

From the Diocesan Constitution – Information on church councils

Extract from:

CONSTITUTION OF THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE 1995

As amended with the approval of the General Synod:

July 2006 (pursuant to resolutions of the Diocesan Synod of 20 May 2003 and 30 May 2006)

November 2010 (pursuant to a resolution of the Diocesan Synod of 27 May 2010)

July 2013 (pursuant to a resolution of the Diocesan Synod of 12 June 2012)

November 2014 (pursuant to a resolution of the Diocesan Synod of 2 June 2014)

February 2020 (pursuant to a resolution of the Diocesan Synod of 12 June 2019)

Link: <https://europe.anglican.org/diocesan-handbook/constitution-of-the-diocese-in-europe-1995>

Chaplaincy church councils

30 (a) There shall be a chaplaincy church council established for each chaplaincy which shall consist of —

- (i) the chaplain who shall be chairman of the council ex officio save as may be permitted under paragraph 43(d) of this *Constitution*;
 - (ii) all other clerks in Holy Orders licensed to the chaplaincy;
 - (iii) any deaconess or lay worker licensed to the chaplaincy;
 - (iv) the churchwardens as referred to in paragraph 31 of this *Constitution*;
 - (v) all persons whose names are on the electoral roll of the chaplaincy and who are lay members of any deanery synod, archdeaconry synod, Diocesan Synod or the General Synod;
 - (vi) such, if any, of the licensed readers whose names are on the electoral roll of the chaplaincy, as the annual meeting may determine;
 - (vii) such numbers of representatives of the laity as the annual meeting of the chaplaincy may decide, and so that the number determined may be altered from time to time by a resolution passed at any annual meeting, but such resolution shall not take effect before the next ensuing annual meeting; and
 - (viii) co-opted members, if the council so decides, not exceeding in number one-fifth of the representatives elected under subparagraph (1)(vii) above, being either clerks in Holy Orders or actual lay communicants of sixteen years of age or upwards. The term of office of a co-opted member shall be until the conclusion of the next annual meeting: but without prejudice to his being co-opted on subsequent occasions for a similar term, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the *CRR*.
- (b) Without prejudice to any other requirements or qualifications contained or more fully set out in this Constitution, the Synodical Government Measure 1969, the Church Representation Rules or any other applicable legislation in relation to the election of the representatives of the laity referred to in sub-paragraph 30(a)(vii) or their membership of a chaplaincy church council, the qualifications of a person to be nominated or elected or to serve as such a representative are that —

(i) his name is entered on the roll of the chaplaincy

(ii) he is an actual communicant as defined in the Church Representation Rules provided that the archdeacon may dispense with this qualification by notice in writing where not fewer than two-thirds of the members of the council are actual communicants and further provided that, in the event of a situation arising in which fewer than two-thirds of the council are actual communicants, the election or continuance in office of any person who is not an actual communicant shall be subject to the written consent of the diocesan Bishop.

(iii) he is of sixteen years or upwards

(iv) he has indicated his consent to serve or there is in the opinion of the meeting sufficient evidence of his willingness to serve

(v) he is not disqualified, whether under the Charities Act 1993 or local law, from being a charity trustee

(vi) he is not disqualified from being a member of the council or committee of management of an association where such an association is directly related to the relevant chaplaincy

(vii) he has not been convicted of an offence mentioned, or by virtue of any enactment to be treated as mentioned, in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 or of any comparable offence of substantially the same nature regardless of the state or legal jurisdiction in which it was committed

(viii) his nomination election or membership of the chaplaincy church council would not give rise to the removal of, or otherwise materially adversely affect, the charitable or special fiscal status of a chaplaincy or a chaplaincy church council

and a person shall cease forthwith to be a member of a chaplaincy church council if he ceases to be so qualified.

(c)

(i) A lay member of the council shall be elected as vice-chairman of the council.

(ii) The council shall appoint one of their number to act as secretary of the council. If no member is appointed so to act the council shall appoint some other fit person with such remuneration (if any) as they shall think fit. The secretary shall have charge of all documents relating to the current business of the council except that, unless he is the electoral roll officer, he shall not have charge of the roll. He shall be responsible for keeping the minutes, shall record all resolutions passed by the council and shall keep the secretary of the Diocesan Synod and any archdeaconry or deanery synod informed as to his name and address.

(iii) The council may appoint one or more of their number to act as treasurer solely or jointly. Failing such appointment, the office of treasurer shall be discharged by some

other fit person or jointly by the churchwardens. No remuneration shall be paid to any person in respect of his appointment as treasurer.

(d) It shall be the duty of the chaplain and the council to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the chaplaincy.

(e) The functions of the council shall include —

(i) co-operation, with the chaplain, in promoting in the chaplaincy the whole mission of the Church;

(ii) the consideration and discussion of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;

(iii) making known and putting into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod, the archdeaconry synod or the deanery synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the council on any particular matter;

(iv) administering the financial affairs of the chaplaincy including the collection and administration of all moneys raised for purposes of the chaplaincy and the keeping of accounts in relation to such affairs and moneys;

(v) the care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric and of the goods and ornaments of the church unless this duty has been otherwise devolved;

(vi) giving advice to the Diocesan Synod, the archdeaconry synod or the deanery synod on any matter referred to the council;

(vii) raising such matters as the council consider appropriate with the Diocesan Synod, the archdeaconry synod or the deanery synod.

(f) In the exercise of its functions the council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any annual, special or extraordinary church meeting of the chaplaincy.