

341st Annual General Court of Clergy Support Trust, held in the West Crypt, Guildhall, London, at 11.30am on 14 November 2019

GOVERNORS PRESENT: Mr D Agur, Mr T Baxendale, The Venerable C Allsopp, Mr J Briggs, Ms A M Brougham, The Reverend Canon S Butler (chair), The Reverend G Cassidy, Mr D Cole-Adams, Mr A Chamberlain, The Reverend N Cocking, Mr J Cumins, The Reverend Canon C J Davies, Mr D Dickenson, The Reverend Dr N R Dunn, Mr L Evander, Mr R D Farmbrough, The Hon Mrs E Green, Mr A Gillett, Mr J A Hargreaves, Mr D Hattersley, Mr L Hillman, Mr C V S Hoare-Nairn, Mr T D D Hoffman MBE, Mr Stephen Hogg, The Reverend Canon R F Hunte, Mr E A Jackson, Mrs J Jordan, The Reverend W P Kennedy, Mr P Kennerley, Lady Lenzie, The Venerable D W Lowman, Mrs M Marden, Lady Mawer, Mr C D L Menzies, Mr J Prichard, The Reverend D Pritchard, Mr E D Roberts, Mr J A T Saywell, Mr W Seddon, Mr D M V Short, Mr P Simmons, Ms E Stary, Mr M Stewart, Mr A True, Mr B Varley, Mr P N C Walker, Mr T Watts and Mr I Woolf.

NEW GOVERNOR ELECTED AT THE MEETING: Mr R Mclean.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr C Marment and Mr E Shooter (Charles Stanley), Ms K Patel (Buzzacott LLP), Mr T Montagu-Pollock (Cazenove) and members of the staff of the charity.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Dr D Allen, The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Reverend Canon M J A Anderson, Mr J Asbury-Bailey, Mr R J Askwith, Mr A Bacon, Mr & Mrs T J Bartlett, Mr P Boorman, Mr G Buckley, The Baroness Byford, The Reverend R Chavner, Mr P Clyne, Mr D O Fitzhugh, Professor A Gillett, The Venerable K R Good, Mr A Godfrey, Mr G Greenhous, Alderman T Hailes JP, Mr R Hughes Penney, Mr N Heal, Mr P H Holroyd, Mrs A Joyce, Lady Laureston, Mr J Lewin, The Right Reverend L E Luscombe, Mr L March, The Venerable J Morrison, Mr R Palmer, Mr A Platt, Dr C Podmore, Mr H Pollard, Mr N Pullman, Mr J S Ray, Mrs S Richards, Mr D Roberts, The Right Reverend D Rossdale, Mr & Mrs M G Rupp, Mr W Shand, Mrs S Shaw, Mr & Mrs L Stace, Mr K Stern, Mrs L Stone OBE, The Right Reverend Tim Thornton, Lady Z Verney, Mr R A M Welsford, The Venerable R Whiteman, Mr C W G Wilson, Mrs J A Wilson and Mr S Wright.

The Reverend Canon Simon Butler welcomed everyone to the 341st Annual General Court of Clergy Support Trust, formally known as Sons & Friends of the Clergy.

1. Prayers

Prayers were said by Mr Jeremy Moodey.

2. Apologies for absence

With the agreement of the meeting, the list of apologies was taken as read.

3. Minutes of the 340th Annual General Court of Sons & Friends of the Clergy held on Thursday 8 November 2018

a) Approval of the minutes

The Minutes of the Annual General Court held on Thursday 8 November 2018 were approved for signing by the chair, The Reverend Canon Simon Butler.

b) Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Governors deceased

The names of the following Governors whose death had been reported were read out and all those present stood in silence in their memory: Mrs B Annely, Mr O W H Clark, Mr Richard Halsey, Mrs J M Jordan, Mr C B Judge, Mrs Jean McPhersen, Mr Cyril Pawley, Mr Peter Points. Mr Michael Pugh, The Reverend Thomas Sermon, Mrs Rosabel Sullivan and The Reverend D E Tucker.

5. Senior Treasurer's report, including the presentation of the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2018.

