

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, PORTSMOUTH

THE CONSTITUTION

Preamble

Since the late twelfth century Portsmouth Cathedral has been a beacon for people on land and sea, helping them navigate the passage of time with faith and confidence in God. Founded and built in the early 1180s, the original chapel dedicated to Thomas of Canterbury became a parish church in the 14th century and a cathedral in 1927. On 26 April 1926 the Crown conferred on Portsmouth Town the status of a City, and on 1 May 1927 the Diocese of Portsmouth was officially created. Theodore Woods, Bishop of Winchester, hallowed St Thomas's as the Cathedral on 4 October 1927, and just two days later Neville Lovatt was consecrated as the first Bishop of Portsmouth. Since then the Cathedral, housing as it does the Bishop's seat, has focussed on supporting the ministry and mission of the Bishop to the Diocese of Portsmouth.

Known as the 'Cathedral of the Sea', the maritime identity of the City is reflected in the fabric of the building and many of its ongoing relationships. The Cathedral is a holy place in which each day worship is offered to God on behalf of the whole community. It seeks to enable encounter with the living God through hospitality, education, nurture and the arts. It continually seeks to widen engagement with its life and to develop new audiences and mutually beneficial partnerships. It works to contribute to the common good and environmental responsibility. In these and other ways, it is committed to being a 'beacon and safe haven, anchored in Jesus Christ'.

Introductory

Cathedral's ecclesiastical purpose

1. A person or body on whom a function is conferred by or under the Cathedrals Measure 2021 (referred to in this Constitution as "the Measure") must, in exercising that function, have due regard to—
 - (a) the fact that the Cathedral is the seat of the Bishop and a centre of worship and mission, and
 - (b) the importance of the Cathedral's role in providing a focus for the life and work of the Church of England in the Diocese.

The Chapter

Establishment and governance

2. (1) There continues to be a body called the Chapter.
- (2) The body corporate established by virtue of section 9(1)(a) of the Cathedrals Measure 1999 continues to exist and consists only of the Chapter.
- (3) The members of the Chapter (see Article 4 below) have the general control and management of the administration of the Cathedral and, accordingly, are the charity trustees of the Chapter for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011 following the commencement of the charity provisions under section 53(6) of the Measure in relation to the Cathedral.

Objects

3. (1) The objects of the Chapter are—
 - (a) to advance the Christian religion in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church of England, in particular by furthering the mission of the Church of England;
 - (b) to care for and conserve the fabric and structure of the Cathedral Church building;
 - (c) to advance any other charitable purposes which are ancillary to the furtherance of the purpose referred to in sub-paragraph (a) or (b).
- (2) In paragraph (1)—

“the mission of the Church of England” means the whole mission of the Church of England, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;

“Cathedral Church building” means the buildings within the ecclesiastical exemption for the Cathedral;

“charitable purposes” means purposes within section 2(1) of the Charities Act 2011.
- (3) In furthering the objects set out in paragraph (1), the Chapter must act for the public benefit within the meaning of section 4(3) of the Charities Act 2011.

Membership of Chapter: general

4. (1) The members of the Chapter are—
 - (a) the Dean
 - (b) the residentiary canons, and
 - (c) whichever other persons are appointed or elected in accordance with this Constitution.
- (2) The executive members of the Chapter are—
 - (a) the Dean, and
 - (b) each residentiary canon who carries out cathedral duties (see further paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 1 to the Measure).
- (3) The other members of the Chapter are the non-executive members.

- (4) The Chapter must have more non-executive members than executive members.
- (5) At least two-thirds of the non-executive members must be lay persons.
- (6) The Chapter must have at least nine members but no more than twelve or such larger number as is necessary to comply with paragraph (4).

