

# The English Clergy Association

*Report of the Council for the year ended 31 December 2016*

## The Council of the Association

The members of the Council who served during the year were:

Dr Peter Smith (*Chairman, ex officio*);

The Rev'd Stephen Seamer (*Vice-Chairman, ex officio*)

Mr John Wearing (*Hon. Secretary, ex officio*) (*resigned 8 March*)

The Rev'd Canon Peter Johnson (*Hon. Treasurer, ex officio*)

The Rev'd Richard Hall (*Hon. Almoner, ex officio*)

The Rev'd Mark Binney (*Registrar, to AGM 2017*)

The Rev'd Alec Brown (*to AGM 2017*)

Mr Lee Coley (*to AGM 2019*)

The Rev'd Philip Corbett (*to AGM 2017*)

The Rev'd Canon Derek Earis (*to AGM 2017*)

The Rev'd Francis Gardom (*to AGM 2019*)

The Rev'd Canon Simon Godfrey (*to AGM 2017*)

The Rev'd John Hanks (*to AGM 2017*)

Mr Anthony Jennings (*to AGM 2018*)

## Status

The English Clergy Association is an unincorporated association which exists to support in fellowship all Clerks in Holy Orders in their Vocation and Ministry within the Church of England as by law established. It seeks to be a mutual resource for clergy, patrons and churchwardens requiring information or insight, to monitor bureaucracy and legislative and other processes of change in the Church; and to promote in every available way the good of English parish and cathedral life and the welfare of the clergy.

Contact with the Association may be made through the addresses given on the Association's website.

The English Clergy Association Benefit Fund is a registered charity (no. 258559), which provides clergy of the Church of England with a rest

from duty. The Trustees give holiday grants to clergy and members are encouraged to apply. In 2016 a total of £32,140 was granted to 63 clergy.

The fund operates under a Charity Commission scheme dated 14 December 1994. The trustees include, *ex officio*, the Chairman and Almoner of the Association and others elected by the Trustees on the nomination of the Council to serve for a term of four years. Separate accounts are prepared for the Benefit Fund as required by law.

## Review of the year

During the year the Association continued to publish its magazine *Parson and Parish*. The Council met on three occasions, and the Annual General Meeting was again held in May in London. The lecture, on *The Role of the Anglican Communion in the Modern World*, was given by Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Secretary-General of the Anglican Communion.

Valued support was received from our Patron, President, and Vice-Presidents.

## Future developments

The Council continues to seek to widen the membership of the Association, and to make known to all clergy of the Church of England the grants available through its charitable trust.

The Association seeks to keep its members informed of legal and other developments that may affect the position of clergy as well as making representations where appropriate in the press and more directly, as may be possible.

On behalf of the Council