

**Bill No. 7****EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

Following the introduction of new charities legislation in the Republic of Ireland, a review of the Constitution of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church, Dublin, brought to light an anomaly requiring amendment to ensure that the Cathedral Board should be identified as the trustee body for the Cathedral.

The requisite decisions to effect this clarification have been approved by the Dean and Chapter and by the Cathedral Board. A bill has been prepared to seek the approval of the General Synod to amend Chapter I of 1902 (as amended) to bring the regulation of the Cathedral into line with other Cathedrals of the Church of Ireland and with requirements necessary to register the Board as the trustee body for the purposes of the Charities Act 2009 (Republic of Ireland).

**Bill No. 7**

VEN RICHARD ROUNTREE  
MR GEOFFREY PERRIN

**BILL****To amend Chapter I of 1902 as amended**

WHEREAS it is expedient to make better provision for the regulation and management of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, commonly called Christ Church, Dublin;

AND WHEREAS for this purpose it is necessary to amend Chapter I of 1902 as amended;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Dún Laoghaire in the year 2016, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

1. In this Statute “Chapter I of 1902” means the Statute of the General Synod, Chapter I of 1902.

2. For section 4 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:-

The Chapter shall consist, with the Dean, of the Precentor, Chancellor, Treasurer, Archdeacon of Dublin, Archdeacon of Glendalough, and twelve Canons, eight of whom shall be appointed from the beneficed or licensed Clergy of the Diocese of Dublin, and four of whom shall be appointed from the beneficed or licensed Clergy of the Diocese of Glendalough. Of such twelve Canons the first three in seniority of appointment shall bear respectively the name and style of Prebendary of St. Michael, Prebendary of St. Michan, and Prebendary of St. John.

3. Chapter I of 1902 is hereby amended by the insertion after section 4 of the following section:-

4A Save to the extent otherwise provided for herein, the Dean and Chapter, with the consent of the Ordinary, shall be responsible for and may make regulations for the conduct of Divine Service in the Cathedral.

4. For Section 15 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:-

The Cathedral Board shall have power to make rules and regulations for the times and conduct of its meetings; it shall be presided over by the Dean, or, in his absence, by the member of the Chapter next in rank, who shall be present, and the President shall have both an ordinary and a casting vote. A meeting of the Board may be summoned at any time by the Dean or, in his absence, by his Deputy, and shall be summoned at any time on the written requisition of four members of the Board, addressed to the Dean, or to his Deputy, as the case may be. The elected members of the Board shall retire from office at the Easter Vestry in every third year, but shall severally be capable of re-election.

5. For section 19 of Chapter I of 1902 there shall be substituted the following:-

19(A) Save where otherwise provided for herein, the registration of vestry persons, the election of synods persons, the filling of vacancies and the business of the Cathedral Board, shall be conducted in the same manner as for parishes under the provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit.

(B) The Dean, or his Deputy, shall have the powers and duties of an Incumbent.

(C) The Cathedral Board shall have the powers, functions and duties of a Select Vestry and of Churchwardens and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, shall have the control, charge and management of the following:-

- (i) The preservation, restoration, and repair of the fabric of the Cathedral and all permanent structures therein.
- (ii) The lighting, heating and cleaning of the Cathedral.
- (iii) The ornaments of the Cathedral, the monuments, the tablets, windows and brasses to be placed in the Cathedral: provided that none shall be erected or placed in the Cathedral or removed therefrom without the consent or approval of the Dean and Chapter and of the Ordinary.
- (iv) The collections and all financial matters relating to the Cathedral, including the regulation of all salaries and pensions payable by the Board.
- (v) The appointment and removal of all lay officials of the Cathedral and all officers of the Cathedral whose appointment is not vested in the Archbishop, or in the Dean and Chapter, excepting the Verger (who shall be appointed and may be removed by the Dean).