Membership of Chapter: non-executives

5. (1) The Bishop, after consulting the Chapter, must appoint one of the non-executive members who is not a residentiary canon.
- (2) The non-executive member appointed under paragraph (1) is, by virtue of that appointment, the senior non-executive member of the Chapter.
- (3) The members of the Chapter, subject to paragraph (4), must appoint the other non-executive members who are not residentiary canons; but each appointment under this paragraph requires the prior approval of the bishop.
- (4) Two of the non-executive members may be elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting from—
 - (a) the persons who are included on the church electoral roll of the Parish, and
 - (b) the persons who are included on the non-worshipping community roll.
- (5) The procedure for holding an election referred to in paragraph (4) is set out in the Statutes.
- (6) A non-executive member of the Chapter may not be appointed or elected for a term exceeding three years; but, subject to paragraph (7), a non-executive Chapter member may be reappointed.
- (7) A non-executive member of the Chapter who has served three consecutive terms of office is not eligible to be appointed or elected as a non-executive Chapter again until at least three years have passed since he or she last ceased to hold office as a non-executive member of the Chapter.

Membership of Chapter: eligibility

6. (1) A person aged under 16 is not eligible to be a member of the Chapter.
- (2) A chief officer is not eligible to be a member of the Chapter.
- (3) A person who is disqualified as referred to in section 36 of the Measure (safeguarding) or in paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 1 to the Measure (charity trustee) is not eligible to be a member of the Chapter.
- (4) A person is eligible to be a non-executive member only if the person is
 - (a) an actual communicant (within the meaning given in Rule 83(2) of the Church Representation Rules), or
 - (b) a communicant member of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.
- (5) A majority of the non-executive members must come within paragraph (4)(a).
- (6) At least one non-executive member must have recent and relevant financial experience.

Resignation of non-executive Chapter members

7. (1) A non-executive member of the Chapter (other than the one appointed by the Bishop) may resign the office by giving notice in writing to the Dean and the chief officers.
- (2) The non-executive member of the Chapter appointed by the Bishop may resign the office by giving notice in writing to the Bishop, the Dean and the chief officers.
- (3) A resignation under this Article takes effect—
 - (a) on the date specified in the notice, or
 - (b) if no date is specified in the notice, five working days after the day on which the notice is sent (or, if it is sent to different persons on different days, the later or latest of those days).
- (4) Subject to Article 5 and Article 7, the terms on which a non-executive member holds and vacates office are those set out in the member's appointment for the purposes of paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the Measure.

Chapter member benefits and conflicts of interest

8. (1) A member of the Chapter is permitted to receive only those emoluments and expenses which are permitted by paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 to the Measure.
- (2) The Chapter must adopt (and may from time to time revise) a policy for managing conflicts of interest; the policy must include guidance for, and must set out the procedures to be followed by, every member of the Chapter, every member of a committee, sub-committee, advisory body, and every employee of the Chapter.
- (3) A member of the Chapter must declare any interest (direct or indirect)—
 - (a) which the member may have in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Chapter, or
 - (b) which the member may have in a transaction or arrangement with the Chapter but which the member has not already declared.
- (4) If a conflict arises for a member of the Chapter out of an interest of the kind referred to in paragraph (3) or because the member owes a duty of loyalty to another person, body or organisation, the other members of the Chapter may authorise the conflict if they agree that doing so is in the best interests of the Chapter.
- (5) Where a conflict is authorised under paragraph (4), the member in question is not entitled to attend, and does not count as part of the quorum or vote at any part of, a meeting at which there is discussion about the conflict or the proposed or actual transaction or arrangement giving rise to it.

