

**ECCLESIASTICAL LAW SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of the 29th Annual General Meeting**

**held at the St Bride Foundation, Bride Lane, Fleet St London at 10.30 am on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

-----

The Acting Chairman (The Worshipful Professor Mark Hill QC) in the Chair:

**1. Apologies**

The apologies were taken as read and a full list of apologies is preserved in the Minute Book together with those present.

**2. Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

The Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Chairman's Report**

A copy of the Chairman's report had been circulated and there were no questions or comments arising from it. He warmly thanked those who had contributed much to the Society in the course of the last year and , in particular, thanked the Committee for their support, Peter Smith for his work with the London Lectures, Catherine Shelley for her work with the Newsletter and Sarah Neden and Andrew Male for their work with events and administration.. He was pleased to report progress with three new Working Parties (as hoped for by the former Chairman, the Rt Revd Dr Christopher Hill DD) on: 1) amending and repealing legislation; 2) a review of Church buildings; and 3) the review of marriage law by the Law Commission. He warmly thanked all those involved with these Working Parties and invited the membership to volunteer to help with any ongoing work. He also reported on progress with making the promotion of canon law in education a priority for the Society and recorded his thanks to David Parrott and others who were now working in a sub-Committee in this field. Finally, he thanked outgoing members of the Committee for their work, in particular Howard Dellar for his work as Secretary.

**4. The Society's Finances**

The examined accounts for the period of 12 months to 30 June 2015 had been circulated and were presented and approved.

**5. Election of Officers**

**The President (Dr Sheila Cameron, CBE QC) took the Chair for this item.**

The Vice-Chairman ( The Worshipful Professor Mark Hill QC), the Chairman (Canon John Rees), the Treasurer (Mr Darren Oliver), and the Deputy Secretary (Stephen Borton ) all offered themselves for election as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer and Secretary respectively and were duly elected. Neil Turpin offered himself for election as Deputy Secretary and was duly elected. The former Secretary (Howard Dellar) stood down.

**6. Elections to the General Committee**

The Chairman reported that there had been four nominations for three vacancies on the General Committee, all duly nominated and seconded: Frank Cranmer, The Revd Russell Dewhurst, The Rt Revd Christopher Lowson, and Mrs Lizzie Wilson stood for election and Frank Cranmer, The Revd Russell Dewhurst and Mrs Lizzie Wilson were duly elected. The Chairman said that the General Committee would be considering a proposal to co-opt people with expertise useful to the Society as defined in the Constitution and not represented on the current Committee at its next meeting.

**7. The Ecclesiastical Law Journal**

The Editor gave a report on the Journal. Matters remained healthy and he thanked the Editorial Board for their work.

**8. Other resolutions**

There were none.

**9. Forthcoming ELS events**

Members noted dates as follows: London Lectures: 16 March; 22 June and 19 October 2016 at Winckworth Sherwood, London. Choral Evensong at Temple Church on 23 November . AGM and Residential Conference at Trinity Hall Cambridge from 31March to 2 April 2017.

**10. Any Other Business**

Members present noted that work was proceeding with a comprehensive collection of electronic Ecclesiastical Law Judgments.

Signed .....

Dated .....