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*Parramatta Anglican Regional Council Constitution  
Ordinance 1971*

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No. 36, 1971

AN ORDINANCE to constitute the Parramatta Anglican Regional Council to provide for the appointment and election of its members, and to determine its rights, powers and duties, and any matters incidental thereto.

WHEREAS the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney by Resolution No. 22 of 1968 agreed to the Archbishop of Sydney appointing one of his coadjutor bishops to be resident within and to exercise episcopal duties within the western part of the Diocese AND WHEREAS by Ordinance No. 40, 1969, of the Synod St. John's Church, Parramatta, was named a Provisional Cathedral and a Cathedral Chapter was constituted to administer and control the same AND WHEREAS by Resolution No. 16 of 1970 the Synod received and adopted the recommendation contained in the report of the Western Areas Committee that a regional council should be established for the purpose of delegating to it certain powers and responsibilities of the Synod NOW the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney in accordance with the powers vested in it by the Constitutions for the order and good government of the Church of England in Australia in the Diocese of Sydney HEREBY ORDAINS DECLARES AND RULES as follows:

1. The Regional Council constituted by this Ordinance shall be named the "Parramatta Anglican Regional Council".

INTERPRETATION

2. In this Ordinance unless inconsistent with the context of subject matter —
  - (a) "Archbishop" means the Archbishop of Sydney for the time being or the person for the time being entitled to exercise the powers vested in the Archbishop by the said Constitutions.
  - (b) "Bishop" means the Bishop in Parramatta for the time being.
  - (c) "Council" means the Parramatta Anglican Regional Council as constituted in Clause 3 hereof.
  - (d) "Parish" includes provisional parishes, provisional districts and new housing districts in the region.
  - (e) "Parishioner" refers to a parishioner of a Church situated in the region, and has the same meaning as in the Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1971.
  - (f) "Region" means that part of the Diocese of Sydney in which the Bishop in Parramatta exercises episcopal duties.
  - (g) "Standing Committee" means the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Sydney.

CONSTITUTION OF COUNCIL

3. The Council shall consist of the following members ex-officio—
  - (i) The Archbishop as President.
  - (ii) The Bishop as Chairman.
  - (iii) The Archdeacon or Archdeacons having territorial jurisdiction in the region.

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- (iv) The Senior Canon of the Provisional Cathedral together with the following members elected triennially.
- (v) From each Rural Deanery in the region, one clergyman and one lay person being a parishioner of a church within such Rural Deanery, to be elected by secret postal ballot by an electorate consisting of the electors of that Rural Deanery as hereinafter provided.
- (vi) Three clergymen and nine lay persons being parishioners within the region, to be elected by secret postal ballot by an electorate consisting of the electors of all the Rural Deaneries in the region.

**MODE OF ELECTION**

- 4. (a) Every meeting in each parish summoned to elect Synod representatives as provided by the Constitution Act Amendment Act 1902, shall also elect three lay parishioners who together with the minister shall be electors for the purpose of this Ordinance. The chairman of each meeting shall supply to the Bishop within seven days of the meeting a certified list of the names, addresses and occupations of those elected, such persons together with the Bishop and the Archdeacon or Archdeacons as aforesaid to form the official list of electors for the purpose of this Ordinance.
  - (b) A person so elected shall remain a member of the official list of electors until the next meeting in each parish to elect Synod representatives unless in the meantime he resigns or ceases to remain a parishioner in the region or is declared by any competent court to be bankrupt or incapable of managing his affairs.
  - (c) Casual vacancies in the official list of electors may be filled from time to time by a meeting of parishioners of the parish in which the vacancy occurred called by the minister of such parish after receiving a mandate from the Bishop to conduct such meeting.
- 5. With respect to sub-clauses (v) and (vi) of clause 3 of this Ordinance —
    - (a) Nominations of qualified persons for election to the Council shall be in writing addressed to the Bishop at his office and received by him before 1st September or such other date as the Council may determine. Such nominations shall declare whether the nomination is under sub-clause (v) or (vi) of clause 3 of this Ordinance, the address and designation of the person nominated, and shall be signed by two persons qualified to vote at such election one of whom also certifies that the person nominated has consented to such nomination.
    - (b) If more nominations are received than positions to be filled at that election, the Bishop shall within fourteen days after nominations have closed cause papers for such ballots to be circulated to the persons entitled to vote.
    - (c) Should a nominee at any time be elected under both sub-clauses (v) and (vi) of clause 3 of this Ordinance, he shall