Functions

9. (1) The Chapter must direct and oversee the administration of the affairs of the Cathedral; and in performing that duty, the Chapter must in particular—
 - (a) order the worship of the Cathedral and promote its mission,

- (b) formulate, after consulting the Bishop, proposals relating to the general direction and mission of the Cathedral,
 - (c) prepare an annual budget for the Chapter,
 - (d) prepare an annual report for the Chapter and annual accounts for audit and subsequent approval,
 - (e) keep under review this Constitution and the Statutes, and
 - (f) manage the property which is vested in the Chapter and the income accruing from it and, in particular, ensure that any necessary repairs and maintenance in respect of the Cathedral and its contents and other buildings and monuments are carried out.
- (2) The Chapter must, within ten months of the end of its financial year, send a copy of its accounts and annual report to the Church Commissioners, the Bishop and the Charity Commission.
 - (3) The Chapter has the powers relating to investment and other uses of money which are set out in section 24 of the Measure.
 - (4) The Chapter is not permitted to use the power conferred by section 292B of the Charities Act 2011 (social investment power).

Statutes

- 10. (1) The Statutes of the Chapter provide for the good government of the Cathedral.
- (2) The provisions in the Statutes must be consistent with the Measure and with this Constitution.

Safeguarding

- 11. (1) The Bishop has power under section 37 of the Measure to suspend a member of the Chapter on grounds relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.
- (2) A person who is suspended under section 37 of the Measure has a right of appeal under section 38 of the Measure against the suspension.
- (3) For so long as section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 remains in force for the purposes of any guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, the Chapter is required by that section to have due regard to that guidance.
- (4) The Chapter is required by section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to comply with requirements imposed on it by the code of practice issued by the House of Bishops on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.
- (5) The Dean has the responsibilities referred to in Article 18(2)(f) below in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Chapter meetings

- 12. (1) Meetings of the Chapter are to be chaired by—
 - (a) the Dean, or
 - (b) if the Dean is absent, the senior non-executive member, or

- (c) if the Dean and the senior non-executive member are absent, a non-executive member who has been chosen by the members of the Chapter.
- (2) But the senior non-executive member is not entitled to chair a meeting of the Chapter if a person appointed as interim dean is carrying out functions of the Dean (unless that person is himself or herself absent).
- (3) The Chapter must hold at least four meetings in each financial year to enable the efficient transaction of its business.
- (4) The Dean, the senior non-executive member or at least one third of other members of the Chapter may at any time call a meeting of the Chapter by giving written notice of the meeting to each member of the Chapter and to the chief officers.
- (5) Notice under paragraph (4) must be given at least five working days before the day on which the meeting is due to be held unless—
 - (a) each member of the Chapter agrees to waive that requirement for the meeting concerned, or
 - (b) urgent circumstances justify a shorter period of notice.
- (6) Where a member of the Chapter participates in a meeting of the Chapter by means of a conference call or other facility which enables everyone taking part in the meeting to hear each other, the participation by that member in that way is to be treated as being present at the meeting; and the member is accordingly to be counted for the purpose of working out whether there is a quorum and is entitled to vote at the meeting.
- (7) Where there is a meeting of the Chapter at which one or more members are present in the way described in paragraph (6), the meeting is to be documented as being held—
 - (a) at the place at which there is the largest number of members present (including in the way described in paragraph (6)) or,
 - (b) if there is no one place which meets that description, at the place at which the chair of the meeting is present.
- (8) The quorum of the Chapter is seven members and must include at least one executive member and at least one non-executive member.
- (9) A decision at any meeting is to be taken by a majority vote of members present at the meeting (including in the way described in paragraph (6)).
- (10) If there is a tied vote at a meeting of the Chapter being chaired by the Dean, the Dean has a second, casting vote.
- (11) The chief officers must attend each meeting of the Chapter unless the Chapter considers that there are circumstances which justify excluding or excusing either or both of the chief officers from the whole or part of the meeting; and a chief officer, when attending the whole or part of a meeting of the Chapter, may speak but may not vote.

- (12) Where a member of the Chapter is suspended in accordance with Article 11 or otherwise in accordance with the Measure, that person shall not, for so long as they are suspended—
 - (a) attend any meeting of the Chapter or any committee or sub-committee meeting, or
 - (b) receive or have access to the papers for any meeting referred to in subparagraph (a) (but once a person is no longer suspended the Chapter may decide to allow that person may have access to the aforementioned papers unless there are any circumstances connected to their suspension which could undermine confidentiality).

