

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW IN WELLS ¹

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.

¹ Constitution of The Cathedral Church of St. Andrew in Wells (charity registration number 1207269) dated 30 November 2023 adopted in accordance with the Cathedrals Measure 2021 as amended by the Instrument dated 5 February 2026.

- (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 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 eight members but no more than twelve or such larger number as is necessary to comply with paragraph (4).

Membership: appointment of 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 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) A non-executive member of the Chapter may not be appointed for a term exceeding three years; but, subject to paragraph (5), a non-executive Chapter member may be reappointed.
- (5) A non-executive member of the Chapter who has served two consecutive terms of office is not eligible to be appointed as a non-executive member of the Chapter again until at least 12 months have passed since he or she last ceased to hold office as a non-executive member of the Chapter, unless in exceptional circumstances the Chapter determines that it would be in the interests of the Cathedral to re-appoint a member for one or more additional consecutive terms.
- (6) For the purposes of paragraph (5), any completed term of office served by a non-executive member of Chapter immediately before this Constitution is effective shall be taken into account with regard to the limitation on consecutive terms of office set out in paragraph (5).

Membership: 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 senior non-executive member of Chapter appointed by the Bishop and residentiary canons) 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 and may resign the office by giving notice in writing to the Bishop and the Dean.
- (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 this 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 or 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) in which case the interim dean shall chair the meeting.
- (3) The Chapter must hold a sufficient number of meetings and not less than four meetings in each financial year to enable the efficient transaction of its business.
- (4) The Dean, the senior non-executive member or two other members of the Chapter including one executive member and one non-executive member 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 seven 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 four members and must include at least one executive member of the Chapter and two non-executive members of whom one must be a lay non-executive member of the Chapter, provided that decisions made in relation to Wells Cathedral School, or any charity connected to the Cathedral where the Dean and/or residentiary canons are appointed as ex officio trustees, shall not require an executive member of the Chapter to be present to form a quorum.
- (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, 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 sub-paragraph (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 authorised by Chapter and 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 Dean is appointed by the Crown.
- (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,
 - (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,
 - (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, if so, 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) The Bishop must, with the approval of the Dean, appoint each residentiary canon who is not appointed by the Crown.
- (2) There shall be up to four residentiary canons.
- (3) At least two full-time equivalent residentiary canons must be engaged exclusively on cathedral duties and will be ex officio executive members of Chapter.
- (4) The Archdeacon of Wells shall be ex officio a residentiary canon. The holder of this post shall divide their time between Cathedral and diocesan duties as determined by the Bishop from time to time in a Statement of Particulars but is not considered to carry out Cathedral duties for the purposes of the Measure and shall be a non-executive member of Chapter. If a person ceases to hold the office of Archdeacon of Wells, such person shall cease to hold the office of a residentiary canon and shall retire as the member of the Chapter on the date that they cease to hold office as the Archdeacon of Wells.
- (5) A fourth residentiary canon may be appointed, the Chapter shall determine the duties allocated to the holder of this post in a Statement of Particulars, but such person shall not be considered to be carrying out Cathedral duties for the purposes of the Measure and so shall be a non-executive member of Chapter unless the Chapter determine otherwise.
- (6) The Chapter, with the approval of the Bishop and Dean, may, but need not, confer a title on a residentiary canon (with the exception of the Archdeacon of Wells) and may allocate duties to a residentiary canon associated with such title.

Non-residentiary canons

21. (1) There shall be not more than 20 non-residentiary canons (including the persons set out at paragraph (6)), provided that the number of residentiary canons, non-residentiary canons, lay canons, ecumenical canons and the Dean together does not exceed 39 in total at any one time. Each non-residentiary canon shall be a member of the College of Canons in accordance with Article 33.
- (2) Non-residentiary canons shall be known as "Honorary Canons" and may also be known by the title of "Prebendary" in accordance with Article 34(4) .
- (3) Subject to paragraph (4), Honorary Canons shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Dean and shall be persons in Holy Orders who are beneficed or licensed in the Diocese.
- (4) Up to two Honorary Canons may be appointed from persons in Holy Orders who are not beneficed or licensed in the Diocese.

