

C1 SYNODICAL GOVERNMENT

The legislation containing the present arrangements for Church government is principally contained in the Synodical Government Measure 1969 and in the Church Representation Rules. The latter form a schedule to the 1969 Measure, but are revised and reissued separately from time to time. The latest edition may be obtained from Revelations Bookshop located in the St Nicholas Centre, Ipswich.

It is essential for every incumbent, every PCC secretary and every Deanery Synod secretary to have a copy of the Rules, and others involved in the Church at parish and deanery level may also find it of use. This handbook should in no way be regarded as a substitute for the Church Representation Rules. It simply summarises some of their main provisions. References in the following sections to the Church Representation Rules use the abbreviation CRR.

The Church Representation Rules make provision for Church Electoral Rolls (CRR1-5), the constitution and proceedings of Parochial Church Councils (CRR 6-23), Deanery Synods (CRR 24-29), Diocesan Synods (CRR 30-34), for the membership of the House of Laity of the General Synod (CRR 35-42), and for the methods of electing or choosing persons for membership of those bodies, and for appeals and disqualifications.

The Rules prescribe necessary forms (at their Appendix I), but no proceedings are invalidated by the use of a different form provided it is to a substantially similar effect as the prescribed form. Churchgates House does not hold stocks of synodical government forms and it will be necessary for a parish either to construct its own forms on the basis of those set out in the Church Representation Rules or to purchase its own supplies, from Revelations Bookshop. An exception is the six yearly preparation of a new Electoral Roll, when Churchgates House will normally make available to parishes supplies of the necessary forms.

Relevant Sections of the Church Representation Rules

Electoral Roll	Sections 1-5
Annual Meetings	Sections 6-12
Election of Churchwardens	Section 13
PCCs and other councils	Sections 14-23
Deanery Synods	Sections 24-29
Diocesan Synod	Sections 30-34

2005