Decisions without a meeting

13. (1) A resolution in writing signed by a majority of the members of the Chapter is as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Chapter duly convened and held and shall be treated as having been passed on the date on which the last member required to vote in favour of such resolution signifies their agreement to it in accordance with Article 13(2).
- (2) A member of the Chapter may signify agreement to a proposed written resolution—
 - (a) by signing a hard copy,
 - (b) by email sent from the email address which the member usually uses in connection with the affairs of the Chapter, or
 - (c) if the Chapter has approved the use of some other electronic means for this purpose, by that electronic means.
- (3) The Chapter is to be treated as taking a majority decision on a matter if a majority of the members indicate to each other by electronic means that they share a common view on the matter.
- (4) A decision taken in the way described in paragraph (3) must be duly reported and minuted at the next meeting of the Chapter.
- (5) A decision taken in the way described in paragraph (3) may (but need not) take the form of a written resolution passed in accordance with paragraph (1).

Special Chapter meeting with Bishop

14. (1) The Chapter must each year hold a special meeting at which—
 - (a) it must consult the Bishop on the general direction and mission of the Cathedral, and
 - (b) the Bishop may seek the advice of the Chapter on any particular matter.
- (2) Before deciding who to invite to a special meeting under paragraph (1) (apart from the members of the Chapter and the Bishop), the Chapter must consult the Bishop.

The Seal

15. (1) The application of the Chapter's seal must be authenticated by two authorised persons, at least one of whom must be a member of the Chapter; and a person is "authorised" for this purpose if the person is a member of the Chapter or a chief officer.
- (2) A document purporting to be duly executed under the Chapter's seal is to be received in evidence and, unless the contrary is proved, taken to be so executed.

Office holders

The Bishop

16. (1) The Bishop continues to have the principal seat and dignity in the Cathedral.
- (2) The Bishop may, after consulting the Chapter and subject to provision in the Statutes, officiate in the Cathedral and use it in his or her work of teaching and mission, for ordinations and synods and for other diocesan occasions and purposes.
- (3) The Bishop may seek the advice of the Chapter on any matter.
- (4) The Bishop may commission a review of any aspects of the Cathedral's financial affairs, governance, management, operations or mission which the Bishop considers necessary or appropriate.

The Visitor

17. (1) The Bishop continues to be Visitor of the Cathedral and, accordingly, continues to have the jurisdiction as Visitor that is inherent to the office of Bishop.
- (2) The Bishop as Visitor must determine any question which arises on the construction of this Constitution or the Statutes.
- (3) The Bishop may hold a visitation of the Cathedral—
 - (a) when the Bishop considers it necessary or desirable to do so, or
 - (b) when requested to do so by the Chapter.
- (4) In the course of a visitation, the Bishop may give such directions to the Chapter, the holder of an office in the Cathedral or a person employed by the Chapter or engaged to provide services in connection with the Cathedral as will, in the opinion of the Bishop, better serve the due observance of this Constitution and the Statutes.
- (5) The Bishop as Visitor must determine any question which arises on the nature of the cathedral duties that are carried out by any particular residentiary canon.
- (6) The Bishop has the duty under section 10(6) of the Measure to have due regard, in the exercise of functions as Visitor, to any guidance issued by the Church Commissioners in relation to the Visitor's functions.

