

2003 No.

ECCLESIASTICAL LAW, ENGLAND

**THE CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (AMENDMENT) RESOLUTION
200-**

*Made (passed by the General Synod with
the requisite majority in each House)*
Laid before Parliament
Coming into force --

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 7(1) of the Synodical Government Measure 1969(a) to amend by resolution of the General Synod the Church Representation Rules, that is to say, the rules contained in Schedule 3 to the said Measure, as amended by the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolutions 1973 to 1999(b), by the Diocese in Europe Measure 1980(c), by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986(d), by the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991(e), by the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure 1993(f), by the Team and Group Ministries Measure 1995(g), by the National Institutions Measure 1998(h), by the Cathedrals Measure 1999(i) and by the Synodical Government (Amendment) Measure 2003(j), the General Synod hereby resolve that the said rules be amended as follows:

Conduct of elections at annual meetings

1. In Rule 11–

(a) for paragraph (7) there shall be substituted the following paragraph–

“(7) Votes may be given–

(a) by show of hands, or

(b) if one or more persons object–

(i) on voting papers signed by the voter on the reverse thereof; or

(a) 1969 No.2.

(b) S.I. 1973/1865, 1980/178, 1981/959, 1950, 1984/1039, 1040, 1989/2044, 2095, 1994/3118, 1995/3243, 1999/2112.

(c) 1980 No.2.

(d) 1986 No.3.

(e) 1991 No.1.

(f) 1993 No.2.

(g) 1995 No. 1.

(h) 1998 No.1.

(i) 1999 No.1.

(j) 2003 No.1.

(ii) if at least one tenth of the persons present and voting at the meeting so request, on numbered voting papers.”; and

(b) at the end there shall be added the following paragraph–

“(11) Where a vote is conducted in accordance with paragraph (7)(b)(ii) above, a record shall be made of the identity of each person to whom a numbered voting paper is issued and any such record, so long as it is retained, shall be kept separate from the voting papers.”.

Variation of method of election

2. In Rule 12(1) there shall be added at the end the words “, except that where the vote is conducted in accordance with Rule 11(7)(b)(ii), those rules shall have effect with the omission of any requirement that the voting paper be signed by the voter”.

Membership of deanery synods

3. In rule 24(1) for sub-paragraph (e) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph–

“(e) one or more clerks in Holy Orders holding permission to officiate in the diocese who are resident in the deanery or who have habitually attended public worship in a parish in the deanery during the preceding six months. One clerk may be elected or chosen for every ten such clerks or part thereof, elected or chosen in such manner as may be approved by the bishop by and from such clerks.”.

Election and choice of members of deanery synods

4.-(1) After rule 25(1) there shall be inserted the following paragraph–

“(1A) The elections referred to in paragraph (1) above shall take place in the first and fourth years following the year in which the new roll is prepared under rule 2(4) above.”.

(2) The parochial representatives holding office on the date on which these rules come into force shall continue in office until the next election is held in accordance with paragraph (1) above.

Membership of the House of Laity

5. In rule 35(1)–

(a) in sub-paragraph (b) for the words from the beginning to “number” there shall be substituted the words “two members chosen by and from the members of religious communities having their mother house in either province”; and

(b) there shall be added at the end the following sub-paragraphs–

“(d) not less than three nor more than four members elected or chosen in such manner as may be determined by the Forces Synodical Council as soon as practicable after any dissolution of the General Synod, being actual communicants, provided that the total number of persons elected or chosen to serve on the General Synod by virtue of this sub-paragraph,

paragraph 1(d) of the provisions relating to the Convocation of Canterbury of Canon H 2 and paragraph 1(bb) of Canon H 3 shall not exceed seven;

(e) not more than three members appointed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, acting jointly, as soon as practicable after the elections to both Convocations and to the House of Laity of the General Synod have been held, after consulting the Appointments Committee of the Church of England and subject to the approval of the General Synod, being actual communicants and persons having such theological expertise as appears to the Archbishops to be appropriate, after taking into account such theological expertise as exists amongst the other members of the General Synod, provided that the total number of persons appointed to the General Synod by virtue of this sub-paragraph, paragraph 1(h) of the provisions relating to the Convocation of Canterbury and paragraph 1(f) of the provisions relating to the Convocation of York of Canon H 2 and paragraphs 1(e) and 2(d) of Canon H 3 shall not exceed three.”.