- (5) An Honorary Canonry shall be vacated automatically and without execution of any instrument of resignation upon the holder ceasing to be beneficed or licensed in the Diocese and in the case of an Honorary Canon appointed pursuant to paragraph (4), ceasing to be beneficed or licensed in their relevant Diocese.
- (6) Any suffragan bishop, full-time stipendiary assistant bishop, archdeacon of the Diocese or Sub-Dean, not being a residentiary canon, shall be a supernumerary and *ex officio* Honorary Canon and shall cease to be an Honorary Canon on ceasing to hold such office.

Lay canons

- 22.** (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Bishop may appoint, on such terms as he or she thinks fit, up to 15 lay canons, provided that the number of residentiary canons, non-residentiary canons, lay canons, ecumenical canons and the Dean together does not exceed 39 in total at any one time. Each lay canon shall be a member of the College of Canons in accordance with Article 33.
- (2) Lay canons are customarily appointed in recognition of the distinguished service a person is giving or has given to the Diocese. To be eligible for appointment as a lay canon a person must be resident in the Diocese and be—
- (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.
- A lay canon shall seek to contribute to the corporate life of the Cathedral and to promote its mission and service in the Diocese.
- (3) It shall be customary for the Bishop to appoint each non-executive Chapter member appointed further to Article 5(1) to Article 5(3) as a lay canon, but the Bishop shall retain absolute discretion in this respect.
- (4) A lay canon who is also a member of the Chapter appointed further to Article 5(1) to Article 5(3) shall automatically cease to be a lay canon upon ceasing to be a member of the Chapter.
- (5) A lay canon who is not a member of the Chapter shall cease to be a lay canon upon expiry of their term of appointment as a lay canon, or ceasing to be resident in the Diocese, whichever occurs first.

Ecumenical Canons

- 23.** The Bishop may appoint, on such terms as he or she thinks fit, up to two ecumenical canons who may be lay persons or in Holy Orders, provided that the number of residentiary canons, non-residentiary canons, lay canons, ecumenical canons and the Dean together does not exceed 39 in total at any one time. Each ecumenical canon shall be a member of the College of Canons in accordance with Article 34.

Senior management and other appointments

Chief officers

24. (1) The Chapter must appoint one or more 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

25. (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

26. 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

27. The Chapter must appoint a Director of Music to supervise music in the Cathedral.

Committees

Nominations Committee

28. (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

29. (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

30. (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

31. (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.

Community roll

Community roll

32. (1) The Chapter must form and maintain a roll (referred to in this Constitution as the “worshipping community roll”) which contains the name of each person—
 - (a) who is baptised,
 - (b) who is aged 16 or over,
 - (c) who has made one of the following two declarations, and
 - (d) whose application for enrolment for the purposes of section 6(1) of the Measure has been granted.
- (2) The first declaration is that the person—
 - (a) is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, and
 - (b) has habitually attended public worship at the Cathedral during the preceding six months.
- (3) The second declaration is that the person—
 - (a) is a member in good standing of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity,
 - (b) is also a member of the Church of England, and
 - (c) has habitually attended public worship at the Cathedral during the preceding six months.
- (4) 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 worshipping community roll, but
 - (b) who is a member of the cathedral community, and
 - (c) whose application for enrolment for the purposes of section 6(4) 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 full-time stipendiary assistant bishop in the diocese,
 - (d) every canon of the Cathedral, and
 - (e) every archdeacon of the Diocese.
- (4) In paragraph (3)(d), “canon” includes a residentiary canon, a lay canon, an ecumenical canon and an Honorary 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 act as ambassadors of the Cathedral to the diocese, ambassadors of the diocese to the Cathedral and as counsellors to the Bishop. The College will meet when called together by the Dean at least once a year for worship, study, reflection and to share in the life of the Cathedral.
- (7) The College of Canons shall in addition carry out the following functions, to—
- (a) consider such matters relating to the Diocese or the Cathedral as the Bishop may determine,
 - (b) discuss such matters concerning the Cathedral as may be raised by any of its members, and
 - (c) discuss such other matters as the Chapter may refer to the College of Canons for their views.
- (8) Members of the College of Canons shall seek to contribute to the corporate life of the Cathedral and to promote its mission and service in the Diocese.