The Reverend Canon Simon Butler presented the Trustees' Annual Report for 2018, focusing on the increase in income to £4.68m (driven in part by property sales) and the allocation of the £2.58m of grants expenditure during the year. He also highlighted progress in other areas, including improvements in governance, work on a new Royal Charter and marketing initiatives, which had meant that 178 grant recipients out of 547 in the year were new to the charity.

Canon Butler thanked the Charity's investment managers, Charles Stanley, Cazenove, Sarasin and Savills, for their work on behalf of the charity. He also thanked the Venerable Christine Allsopp for presiding at the Eucharist earlier in the day and the Reverend George Bush for the welcome received every year at St Mary-le-Bow. He thanked the Governors for their support and ongoing commitment to the charity. Tribute was also paid to the staff for their hard work.

There were no questions for the Senior Treasurer arising from the Report, which the meeting duly received.

6. Chief Executive's report

Mr Jeremy Moodey presented his report on progress in 2019 and on future plans. He highlighted the successful re-branding and re-launch of the charity as Clergy Support Trust in March which had led to a significant increase in applications for help from clergy families in need. A new and more responsive grants policy had been introduced in July, including new wellbeing and emergency grants and an initiative to help clergy families struggling with debt. Grants expenditure was anticipated to be around £3.13m, higher than for many years. The charity had also launched a new initiative to provide grants of up to £15,000 for focused research into issues affecting clergy wellbeing. Another highlight of the year was the growing popularity of the SPCK/IVP Library, now provided as a free resource to Anglican ordinands and curates-in-training. On the financial side, investments had recovered during the year and stood at £113.4m at the end of October.

Turning to future plans, Mr Moodey referred to ongoing reviews by the Court of Assistants of the annual Festival and how to engage more with Governors and possible new services in the areas of mental health and occupational therapy.

In a subsequent Q&A session, The Reverend David Pritchard asked a question about the charity's sale of properties. Mr Moodey responded that this was a gradual move by the charity away from direct property ownership.

7. Discussion and vote on Special Resolutions to amend the charity's Royal Charter

Canon Simon Butler provided background to Governors on why the Royal Charter needed to be revised. The charity's lawyers, BDB Pitmans, had advised that the 1678 Royal Charter needed updating to align with best practice as laid down by the Charity Commission. The charity's objects would remain unchanged. Canon Butler noted that Governors had been consulted about the proposed changes, both at the 2018 Annual General Court meeting and by means of a further consultation in July 2019. A number of comments had been received from Governors, and the Court's considered response to these was among the AGM papers tabled today.

Canon Butler added that there was one small change to the tabled draft, which was to amend the Annual Assembly (AGM) quorum requirement so that 15 rather than 20 of the minimum 25 Governors had to be non-trustee governors.

On a proposal from Mr Colin Menzies, the Special Resolution attached at Annex A to these minutes was unanimously approved by all those present. It was noted that final approval of the Royal Charter will be a matter for the Privy Council in the New Year.

Canon Butler extended his thanks to the Governors for their positive engagement in the process of updating the Royal Charter.

8. Appointment of Auditors

On a proposal from Mr David Short, a resolution proposing Buzzacott LLP as auditors of the charity for the coming financial year was passed unanimously. Canon Butler thanked Buzzacott LLP for their excellent work as the new auditors.

8. Election of new Governors

Mr Robert McLean and The Very Reverend Tim Barker were elected as Governors upon the proposal of Mr Jonathan Prichard.

9. Election of:

a) Honorary President(s)

The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Worcester, in his role as Lord High Almoner, and The Lord Mayor of the City of London (*ex officio*) were elected as honorary Presidents upon the proposal of Mr Andrew Gillett. This is in addition to the existing Honorary Presidents, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of London.

b) Members of the Court of Assistants for the coming year

The Senior Treasurer paid tribute to The Venerable Christine Allsopp (7 years on the Court), The Reverend Canon Christopher Davies (32 years), Mr Andrew Gillett (7 years) and Mr Tom Hoffman (25 years), who were retiring from the Court. Each had given an outstanding contribution to the charity over a long period of time.