The Dean

- 18.** (1) The incumbent of the benefice which comprises the Parish is to continue to be the Dean.
- (2) The Dean, as the principal dignitary of the Cathedral next after the Bishop, must on behalf of the Chapter govern and direct the life and work of the Cathedral; and in performing that duty, the Dean must in particular—
- (a) ensure that Divine Service is duly performed in the Cathedral,
 - (b) ensure that this Constitution and the Statutes are faithfully observed,
 - (c) oversee the work undertaken by the clergy and staff of the Cathedral in relation to the Cathedral,
 - (d) maintain good order and proper reverence in the Cathedral,
 - (e) secure the pastoral care of all members of the Cathedral community,
 - (f) provide leadership on matters relating to the safeguarding of any children or vulnerable adults who work, volunteer or worship in the Cathedral or who visit the Cathedral, and
 - (g) take all decisions necessary for dealing with an emergency affecting the Cathedral, pending consideration of the matter by the Chapter.
- (3) None of the following may be done without the consent of the Dean—
- (a) altering the ordering of services in the Cathedral,
 - (b) settling the Chapter's budget, and
 - (c) implementing a decision taken by the Chapter in the Dean's absence.
- (4) In the case of a decision taken by the Chapter on a matter other than the matters mentioned in paragraph (3)(a) and (b), the Dean is to be taken as having given consent for the purposes of paragraph (3)(c) after the expiry of one month beginning with the day after that on which the decision was taken.
- (5) But paragraph (4) does not apply if, during the one-month period referred to in that paragraph, the Dean asks the Chapter to reconsider the decision at its next meeting; and the decision is to be taken by a majority vote of those present and voting at the meeting.
- (6) The Dean is, in respect of functions relating to the Cathedral, accountable to the Chapter in accordance with arrangements made by the Chapter.

Interim dean

- 19.** If the office of Dean is vacant or the Dean is unable to carry out functions because of illness or absence or for any other reason, the Bishop must appoint a person to carry out the functions concerned during the period concerned in accordance with section 13 of the Measure.

Residentiary canons

- 20.** (1) There are to be no less than two and not more than four residentiary canons at any one time.

- (2) The Bishop must, with the approval of the Dean, appoint each residentiary canon who is not appointed by the Crown.
- (3) At least two full-time equivalent residentiary canons must be engaged exclusively on cathedral duties.
- (4) A Residentiary Canon (to be known as the Third Canon Residentiary) shall hold the Residentiary Canonry founded and established by the Order in Council made on the 27th day of October 1930 in pursuance of the provisions of the Archdeaconry of Surrey Measure 1930. The holder of this post shall divide their time between diocesan and cathedral duties as determined by the Bishop but is not considered to carry out cathedral duties for the purposes of the Measure and shall be a non-executive member of Chapter.

Non-residentiary canons

21. (1) The non-residentiary canons shall be known and referred to as the 'honorary canons'.
- (2) No less than nine and no more than thirteen Canons in Holy Orders who are beneficed or licensed in the Diocese (save that up to two Canons in Holy Orders at any one time may be appointed from persons beneficed or licensed in another diocese) shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Dean and Chapter, with the total number of honorary and lay canons being no more than twenty-six at any time.
- (3) Honorary canons may be appointed by virtue of, and for the duration of, a particular office and shall include the following: area and suffragan bishops of the Diocese, and archdeacons of the Diocese.
- (4) Other than as provided for in subparagraph (3) and subject to subparagraphs (5) and (6), an honorary canon shall hold office for a term of five years but shall be eligible for reappointment for further such terms.
- (5) An honorary canon shall vacate office on ceasing to be beneficed or licensed in the Diocese.
- (6) The Bishop may, for such reasons as he or she may in his or her absolute discretion determine, and after consultation with the Dean, require an honorary canon to vacate his or her office as such.
- (7) The Bishop, in consultation with the Dean, may occasionally appoint non-residentiary canons to serve in a particular area of ministry at the Cathedral. An honorary canon appointed in such a way will be provided with a role description to ensure clarity on role and expectations.
- (8) Further provision regarding the honorary canons is made in the Statutes.

