

# STATUTES

## STATUTE I THE BISHOP

- (1) The Bishop shall have the principal seat and dignity in the Cathedral.
- (2) After consultation with the Chapter, the Bishop may officiate in the Cathedral and use it in his work of teaching and mission, for ordinations and synods and for other diocesan occasions and purposes. At any service which the Bishop holds he may determine the ordering thereof including precedence, preach or appoint the preacher and decide the object of the collection.  
He may also claim through the Chapter any reasonable assistance of the members of the Foundation and of the Ministers, officers and servants of the Cathedral and the reasonable use of the furnishings, ornaments, lighting and heating thereof.
- (3) The Bishop shall have access to the Cathedral at all times and, if present at any service therein at which an absolution or blessing is pronounced, shall, if he so desire, pronounce the same.
- (4) The Bishop shall have the right to celebrate the Holy Communion once each week at the daily weekday celebration at the accustomed time and to preach, as provided by Statutes 15 and 16.
- (5) The Chapter shall from time to time consult with the Bishop in respect of the general direction and mission of the Cathedral, and the Bishop may at any time meet with the Chapter and seek its advice on any matter.
- (6) The Bishop shall as Visitor hear and determine any question as to the construction of the Constitution and Statutes.
- (7) The Bishop may hold a visitation of the Cathedral when he considers it desirable or necessary to do so or when requested by the Council or the Chapter.
- (8) In the course of a visitation, the Bishop may give such directions to the Chapter, to the holder of any office in the Cathedral or to any person employed by the Cathedral as will, in the opinion of the Bishop, better serve the due observance of the Constitution and Statutes.
- (9) It shall be the duty of any person or body on whom functions are conferred by the Constitution and Statutes to act in accordance with any determination and any direction by the Bishop under this Statute.
- (10) The Bishop may at any time propose for consideration by the Council amendments to the Constitution and Statutes.
- (11) The Bishop and the Dean shall confer together as often as is necessary for the good of the Cathedral Church.

## STATUTE 2 THE FOUNDATION

The Dean, and every other member of the Foundation, shall on admission to office make the appropriate declaration as set out in the schedule to these Statutes

### **STATUTE 3 THE DEAN**

- (1) The Dean shall be the principal dignitary of the Cathedral, next after the Bishop.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Dean as Chairman of the Chapter to govern and direct on its behalf the life and work of the Cathedral and, in particular, to:
  - (a) ensure that Divine Service is duly performed in the Cathedral;
  - (b) ensure that the Constitution and Statutes are faithfully observed;
  - (c) maintain good order and proper reverence in the Cathedral;
  - (d) secure the pastoral care of all members of the Cathedral community; and
  - (e) take all decisions necessary to deal with any emergency affecting the Cathedral, pending consideration of the matter by the Chapter.
- (3) The Dean shall live in the house appropriated by the Chapter to his office (unless the Bishop grant him leave to live elsewhere) and he may not sub-let or use the house or any part of it for business purposes except with the express authority of the Chapter in writing.
- (4) If the office of Dean is vacant, or the Bishop considers that the Dean is unable to discharge any or all of his functions by reason of illness or absence or any other cause, the Bishop shall, after consultation with the Chapter, appoint an Acting Dean to carry out such functions as the Dean is unable to discharge during the period in question.
- (5) If any question arises whether an appointment under (4) above is justified, that question shall be determined by the Archbishop of the province.

### **STATUTE 4 RESIDENTIARY CANONS**

- (1) The Residentiary Canons shall undertake such duties in the Cathedral as the Chapter shall determine after consultation with them. They shall endeavour to strengthen the whole corporate life, worship, and work of the Cathedral and promote the ministry of the Cathedral in the Diocese.
- (2) The Chapter shall not later than the last day of October in each year determine the times during which each Residentiary Canon shall be the Canon in Residence in the following year.
- (3) The Canon in Residence shall (under the Dean and subject to the Chapter) supervise all worship in the Cathedral during his period of Residence, be available for urgent pastoral demands, and preach or appoint the preacher as set out in Statute 15.
- (4) Each Residentiary Canon shall live in the house appropriated by the Chapter to his office (unless the Bishop grant him leave to live elsewhere) and he may not sub-let or use the house or any part of it for business purposes except with the express authority of the Chapter in writing.
- (5) No Residentiary Canon shall hold a Benefice or undertake parochial responsibility outside the Cathedral save with the consent of the Bishop and the Chapter.
- (6) The Chapter may grant any one of the Residentiary Canons a title to indicate responsibilities held for such periods and on such conditions as the Chapter may determine.