Upon the proposal of The Honourable Elizabeth Green, it was unanimously resolved that the following be elected as officers of the charity:

- The Reverend Canon Simon Butler to be re-elected Senior Treasurer.
- The Venerable David Lowman be elected as Treasurer.
- The Reverend Canon Roxanne Hunte be elected as Treasurer.

It was further unanimously resolved, upon the proposal of Mr Tom Hoffman, that the following be elected to serve as members of the Court of Assistants for the coming year:

The Reverend Canon Simon Butler	The Reverend Canon Roxanne Hunte
Mr Adam Chamberlain *	Ms Jackie Jordan
Mr Martin Cooper *	The Reverend Wendy Kennedy
The Reverend Dr Jack Dunn	The Venerable David Lowman
Mr Richard Farmbrough	Mr Jonathan Prichard
The Reverend Nancy Goodrich *	The Right Reverend Tim Thornton
Mr Jeremy Hargreaves	Mr Patrick Walker
Mr Stephen Hogg *	

* new trustee

10. Presentation: Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing

The Reverend Canon Roxanne Hunte introduced the Reverend Canon Simon Butler, who gave a short presentation on his work as chair of the working group producing a new Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing for the Church of England. The presentation was welcomed positively by all those present. In a subsequent discussion it was noted by Mr Jeremy Hargreaves that there was a need for the Covenant to be promoted and implemented in the local church, while Lady Mawer emphasised the importance of the clergy home and day off being protected.

11. Any other business

There being no other business, the Senior Treasurer closed the meeting by thanking the Chief Commoner, Mr Tom Hoffman, for allowing the charity to hold its Annual General Court meeting in Guildhall.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm with The Grace.

Governors of the Charity for Relief of the Poor Widows and Children of Clergymen (commonly known as Clergy Support Trust)

Charity registration number 207736

("the Corporation")

Special Resolution of the Governors passed at the Annual General Court meeting, 14 November 2019

1 Amendments to the Corporation's Charter

Having:

- 1.1 considered the explanatory memorandum attached to these minutes, which outlines the proposed changes to the Corporation's Royal Charter of 1678 (as amended by the Schemes dated: 3 February 1971 and brought into effect by an Order in Council dated 5 April 1971; 26 September 2012 and brought into effect by an Order in Council dated 17 October 2012; and 4 October 2017 and brought into effect by the Order in Court dated 15 November 2017 (the **Charter**));
- 1.2 considered the attached conformed copy of the Charter which incorporates the proposed amendments to the Charter (the **Updated Conformed Copy**), namely:
 - the proposed changes to the Charter in relation to trustee benefit and future amendments to the Charter and the adoption of Bye-Law and Regulations for which prior Charity Commission consent is required (which are set out in the draft Charity Commission Scheme attached to these minutes (the **Scheme**)); and
 - the proposed modifications of the provisions of the trusts of the Corporation relating to any powers exercisable by the Court of Assistants in the administration of the Corporation, or regulating the procedure to be followed in any respect in connection with the administration of the Corporation (which are included in Updated Conformed Copy) (the **administrative changes**);
- 1.3 noted that the Corporation has conducted a successful consultation exercise in relation to the proposed removal of the Visitor positions in the Charter;
- 1.4 noted that the Court of Assistants had approved the Scheme and administrative changes at its meeting on 10 September 2019;

- 1.5 noted that the Corporation has liaised with both the Privy Council and the Charity Commission in relation to the proposed changes to the Charter;
- 1.6 noted that paragraph 4 of the September 2012 Scheme gives the Corporation the power to adopt the administrative changes without the need for a Charity Commission Scheme;
- 1.7 noted that it was anticipated the Privy Council would place an Order in Council before Her Majesty the Queen for approval, to bring the Scheme into effect and amend the Corporation's Charter as set out in the Scheme.

2 **Resolutions**

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- 2.1 that the Charter shall be amended as set out in the attached Scheme, subject to such changes as the Privy Council may require and which are agreed by the Corporation;
- 2.2 that the administrative changes included in the Updated Conformed Copy be made to the Charter, subject to such changes as the Privy Council may require and which are agreed by the Corporation.