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- be declared elected as a member of the Council under sub-clause (v), and the nominee in the election under sub-clause (vi) receiving the next highest number of votes shall then be declared elected to the Council.
6. (a) So far as voting ballot papers counting the votes and the result thereof are concerned such elections under clauses 4 and 5 of this Ordinance shall as nearly as possible be in accordance with the provisions of the New South Wales Parliamentary Elections Act 1912-1952 as amended and the Bishop shall for the purpose of such elections be deemed to be the Returning Officer and have a casting vote.
- (b) The Bishop shall forthwith notify the persons so elected and shall also report the result of the election to the Archbishop and to each of the parishes in the region. Any person so elected shall remain a member of the Council until the next triennial election under this clause, unless he resigns or is declared by any competent court to be bankrupt or incapable of managing his affairs and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (c) In the event of the Bishop being absent or unable to act under the provisions of clause 5 hereof and this clause the Archbishop may appoint some other person to perform the functions hereinbefore mentioned in the place of the Bishop and such person shall perform the same in accordance with such provisions.
- (d) Casual vacancies under sub-clauses (v) and (vi) of clause 3 of this Ordinance may be filled from time to time by the Council and such ad interim appointments shall continue until a by-election shall take place.
- (e) A by-election to fill a casual vacancy or vacancies shall be held no later than 31st October in each year and the provisions of clause 5 hereof and of this clause shall apply thereto.

#### MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

7. In the absence of the Archbishop the Bishop shall be Chairman at meetings of the Council, but should both be absent from any meeting the members present shall elect a Chairman for such meeting.
8. Eight members of the Council of whom two at least shall be clergymen and two at least shall be lay persons shall form a quorum, subject to clause 17 of the Land Ordinance Procedure and Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1926-1971 as amended.
9. The President or Chairman when presiding shall have a vote as a member of the Council but shall not have a second or casting vote.
10. The Council shall determine the frequency of meetings provided that there shall be not less than three meetings in each calendar year.

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNCIL GENERALLY

11. The Council shall have power generally —  
(a) to act as a sub-committee of the Standing Committee in

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- accordance with clause 16 of the Land Ordinance Procedure and Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1926-1971 as amended, and to submit recommendations to the Standing Committee after examining in detail proposals for sale, mortgage or leasing of church property within the region.
- (b) to act as a regional investigation committee in accordance with clauses 19 and 20 of the Parishes and Provisional Districts Ordinance 1961-1971 as amended, and to report to Synod.
  - (c) to be a council of advice to the Bishop on any proposed modification of the constitution of the parish council of any parish in the region, and on any dispute in any parish in the region as set out in sub-clauses (1) and (2) of clause 58 of the Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1971 as amended or in any other matter in which he may desire its advice.
  - (d) to carry out or assist in carrying out any resolutions from time to time passed by the Synod and entrusted to it.
  - (e) to appoint sub-committees including if desired persons other than members of the Council, such sub-committees to be directly responsible to the Council.
  - (f) to elect one of its clerical members and one of its lay members from time to time to serve on the Presentation Board in accordance with sub-clause (d) of clause 3 of the Presentation and Exchange Ordinance 1933-1971 as amended.
  - (g) to appoint a representative or representatives of the region to attend in a consultative capacity meetings of such diocesan boards and committees which may invite such representative or representatives.
  - (h) to propose such business which concerns the region as may appear to the Council to be necessary or desirable to be brought before Synod.
  - (i) to exercise such other functions as Synod or the Standing Committee may from time to time prescribe as affecting the region.
12. The Council shall promote take charge of and administer a capital fund to be known as the "Parramatta Anglican Regional Endowment Fund" set up to provide income to assist in meeting the cost of regional administration in the region, any balance of income from such fund each year to be capitalised and added to the fund, provided that in any year at least 5% of the income shall be added to the fund.
  13. The Council may discuss matters affecting the interests of the Church in the region, and make such enquiries as it shall deem to be requisite and may disseminate reports on the same from time to time to the parishes in the region, provided that any such reports shall be sent at the same time to the Archbishop and the Standing Committee.
  14. Minutes of the proceedings of the Council shall be entered in a book kept for that purpose in the office of the Bishop, and the Council shall cause such minute book to be laid before the Synod at the commencement of every session.

