

GOOD CHRISTIAN PEOPLES to whom this present writing shall come JONATHAN by Divine permission Lord Bishop of Winchester sendeth greeting in our Lord God everlasting 'WHEREAS on the part and behalf of the Bailiff and Burgesses of the Town and Borough of New Alresford in the County of Southampton and our diocese of Winchester it hath been alleged and sufficiently proved before the Worshipful Thomas River Clerk and Doctor of Laws Surrogate of the Right Worshipful Sir Peter Mews Knight Bartholomew of Lawes Principal Official of our Consistory Court of Winchester That the said Bailiff and Burgesses of the said Borough for the time being have formerly used and enjoyed three seats in the Church of Chappell of New Alresford aforesaid competent and convenient for them the said Bailiff and Burgesses to stand sit and kneel in to hear Divine Service and one other seat sufficient for the wives of them the said Bailiff and Burgesses to stand sit and kneel in all times of Divine Service AND WHEREAS divers disputes and controveries have lately happened between the said Bailiff and Burgesses and Edward Barton Gentleman and other parishioners and inhabitants of the said town of New Alresford about the right and title of them the said Bailiff and Burgesses and their wives in and to the same seats and pews AND WHEREAS upon the Citation or Monition issued out of our Consistory Court and published in the said Church or Chappell of New Alresford on a Sunday in time of Divine Service for all persons who claimed or pretended to claim any right or title in or to the said seats of the said Bailiffs and Burgesses and their wives to appear at a certain day in the said Monition sign and show cause why a faculty should not be granted to them the said Bailiffs and Burgesses for them the said Bailiffs and Burgesses and their wives and their successors and wives to stand sit and kneel in the said four seats by themselves separate and apart from all other persons whereupon the said Edward Barton and other parishioners of the said parish did appear by their presence and contest the right and title of the said Bailiffs and Burgesses in and to the said four seats AND FURTHER WHEREAS upon one allegation and depositions of divers witnesses it did appear unto the said surrogate that the said Bailiffs and Burgesses and their wives had for time out of mind had and enjoyed the same seat or seats in or near the place where the said seats are now severally built WHEREUPON he did by his interformitory decree declare pronounce and decree that the said Bailiffs and Burgesses and their wives had a lawful right and title to the said seats from which decree the proctor for the said Edward Barton and others did appeal to the Archbishops Court of Canterbury by which Court the said decree of our said Surrogate was confirmed WE THEREFORE the said Bishop Divine (so far as in us lyes and the laws and statutes of this Realm will permit and give us leave) Grant Appropriate and Confirm unto John Bower the present Bailiff of the said Borough and his successor for the time being Bailiff of the said Borough one seat or pew in the said Church or Chappell of New Alresford adjoining to the pulpit on the north side and to the wall of the said Church on the east side for him the said Bailiff and his successors to stand sit and kneel in all times of Divine Service separate and apart from all others for ever and unto WILLIAM WILLMOTT THOMAS MERJANT THOMAS SCRIVEN WILLIAM HUDSON RICHARD WESTON IZEKISL LAWRENCE THOMAS COTTMAN AND the present Bailiffs of the said Borough and their successors Burgesses for the time being the said two seats next adjoining to the aforesaid Burgesses seats in the said Church for whom the said eight Burgesses and their successors and one other seat in the said Church opposite to the aforesaid seats for the wives of the said Bailiffs and Burgesses and of their successors for the time being to stand sit and kneel in all time of Divine Service for ever separate and apart from all other persons IN TESTOMONY WHEREOF We have caused the seals of our said Consistory Court of Winchester to be affixed to these presents DATED this Twenty Third of June in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty and One

(Signed) Richard Crawley

Deputy Registrar