Lay canons

22. (1) The lay canons, who shall reside in the diocese (save that up to two lay canons at any one time may be appointed from persons beneficed or licensed in another diocese), shall be actual communicant members of the Church of England, or of a Church in communion with the Church of England, or of a designated Church or of a Church which subscribes to the Holy Trinity but which is not otherwise a designated church (within the meaning of Canon B43 of the

Canons of the Church of England), shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Dean and Chapter.

- (2) The Bishop shall make appointments of lay canons so that there are no less than nine and no more than thirteen, and so that the total number of non-residentiary and lay canons shall be no more than twenty-six at any time.
- (3) Subjects to paragraph (4) and (5), a lay canon shall hold office for a term of five years but shall be eligible for reappointment for further such terms.
- (5) Two of the lay canons shall be the Churchwardens of the parish, and shall hold his or her Lay Canonry for such period as he or she is a Churchwarden, automatically vacating that canonry on ceasing to be a Churchwarden.
- (6) The Bishop may, for such reasons as he or she may in his or her absolute discretion determine, and after consultation with the Dean, require a lay canon to vacate his or her office as such.
- (7) Further provision regarding the lay canons is made in the Statutes.

Senior management and other appointments

Chief officers

- 23.** (1) The Chapter must appoint persons to undertake administration in the Cathedral through carrying out the role of a chief operating officer and the role of a chief finance officer.
- (2) The Chapter is entitled to appoint the same person to carry out each of those roles, if each one is to be carried out on a part-time basis.

Architect or surveyor

- 24.** (1) The Chapter must appoint an architect or surveyor of the fabric of the Cathedral.
- (2) A person may not be appointed under paragraph (1) unless that person has whatever qualifications and expertise in matters relating to the conservation of historic buildings and other matters the Chapter considers appropriate.
- (3) Before making a decision about the qualifications and expertise required for the purposes of paragraph (2), the Chapter must consult—
- (a) the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England, and
 - (b) whichever other persons or bodies the Chapter considers appropriate.

Auditor

- 25.** The Chapter must appoint an auditor for the Chapter for each financial year and decide the level of remuneration for the auditor so appointed.

Music supervisor

- 26.** The Chapter must appoint a Director of Music to supervise music in the Cathedral.

Committees

Nominations Committee

27. (1) There is to be a committee known as “the Nominations Committee”.
- (2) The Chapter must appoint the members and chair of the Nominations Committee.
- (3) The composition, functions and proceedings of the Nominations Committee are set out in the Statutes (except in so far as provision is made for those matters in section 15 of the Measure).
- (4) The terms of reference provided by the Chapter for the Nominations Committee may set out the matters relating to composition, functions and proceedings which are set out in the Statutes as well as any supplementary matters in accordance with the Measure.

Finance Committee

28. (1) There is to be a committee known as “the Finance Committee”.
- (2) The Chapter must appoint the members of the Finance Committee.
- (3) The terms of reference provided by the Chapter for the Finance Committee may set out the matters relating to composition, functions and proceedings which are set out in the Statutes as well as any supplementary matters in accordance with the Measure.

Arrangements for managing internal audit and risk

29. (1) The Chapter must make such arrangements as it considers to be necessary to ensure appropriate governance of the Cathedrals (including management of risk) and appropriate oversight of its internal and external audit, given the size and complexity of its financial affairs and the nature of its activities.
- (2) Section 5(6) of the Measure requires the Chapter, in making arrangements under paragraph (1), to have due regard to any guidance issued by the Church Commissioners on the financial affairs of cathedrals.

Other committees

30. (1) The Chapter may from time to time establish committees or sub-committees of the Chapter.
- (2) Any committee or sub-committee so established may include persons who are not members of the Chapter.
- (3) The composition, chairing and proceedings of any such committees or sub-committees are set out in the Statutes.
- (4) The terms of reference provided by the Chapter for each committee and sub-committee set up pursuant to section 17 of the Measure may set out the matters relating to composition, functions and proceedings which are set out in the Statutes as well as any supplementary matters in accordance with the Measure.

