ARCHDEACONRY OF FRANCE

**4 May 2023**

Summary of a meeting to update members on the latest developments in changes required for 1905 associations

**Introduction**

Some 67 people attended, representing most of the chaplaincies in France.
The Archdeacon, Peter Hooper, updated those present. A recording of the meeting will be made available.

**Reminder of the main requirements**

* All local chaplaincies need to register or re-register with the Prefecture. This registration needs seven elements, including the new model statutes. (see below for a list)
* **ALL** chaplaincies must have the **same** statutes in order to belong to the high level “Union Nationale”.
* The deadline of 30 June is confirmed

**New statutes**

* A template will be sent out by 12 May; this only needs completing with the name and details of the local chaplaincy.
* The new statutes conform both to the rules of the CofE, the DinE and the Archdeaconry, and also to the legal requirements for a 1905 Association.
* Importantly, the requirements link the questions of membership and of the council and office holders.
* The new statutes state that the president is the priest authorised by the Bishop.

**Local and National**

* Local chaplaincies will register with their local Prefecture or Sous-Prefecture.
* At a national level, the Archdeaconry will create a new “Union Nationale” whose members are the chaplaincies. The Archdeaconry Synod will be the Assemblée Générale for the Union Nationale, and the Elected Lay Representatives will be members of that Union.
* The standing committee will become the “Comité Directeur” for the Union Nationale.

**Outstanding questions**

The Archdeacon is working with the legal team in France to resolve a final conflict between Church Representation Rules and French law. It is not anticipated that there will be any delay.

**Requirements for registration with the Prefecture**

All of these points are covered by previous meetings, see our website <https://anglicanfrance.fr/resources/french-law-on-non-profit-organisations-1901-and-1905-associations/procedure-for-re-registering-a-chaplaincy-to-comply-with-recent-french-legislation/>

* New statutes, duly approved at an AGM or EGM (this will depend somewhat on local statutes) but this stage is mandatory.
* A list of 7 people who live in the area
* A list of the members of the PCC (names, addresses, nationality)
* High level budget for 2023 (no need for detail)
* Accounts for past three years 2020-2021-2022
* List of places of worship
* Justification of religious nature

**Comments on requirements**

* All documents need to be translated into French.
We will share a helpful list of official accounting terms and codes.
* It is recommended that all the documents be sent ON PAPER and not by email, keeping a copy and sending by “Recommandé avec Accusé de Réception” (Recorded Delivery)
* This exercise will need to be repeated in 5 years’ time.
* If accounts had been examined, this should be mentioned in the accounts.

**Dates and deadlines**

* The new Union Nationale will be set up in the 1st week of June, with an address in Paris.
* The Archdeacon will share the registration number when available
* It is recommended that local chaplaincies send their complete file in the middle of June (3rd week), so that the National Union is already in existence.

**Future developments**

* It is anticipated that additional fiscal reporting requirements will be brought in.
* There may be a requirement to use the same accounting software.
* For now, simple accounts are fine and we may try to create a simple template for the use of chaplaincies.
* The current regulations for 1905 associations remain in force, governing the question of donations. The requirement for a separate 1901 association for outreach and charitable works therefore remains, but it may be possible in the future to create a national association to handle this for all chaplaincies
* The current level of €153 000 income remains for requiring a full audit; this may change (become lower) as fiscal restrictions come in.

**New National Name**

* Those present expressed a preference for the name of the new “Union Nationale” as **L’Eglise Anglicane en France**