



## DIOCESE IN EUROPE

### CONSTITUTION OF THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE CHURCHWARDENS MEASURE 2001 CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES

#### ANNUAL MEETINGS, ELECTIONS ETC. IN 2020

The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe (“the Bishop”), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 10 of the Churchwardens Measure 2001 and rule 78 of the Church Representation Rules, makes the following provision

#### **Application**

1. The provision made by this instrument applies to each chaplaincy of the Diocese in Europe (“the Diocese”)

#### **Interpretation**

2. In this instrument –

“the Constitution” means the Constitution of the Diocese

“the Measure” means the Churchwardens Measure 2001; and

“CRR” means the Church Representation Rules.

#### **Annual chaplaincy meeting**

3. The time for holding an annual chaplaincy meeting, as required by paragraph 29 of the Constitution, (“annual meeting”) in the year 2020 is extended to 31 October 2020 (and accordingly, the time for electing churchwardens, representatives of the laity to the archdeaconry or deanery synod, and representatives of the laity to the chaplaincy church council, and for transacting the other business of the meeting, is extended to that date).

4. In consequence –

*Churchwardens*

- (1) the time to be appointed by the Bishop for the admission of churchwardens is to be a date not later than 31 January 2021;
- (2) subject to sections 6A (suspension), 7 (resignation) and 8 (vacation of office) of the Measure and paragraph 31(d) of the Constitution, the term of office of a churchwarden chosen in the year 2019 continues until 31 January 2021 unless that person (if chosen again as churchwarden in 2020) or that person's successor is admitted to office by that date (in which case, the term of office ends on the date of the admission).

*Archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives*

- (3) where an annual meeting in 2020 takes place on or before 31<sup>st</sup> May, the term of office of those persons who at that date held office as a representative of the laity on an archdeaconry or deanery synod shall cease on 31<sup>st</sup> May, and the term of office of those elected at the annual meeting shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, pursuant to paragraph 29(a) of the Constitution.
- (4) where an annual meeting in 2020 takes place after 31<sup>st</sup> May, the term of office of those persons who on 31<sup>st</sup> May held office as a representative of the laity on an archdeaconry or deanery synod shall continue to hold that office, and continue to hold office as a member of the chaplaincy church council under paragraph 30(a)(v) of the Constitution, until 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020; and the term of office of those elected as a representative of the laity on an archdeaconry or deanery synod at the said annual meeting shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

*Chaplaincy church council representatives*

- (5) a person who on the day on which this instrument is made is a representative of the laity on the chaplaincy church council, and whose term of office was due to end at the conclusion of the annual meeting in 2020, continues to hold office until the conclusion of any annual meeting for 2020 that is held after 30 April in accordance with paragraph 3;

*Archdeaconry and deanery synod secretary*

- (6) the secretary of each archdeaconry and deanery synod must, despite the election of representatives of the laity to that synod not having taken place in every chaplaincy in the archdeaconry or deanery, give the diocesan electoral registration officer the information specified in CRR rule 20(1)(a) and (b) no later than 1 July 2020.

5. Paragraph 4(3), (4) and (5) are subject to the provisions of paragraph 30(b) of the Constitution and CRR Part 7 (Disqualification etc.).

## Admission of churchwardens

6. Without prejudice to the Bishop's power to appoint other substitutes, the chaplain of each chaplaincy in the Diocese is hereby appointed as the Bishop's substitute for the purpose of the admission to office, pursuant to section 6(1) of the Measure, of those persons chosen in 2020 for the office of churchwarden for that chaplaincy.
7. Where a chaplaincy is in vacancy, the reference in paragraph 6 to the chaplain shall include any clerk in Holy Orders licensed by the Bishop to that chaplaincy; and, where there is no chaplain or other licensed minister, or the chaplain or licensed minister is unable to act, the said reference shall include the relevant archdeacon and area dean.