Advisory bodies

Advisory bodies

31. (1) The Chapter may establish one or more advisory bodies in accordance with this Constitution and the Statutes.
- (2) An advisory body shall not a committee of the Chapter.
- (3) Provision as to the composition, functions and proceedings of the advisory bodies are included in the Statutes and any terms of reference.
- (4) The terms of reference provided by the Chapter for any advisory body may include the matters relating to composition, functions and proceedings which are included in the Statutes as well as any supplementary matters in accordance with the Measure.

Community roll

Community roll

32. (1) The Chapter may form and maintain a roll (referred to in this Constitution as the non-worshipping community roll") which contains the name of each person—
- (a) who is not eligible for inclusion on the church electoral roll of the Parish, but
- (b) who is a member of the cathedral community, and
- (c) whose application for enrolment for the purposes of section 6(5) of the Measure has been granted.

The College of Canons

Establishment

33. (1) There continues to be a body called the College of Canons.
- (2) The College of Canons is independent of the Chapter and neither the College nor its members (in their capacity as such) form part of the body corporate of the Cathedral.
- (3) The members of the College of Canons are—
- (a) the Dean,
- (b) every suffragan bishop of the Diocese,
- (c) every canon of the Cathedral, and
- (d) every archdeacon of the Diocese.
- (4) In paragraph (3)(c), "canon" includes a lay canon and a non-residentiary canon but not a minor canon.
- (5) The College of Canons has the functions conferred by the Appointment of Bishops Act 1533 on the body referred to in that Act as the dean and chapter of the Cathedral.

- (6) The College of Canons has the following functions—
- (a) to discuss such matters concerning the Cathedral as may be raised by any of its members, with the agreement of the Dean;
 - (b) to support the Chapter in the promotion and delivery of the mission of the Cathedral.

Amendments to Constitution

Amendments

34. The procedure for making amendments to this Constitution is set out in sections 31 to 34 of the Measure.

Interpretation

Interpretation

35. (1) In this Constitution—

“Annual Parochial Church Meeting” means the annual meeting of the Parish at which two non-executive members may be elected in accordance with Article 5(4);

“the Bishop” means the Bishop of Portsmouth (but see paragraph (2));

“the Cathedral” means the Cathedral Church of Saint Thomas of Canterbury in Portsmouth;

“Canon of Honour” means a person appointed as a Canon of Honour by the Bishop in accordance with Article 38 of the Statutes and “Canons of Honour” mean any such number of people;

“Canons of the Church of England” means the canons of the Church of England from time to time;

“child” means a person aged under 18;

“the Diocese” means the diocese of Portsmouth and “diocesan” is to be read accordingly;

“Director of Music” means such person appointed further to Article 26 to supervise the music in the cathedral

“electronic means” has the meaning given to it in section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006;

“the Measure” means the Cathedrals Measure 2021;

“the Statutes” mean the statutes of the Cathedral adopted pursuant to the Measure and as revised from time to time;

“non-worshipping community roll” has the meaning given in Article 32 above;

“the Parish” means the Parish of Saint Thomas of Canterbury, Portsmouth, being the parish for which the Cathedral or part of it is the parish church;

“vulnerable adult” has the same meaning as in the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016;

“working day” means a day which is not a Saturday or Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a bank holiday in England under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971;

- (2) Where the functions of the Bishop are being exercised by another bishop in accordance with an instrument made under section 13 or 14 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007, the references in this Constitution to the Bishop are to be read as references to that other bishop.
- (3) A reference in this Constitution to a provision of a Measure or of an Act of Parliament is to be read as a reference to that provision as for the time being amended, extended or applied by or under any other such provision.
- (4) Subject to that, the Interpretation Act 1978 applies to this Constitution.

Revocation

Revocation

36. The Constitution of the Cathedral made on 27th day of November 2000 as revised on the 17th day of December 2002 and on the 16th day of July 2012 and on the 24th day of January 2019 ceases to have effect.