessment, see the ICO website on Legitimate Interest At A Glance -* [*https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/lawful-basis-for-processing/legitimate-interests/*](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/lawful-basis-for-processing/legitimate-interests/)