Number of elected members

6. In rule 36–

(a) in paragraph (1) for “170” there shall be substituted “140” and for “80” there shall be substituted “60”, before the words “Ex-officio” there shall be inserted the words “The representatives of the religious communities referred to in rule 35(1),” and the words “the representatives of the religious communities referred to in Rule 35(1) and” shall be omitted ;

(b)in paragraph (2) for the words “November in the fourth” there shall be substituted the words “February in the fifth”, for the words “68 to 32” there shall be substituted the words “70 to 30” and for the words “certified under the following paragraph” there shall be substituted the words “on the rolls of the parishes of the diocese in question”;

(c) paragraph (3) shall be omitted; and

(d) in paragraph (5) the words “before the fourth year after the last preceding election of the House of Laity or” and the words “during that year” shall be omitted.

Qualification of elected members

7. In rule 37(1)–

(a) in sub-paragraph (a) at the end there shall be added the words “but as if, in that definition, for the words “whose name is on the roll of a parish and” there were substituted the word “who””;

(b) in sub-paragraph (c) for the words from “who at any time” to the end there shall be substituted the words “, in the case of a cathedral which is not a parish church, on the roll required to be kept under section 9(3) of the Cathedrals Measure 1999 of members of the cathedral community (hereinafter referred to as “the community roll”); and

(c) in paragraph (2) for the words “at which he is an habitual worshipper” there shall be substituted the words “on whose community roll his name is entered”.

Conduct of elections

8. In rule 39–

(a) in paragraph (4) after the words “the candidate’s birth” there shall be inserted the words “and a statement as to whether the candidate is seeking re-election and, if so, the length of the candidate’s previous service”;

(b) in paragraph (6) for the words “Sufficient copies of the addresses” there shall be substituted the words “One copy of the address”; and

(c) in paragraph (8) after the words “each candidate” there shall be inserted the words “and a statement as to whether the candidate is seeking re-election and, if so, the length of the candidate’s previous service”.

Vacation of seat by member ceasing to be qualified for election

9. In rule 46(1) (d) for the words “of being declared an habitual worshipper as aforesaid” there shall be substituted the words “on the community role of the cathedral church of the diocese”.

Casual vacancies

10. In rule 48(5)(c) for the words “two years” there shall be substituted the words “one year”.

Citation, interpretation and commencement

11.(1) This resolution may be cited as the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 200- and the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolutions 1973 to 1999 and this Resolution may be cited together as the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolutions 1973 to 200-.

(2) Any reference in this Resolution to a numbered rule is a reference to the rule bearing that number in the Church Representation Rules, as amended by the Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolutions 1973 to 1999, by the Diocese in Europe Measure 1980, by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986, by the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991, by the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure 1993, by the Team and Group Ministries Measure 1995, by the National Institutions Measure 1998, by the Cathedrals Measure 1999 and by the Synodical Government (Amendment) Measure 2003.

(3) This resolution shall come into force on

Date

Clerk to the General Synod

Explanatory Note

(This note is not part of the Resolution.)

This Resolution of the General Synod of the Church of England, which was passed in accordance with section 7(1) of the Synodical Government Measure 1969, amends the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to that Measure.

Rules 1 and 2 amend the Rules which governs the method of elections conducted by annual meetings of parochial church councils and (in the case of rule 1) of churchwardens. Rules 3 and 4, respectively, relate to the composition of deanery synods and the timing of elections to those synods.

Rules 5, 6, 7 and 9 amend the provisions relating to the composition of the House of Laity of the General Synod, and the qualifications for election to that House.

Rules 8 and 10 amend the procedure relating to the conduct of elections to the House of Laity and the filling of casual vacancies.