### **STATUTE 5 THE VICE-DEAN**

The Dean may, with the concurrence of the Chapter, appoint a Residentiary Canon to be Vice Dean for any period not exceeding one year and one month, but anyone so appointed shall be eligible to be reappointed any number of times.

**STATUTE 6  
THE COLLEGE OF CANONS**

- (1) Any member of the College of Canons may be invited by the Dean or the Canon in Residence to take an appropriate part in Cathedral worship.
- (2) It shall be the duty of every member of the College of Canons, unless excused by illness or some other cause, to attend meetings of the College of Canons and to render counsel and assistance in matters concerning the Cathedral.
- (3) Every member of the College of Canons shall seek to further the work of the Cathedral in the Diocese, and to assist the Chapter.

**STATUTE 7  
CHAPTER OFFICERS**

- (1) The Chapter may appoint a High Bailiff, Chapter Steward, Chapter Clerk, and Chapter Registrar on such terms and conditions as the Chapter may decide.
- (2) Such appointments shall be honorary, unless agreed in writing with the Chapter.
- (3) The High Bailiff, Chapter Steward, Chapter Clerk, and Chapter Registrar shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the College of Canons, but not to vote.
- (4) The Chapter may appoint such other officers as it considers appropriate.

**STATUTE 8  
ETHELDREDA CANONS**

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this statute there shall be not more than three honorary Etheldreda Canons who shall be appointed by the Bishop with the agreement of the Dean after consultation with the Chapter from among persons who are members of Christian churches and congregations other than churches of the Anglican Communion and hold some office or perform some function which in the Bishop's opinion is or should be connected with the Diocese or Cathedral.
- (2) A title conferred under this provision shall constitute a dignity in the Cathedral but not an office and, in particular, the holder shall not by virtue of that title be a Canon for the purposes of the Measure nor a member of the College of Canons.
- (3) Every Etheldreda Canon on appointment shall be presented by the Bishop and shall be welcomed by the Dean or Vice-Dean in an appropriate manner.
- (4) Subject and so far as permitted by law, an Etheldreda Canon may take such part in the Services of the Cathedral as Chapter may assign to him.
- (5) An Etheldreda Canon shall continue in his dignity for a period of five years, renewable for one further period of five years. On ceasing to hold the office or perform the function set out at paragraph (1) above, or on expiration of the said period, he shall vacate his canonry automatically and without the execution of any instrument of resignation unless the Bishop otherwise determines.
- (6) The Bishop may confer upon an Etheldreda Canon who vacates his dignity the title Etheldreda Canon Emeritus. A title conferred under this provision shall confer no vested interest and, in particular, the holder shall not by virtue of that title be a member of the College of Canons.

**STATUTE 9  
MINOR CANONS**

- (1) The Chapter may appoint not more than four persons in Holy Orders to be Minor Canons.
- (2) A Minor Canon may be appointed Precentor, Cathedral Chaplain, or given some other title or office.
- (3) The Chapter retains the right to withdraw the title of Minor Canon where appropriate.
- (4) The Chapter may at its discretion appoint the Chaplain of the King's School to be a Minor Canon; such appointment to lapse upon the termination of such employment.

**STATUTE 10  
EMERITUS TITLES**

The Bishop may confer upon a Dean, a Residentiary Canon, an Honorary Canon, or a Lay Canon who vacates his office and immediately upon such vacation retires, the title, as the case may be, of Dean Emeritus, Canon Emeritus, or Lay Canon Emeritus. A title conferred under this provision shall confer no vested interest and, in particular, the holder shall not by virtue of that title be a member of the College of Canon.