+ Robert Gibraltar in Europe

## BISHOP OF GIBRALTAR IN EUROPE

*The Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary, 2020*

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the instrument)

This instrument has been made by the Bishop in Europe in the light of the situation relating to Coronavirus (COVID-19). The instrument is made under the Bishop's powers contained in the Churchwardens Measure 2001 and the Church Representation Rules.

The provisions of this instrument are subject to any more restrictive provisions contained in a chaplaincy's Constitution or enforceable under local law.

For 2020, the time for holding an **annual chaplaincy meeting** ("annual meeting") is extended until 31 October (instead of 30 April).

**Churchwardens** who were chosen in 2019 (and duly admitted to office) continue to hold office until 31 January 2021 unless their successors are admitted to office before that. If a churchwarden is serving the sixth successive period of office, that sixth successive period is extended so that disqualification under section 3 of the Churchwardens Measure 2001 (disqualification after six periods of office) arises only at the end of that extended period. Formal provision is made for the established practice of local admission to office.

Where a chaplaincy has held its annual meeting on or before 31 May, the term of office of the current **representatives of the laity on archdeaconry and deanery synods** ("the archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives") will end on 31 May. The archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives elected at the annual meeting serve for a term of three years beginning on 1 June and ending on 31 May 2023. This is in accordance with the Diocesan Constitution.

Where a chaplaincy has *not* held its annual meeting by 31 May, the term of office of the archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives in office at 31 May is extended until 30 November. The archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives elected at an annual meeting held on or after 1 June will hold office from 1 December until 31 May 2023.

If the General Synod elections proceed over the summer as originally expected, the electorate for the elections to the House of Laity of the General Synod will, therefore, depend on the date on which a chaplaincy's annual meeting takes place. It is imperative that, in reporting the results of the election of archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives to the diocesan electoral registration officer ("the DERO", who is the Diocesan Secretary) and to the respective secretaries of the archdeaconry and deanery synods, **chaplaincy church council secretaries** specify clearly the date on which the annual meeting and election took place.

The term of office of **representatives of the laity on chaplaincy church councils** is also extended, where necessary. A representative of the laity whose term of office was due to expire this year will expire but where the annual meeting is deferred under the provisions of this instrument, the representative's term of office will expire only at the end of the deferred annual meeting.

If, before the instrument is made by the Bishop, a chaplaincy has already held its annual meeting for 2020, the effect of the instrument is as follows:

- as **churchwardens** must be both chosen at an annual meeting and subsequently admitted to office by the Bishop or his substitute, the churchwardens chosen in 2019 (and duly admitted to office) remain in office until the churchwardens chosen in 2020 take up office when they are admitted to office (which may have already happened but could now be as late as 31 January 2021);
- the previously elected **representatives of the laity on the archdeaconry or deanery synod** (i.e. those elected in 2017 or to fill casual vacancies since the 2017 elections) continue in office until 31<sup>st</sup> May and the newly elected representatives of the laity on the archdeaconry or deanery synod (i.e. those elected in 2020) take up office on 1<sup>st</sup> June, as usual;
- newly elected **representatives of the laity on the chaplaincy church council** will already have taken up office immediately at the conclusion of the 2020 annual meeting, as usual.

**Secretaries of archdeaconry and deanery synods** must, as already required by the Church Representation Rules, give the DERO the information specified in rule 20(1)(a) and (b) (i.e. name, postal address and, where provided, email address of members of house of clergy and house of laity etc. of archdeaconry or deanery synod) by 1 July 2020. That will, as a result of the extension of the terms of office of some of the archdeaconry and deanery synod representatives, involve the secretary of the archdeaconry or deanery synod giving the diocesan electoral registration officer

- in the case of chaplaincies which held their annual meetings and elections on or before 31<sup>st</sup> May, the names of the lay representatives newly elected at the 2020 annual meeting; and
- in the case of chaplaincies which held their annual meeting and elections after 31<sup>st</sup> May, the names of their existing lay representatives (i.e. those elected in 2017 or subsequently to fill casual vacancies who have not resigned or otherwise vacated office).