

# **Constitution of the Friends of the Anglicans in Dresden e.V.**

**Enacted at the founding Member Assembly on 9/09/2016 via Skype. Amended by resolution of the Board on 16/03/2017.**

**Entered into the Association Register of the Dresden District Court with the registration number VR 9875 am 25/04/2017.**

## **Preamble**

Since 1836 there has been one, and for a time two, Anglican faith communities in Dresden. Although parish life in Dresden was disrupted first by the turbulence of WWI and later by the destruction of the church buildings in WWII, Anglican worship has again taken place in Dresden through the hospitality of the Frauenkirche. From these services, a community of Christian individuals has arisen who feel connected to the Anglican tradition. The **Friends of the Anglicans in Dresden** supports the further development of the Christian community within the Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe of the Church of England.

**To this end, the Friends of the Anglicans in Dresden have given themselves the following Constitution:**

## **§ 1 Name, Location, Business Year**

- (1) The Association bears the name “Friends of the Anglicans in Dresden.”
- (2) This Association is located in Dresden, is to be incorporated in the Association registry of the Dresden District Court and is to thereafter carry the addition of e.V.
- (3) In German, the Association bears the name “Freunde der Anglikaner in Dresden.”
- (4) The business year is the calendar year.

## **§ 2 Purposes and Tasks of the Association**

- (1) The goal of the Association is:
  - to support an open, international community in Dresden as disciples of Christ according to the Anglican tradition;
  - to actively and prayerfully seek our place in the city of Dresden, as heirs of the historical Anglican parishes in Dresden and in the reconciliation work of the Community of the Cross of Nails, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- (2) The Association seeks to achieve these goals in particular through:
  - continuing and establishing worship services and other Christian offerings of various forms in Dresden according to the Anglican tradition;
  - living out and building up the hospitality of Christ through table fellowship and relational work;
  - shaping the Anglican community in Dresden with a view to long-term future stability;
  - informing people of all backgrounds concerning the Christian faith and the Anglican tradition and welcoming them into the breadth of that tradition.

### **§ 3 Tax Exempt Status**

(1) The Association exclusively and directly pursues charitable aims in keeping with the paragraph “Steuerbegünstigte Zwecke” (“Tax-privileged purposes”) of the tax code. The Association acts selflessly; it does not primarily pursue its own economic intentions.

(2) The financial means of the Association may only be applied toward purposes consonant with this Constitution. The members, in their capacity as members, receive no benefits from the financial means of the Association. Upon ending their membership, members have no claim to the Association's assets. No person may be benefited by expenditures which are foreign to the Association or through disproportionately high compensation.

### **§ 4 Membership**

(1) Membership is open to all natural and legal persons who support the purposes of the Association, regardless of confessional affiliation or place of residence.

(2) Membership is obtained by written declaration, the acceptance of which is decided upon by the *Vorstand* and notified in writing.

(3) Membership may be ended by written declaration addressed to the *Vorstand*. Withdrawal is possible at any time.

(4) In the 2019 and every six years thereafter a new member list shall be drawn up. Following the public announcement of the preparation of a new list, all members shall be required to make written application for re-enrollment, failing which their membership shall lapse.

(5) A member may be excluded from the Association if he/she is guilty of culpable and serious action against the interests of the Association. The member may invoke a Member Assembly. The assembly's decision is final. The member is to be invited to this assembly and heard.

### **§ 5 Finances**

(1) The Association fulfills its purpose by means of its own income, such as donations, pledged giving and interest on capital. The *Vorstand* shall inform members of the budget for the year and the minimum revenue required therefor.

(2) No member subscription shall be levied.

### **§ 6 Organs of the Association**

(1) The organs of the Association are the Member Assembly and the *Vorstand*.

(2) Further organisational bodies, in particular committees with specified tasks, may be created by resolution of the Member Assembly.

### **§ 7 Member Assembly**

(1) The highest organ of the Association is the Member Assembly. All registered members shall be invited to attend and vote. The assembly shall commonly be lead by the Chair of the *Vorstand*.

(2) The summoning of the assembly shall be the task of the Chair of the *Vorstand*, to be done in writing at least six weeks in advance and including a preliminary agenda. The assembly meets as often as necessary but not less than once per year, this being no later than 30 April.

(3) The Member Assembly establishes guidelines for the work of the Association and decides questions of fundamental importance. The tasks of the Member Assembly include:

- election and deselection of the *Vorstand*
- alterations to the agenda provided by the *Vorstand*
- consultation concerning the status and planning of the work
- authorisation of economic and investment plans prepared by the *Vorstand*
- resolutions to accept the end-of-year financial report
- receiving the business report of the *Vorstand*
- resolutions to relieve the out-going *Vorstand*
- resolutions concerning fundamental decisions to engage as an Association in new tasks or to withdraw from others
- resolutions to alter this Constitution or to dissolve the Association

(4) A special assembly is called when at least 25% of members request it, specifying reasons. The assembly must take place not later than three months following receipt of the written request.

(5) Every duly summoned assembly is quorate, regardless of the number of members attending. Participation via electronic media or in written form is acceptable.

(6) Decisions at member assemblies shall be made by simple majority vote. In the event of equality of votes, the topic must be reasonably treated again until a majority is reached. Abstentions are not considered. Minutes shall be taken and signed by the Chair.

(7) Voting shall normally take place by a clear sign of approval. A ballot shall take place if one member present so demand.

## **§ 8 The *Vorstand***

(1) The entire *Vorstand* (“Board”) consists of the Chair, Vice-Chair (“representative Chair”), Treasurer and Secretary. The members of the *Vorstand* serve in an honorary capacity.

(2) The Association is represented, both judicially and extra-judicially, by two members of the *Vorstand*, one of which is to be the Chair.

(3) The term of office for *Vorstand* members shall be one year. They remain in office until their successors are elected.

(4) The *Vorstand* shall meet at regular intervals as needed. Meetings and decision-making may take place in written form or via electronic media.

(5) The *Vorstand* shall determine its own rules of procedure which are not set forth in this constitution.

(6) Decisions are to be minuted and are to be signed by the Chair.

## **§ 9 Amendments to the Constitution and Dissolution of the Association**

(1) The Member Assembly shall take decisions concerning amendments to the Constitution, alterations to the purposes of the Association and dissolution of the Association. Proposals for said amendments, alterations or dissolution are to be provided to voting members no later than one month prior to the Member Assembly. Decisions require the votes of three quarters of the members present.

(2) Alterations or additions to the Constitution required by the respective registration agency or tax office shall be enacted by the *Vorstand* and do not require a decision by the members assembly. The members shall be informed at the latest in the next Member Assembly invitation.

(3) On the dissolution of the Association, or the discontinuance of its charitable purposes recognised as eligible for tax relief, its assets shall revert to the Council of Anglican (Episcopal) Churches in Germany e.V. (CAECCG), unless otherwise legally regulated.

## **§ 10 Language of Business**

(1) The language of business at member assemblies shall be English, in which language all notices of meetings, communications to members and other internal documents of the Association shall be worded. If the minutes of the meeting of any organ of the Association are to be submitted to a German authority, they may be written in German. For this reason, the governing version of this Constitution shall be the German text; and English translation shall however be appended when notice is given of any motion for alteration of the Constitution.

Place, Date and Signatures