**STATUTE 11  
THE CHAPTER**

- (1) Meetings of the Chapter shall be called by the Dean, in accordance with a resolution of the Chapter, or on his own motion, or on the written requisition of at least three members of the Chapter.
- (2) At least eight days' notice in writing of a Chapter meeting shall be given to all members of the Chapter.
- (3) The quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Chapter shall be three members of the Chapter.
- (4) In the absence of the Dean or of any person appointed to exercise the functions of the Dean under Statute 3(4) of these Statutes, the Chapter shall elect one of its members to preside over it, but such person shall not have a second or casting vote.
- (5) The following steps shall not be taken without the consent of the Dean;
  - (a) any alteration of the ordering of services in the Cathedral;
  - (b) the settlement of the Cathedral's budget;
  - (c) the implementation of any decision taken by the Chapter in the Dean's absence;

Provided that, in the case of a decision taken by the Chapter as to any matter other than one mentioned in (a) or (b) above, his consent shall be deemed to have been given for the purposes of (c) above after the expiry of one month following the date on which the decision was taken unless, within that period, the Dean request the Chapter to reconsider the decision at the next meeting of the Chapter, in which case the matter shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and voting at the meeting, the Dean having a second or casting vote.

- (6) The Chapter may make by-laws regulating any matter within its jurisdiction provided that such by-laws are consistent with the Constitution and Statutes.

**STATUTE 12**  
**THE COUNCIL**

- (1) Meetings of the Council shall be called by the chairman, in accordance with a resolution of the Council, on his own motion, or on the written requisition of at least eight members of the Council.
- (2) The quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Council shall be eight of its members.
- (3) In the absence of the chairman, the Council shall elect one of its members to preside over it.
- (4) At least eight days notice in writing of a Council Meeting shall be given to the Bishop and the members of the Council.

**STATUTE 13**  
**VALIDITY OF PROCEEDINGS**

No proceedings of the Council, the Chapter or the College of Canons shall be invalidated by any vacancy in the membership or by any defect in the qualification or election of any member.

**STATUTE 14**  
**PATRONAGE**

Subject to the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 any presentations or nominations to benefices in the patronage of the Cathedral shall be exercised by the Chapter, or, if the Chapter so decide, by a Committee of the Chapter styled the Patronage Committee.

**STATUTE 15**  
**PREACHING**

- (1) The Bishop shall have the right to preach in the Cathedral Church on a Sunday six times a year at the accustomed time, in addition to the right conferred under Statute 16.
- (2) The Dean shall have the right to preach or appoint the preacher at the accustomed time on a Sunday once in every month as he shall choose, not being a Sunday chosen by the Bishop under (1) above.
- (3) The rights conferred by this Statute on the Bishop and the Dean shall be dependent upon notice being given to the Chapter before the 1st October each year of the occasions selected for the exercise of the right in the following year.
- (4) On any Sunday on which neither the Bishop nor the Dean has exercised his rights of preaching or appointing a preacher, the Canon in Residence shall be responsible for preaching or appointing a preacher.
- (5) No one other than a clerk in Holy Orders or a duly licensed Reader of the Church of England or of a Church in Communion therewith, shall preach in the Cathedral Church without the agreement of the Bishop.
- (6) Notwithstanding (2) and (4) above no person selected by the Dean or Canon in Residence shall preach in the Cathedral Church if the Chapter deem it inexpedient.

**STATUTE 16**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY AND EASTER DAY**

The Bishop shall have the right to celebrate or preach at a principal service on both Christmas Day and Easter Day, and subject to this right, the Dean shall have the right to appoint the celebrant and the preacher on these two days.

**STATUTE 17**  
**SEATING IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH**

- (1) There shall be assigned to the Bishop a chair of state in the sanctuary, the customary Stall in the Choir and the customary Stall in the Octagon.
- (2) There shall be assigned to the Dean the customary Stall in the Choir and the customary Stall in the Octagon.
- (3) There shall be assigned to members of the Chapter, any Suffragan Bishop and Archdeacons, Stalls in the Choir and in the Octagon.
- (4) There shall be assigned to the Chapter Officers and every Honorary Canon a Stall in the Choir.
- (5) There shall be assigned to the Chancellor of the Diocese a Stall close to the Bishop both in the Choir and in the Octagon.
- (6) Appropriate seating in the Octagon shall be provided for any Assistant Bishop, members of the Council, the College of Canons, the Officers of the Chapter, Etheldreda Canons, the Vice-Presidents of the Diocesan Synod, the Rural Deans and Lay Chairmen of the Deanery Synods.