Prebendaries

Prebendaries

34. (1) There shall be 39 prebends in the Cathedral as set out at Appendix 1.
- (2) Nine prebends shall be annexed as follows: North Curry to the deanery; Huish and Brent to the archdeaconry of Wells; Yatton to the archdeaconry of Bath; Milverton I to the archdeaconry of Taunton; Wanstrow to the suffragan bishopric of Taunton; Shalford for the sub-deanery; and the prebends of Whitchurch, Litton and Warminster shall be annexed to the residentiary canons appointed in accordance with Articles 20(3) and 20(5) of the Constitution as the Bishop may determine from time to time. If no residentiary canon is appointed in accordance with Article 20(5) then the Bishop may appoint the relevant prebend to a non-residentiary canon.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (2), the Bishop may at his or her absolute discretion appoint the prebends to up to 15 non-residentiary canons appointed in accordance with Article 21, up

to 15 lay canons appointed in accordance with Article 22 and up to two ecumenical canons appointed in accordance with Article 23.

- (4) A person appointed to a prebend may be known as a "Prebendary" in addition to any other title they may hold.

Amendments to Constitution

Amendments

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

Interpretation

Interpretation

36. (1) In this Constitution—
- “the Bishop” means the Bishop of Bath and Wells (but see paragraph (2));
 - “the Cathedral” means the Cathedral Church of St Andrew in Wells;
 - “child” means a person aged under 18;
 - “the Diocese” means the diocese of Bath and Wells and “diocesan” is to be read accordingly;
 - "Director of Music" means the person appointed by Chapter as the Director of Music in accordance with Article 26;
 - “electronic means” has the meaning given to it in section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006;
 - "Honorary Canon" means a non-residentiary canon appointed in accordance with Article 21;
 - "Interim Dean" means the person appointed by the Bishop to carry out the functions of the Dean during any vacancy in the office of Dean in accordance with Article 19 and any reference to an "Acting Dean" shall have the same meaning as if it is a reference to an "Interim Dean";
 - “the Measure” means the Cathedrals Measure 2021;
 - "Prebendary" means any person appointed to a prebendary in accordance with Article 33;
 - "the prebends" means the prebends set out in Annex 1;
 - “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;
 - “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;
 - “worshipping community roll” has the meaning given in Article 32 above.
- (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

- 38.** The Constitution established for the Cathedral by an instrument dated 23 December 1999 (as amended by instruments dated 20 November 2003, 1 January 2006, and 26 April 2009) ceases to have effect.

Appendix 1

Prebends

Ashill	Dinder	Taunton
Barton St David	Dulcote	Timberscombe
Buckland Dinham	East Harptree	Wanstrow
Combe St Nicholas I	Easton-in-Gordano	Warminster
Combe St Nicholas III	Haselbury Plucknett	Wedmore II
Combe St Nicholas V	Henstridge	Wedmore IV
Combe St Nicholas VII	Holcombe	Whitchurch
Combe St Nicholas VIII	Huish and Brent	Whitelackington
Combe St Nicholas X	Ilton	Wivellscombe
Combe St Nicholas XII	Litton	Worminster
Combe St Nicholas XIV	Milverton I	Yatton
Compton Bishop	North Curry	
Compton Dundon	St Decumans	
Cudworth	Shalford	