**STATUTE 18**  
**PRECEDENCE IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH**

The normal order of precedence in the Cathedral Church shall be as follows:

- (i) The Bishop or any Suffragan Bishop or Assistant Bishop when acting for the Bishop in his absence.
- (ii) The Chancellor of the Diocese.
- (iii) The Dean.
- (iv) The Residentiary Canons.
- (v) The Non-Resident members of the Chapter.
- (vi) Any Suffragan Bishop or Assistant Bishop not acting for the Bishop in his absence.
- (vii) The Archdeacons.
- (viii) The Chairman of the Council.
- (ix) The Honorary Canons.
- (x) The Lay Canons.
- (xi) The Etheldreda Canons.
- (xii) The Administrator.
- (xiii) The Installed members of the Foundation.
- (xiv) All other members of the Foundation.
- (xv) The Diocesan Registrar.
- (xvi) The Head of the King's School.
- (xvii) The Minor Canons.
- (xviii) The Vice-Presidents of the Diocesan Synod and the Rural Deans and Lay Chairmen of the Deanery Synods.

*Provided always* that where there is more than one person in any of the above categories, they shall rank in order of date of appointment.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **A. OATH BY THE DEAN**

No person shall be admitted as Dean until he has made the following oath:-

I, NN, who have been nominated, elected and instituted Dean of this Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity at Ely, lay hold of God's most holy Gospels and swear by Almighty God that to the best of my power I will preserve, and cause to be preserved, the lands, holdings, revenues, possessions, rights and liberties, as also the privileges and all other concerns of this Church; and I will most faithfully observe each and all of the Statutes and Ordinances of the most worshipful Queen Elizabeth the Second, and as far as in me lies will cause them by others also to be observed; and I will not obstruct anything that may lawfully be done to the advantage and honour of this Church, but will further and promote its advantage; and if I be called, elected and designated to exercise any office in the aforesaid Church, I will not refuse to perform and diligently to do it so far as I am able. I will fulfil each and all of these things. so help me God and these God's holy Gospels.

### **B. OATH BY A CANON**

No person shall be admitted as a Canon until he has made the following oath:-

I, NN, who have been nominated, elected and instituted a Canon of this Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity at Ely, lay hold of God's most holy Gospels and swear by Almighty God that to the best of my power I will preserve, and cause to be preserved, the lands, holdings, revenues, possessions, rights and liberties, as also the privileges and all other concerns of this Church; and I will most faithfully observe each and all of the Statutes and Ordinances of the most worshipful Queen Elizabeth the Second, and as far as in me lies will cause them by others also to be observed; and I will not obstruct anything that may lawfully be done to the advantage and honour of this Church, but will further and promote its advantage; and if I be called, elected and designated to exercise any office in the aforesaid Church, I will not refuse to perform and diligently to do it so far as I am able. I will fulfil each and all of these things. so help me God and these God's holy Gospels.

### **C. DECLARATION BY PERSON OTHER THAN A DEAN, CANON OR CHORISTER**

No person other than a Dean, Canon or Chorister shall be admitted a member of the Foundation until he has made the following declaration:-

"I promise obedience to the Constitution and Statutes of the Cathedral Church of Ely and to the Dean as Chairman of Chapter and the members thereof in all things lawful and honest concerning the said Constitution and Statutes and all by-laws and orders thereunder lawfully made and I acknowledge the Bishop of Ely as visitor of the said Cathedral Church and I submit to the visitatorial jurisdiction conferred upon him whether by the said Constitution and Statutes or otherwise by law insofar as I shall be concerned in or about the affairs of the said Cathedral Church; and, in so far as in me lies, I will endeavour myself to promote the peace and well-being of the said Cathedral Church, the Lord being my helper."

**NEW PUBLIC DECLARATION:**

Having taken the Oath according to law, I, NN, aware of the great privilege of the office entrusted to me as Dean/Canon/Foundation Member of the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity at Ely, lay hold of God's most holy Gospels and hereby declare that, to the best of my power and ability and by the grace of Christ to which these Holy Gospels bear witness, I will be a faithful servant of this Cathedral Church, that it may both continue and flourish as a place of worship, welcome and care for this and for future generations, to the glory of God and for the benefit of this Cathedral Church, so help me God.