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15. The Council shall present an Annual Report of its proceedings to the Standing Committee for submission to the Synod which shall include a statement of its receipts and payments and a balance sheet for the year, audited by the auditors appointed by the Council.
16. The Land Ordinance Procedure and Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1926-1930 is hereby amended by re-numbering clauses 17, 18 and 19 as 18, 19 and 20 and by the addition of the following new clause 17:—

**"PARRAMATTA ANGLICAN REGIONAL COUNCIL**

17. In accordance with clause 16 of this Ordinance, the Parramatta Regional Council as constituted by the 'Parramatta Anglican Regional Council Constitution Ordinance 1971' shall act as a sub-committee of the Standing Committee to enquire and report on all ordinances dealing with land and other property within the region in which the Bishop in Parramatta exercises episcopal duties PROVIDED THAT at least two members of the Standing Committee, whether they be members of the Council or not, shall always be present and shall be voting members of such sub-committee."
17. The Parishes and Provisional Districts Ordinance 1961-1971 is hereby amended by re-numbering clauses 19, 20 and 21 as 21, 22 and 23 and by the addition of the following new clauses 19 and 20.

**"PARRAMATTA ANGLICAN REGIONAL COUNCIL**

19. For the purposes of this Ordinance in all matters affecting the region in which the Bishop in Parramatta exercises episcopal duties the Parramatta Regional Council as constituted by the 'Parramatta Anglican Regional Council Constitution Ordinance 1971' shall act on behalf of the Standing Committee and in clauses 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17 and 18 of this Ordinance the words 'Bishop in Parramatta' shall be read in place of the word 'Archbishop' and the words 'Parramatta Regional Council' may be substituted for the words 'Standing Committee' or 'Archbishop in Council' as the case may be PROVIDED that the provisions of this clause shall not apply when the boundaries may be affected of any parish, provisional parish or provisional district outside the said region.
20. The said Regional Council shall report to the Standing Committee all decisions reached and recommendations made."
18. The Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1971 is hereby amended by the addition of the following new clause following clause 56:—  
"56A. In clauses 38A, 43, 58, 59 and 60 of this Ordinance as amended and in so far as any matter concerns the region in which the Bishop in Parramatta exercises episcopal duties the words 'Bishop in Parramatta' shall be substituted for the word 'Archbishop' and the words 'the Bishop

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in Parramatta on the advice of the Parramatta Anglican Regional Council' shall be substituted for the words 'Archbishop-in-Council'. Provided that the Minister or parishioners concerned in any dispute shall retain the right of appeal to the Archbishop or the Archbishop-in-Council as the case may be."

**TITLES**

19. (a) This Ordinance may be cited as the "Parramatta Anglican Regional Council Constitution Ordinance 1971".
- (b) The Land Ordinance Procedure and Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1926-1930 as amended by this Ordinance may be cited as the "Land Ordinance Procedure and Delegation of Powers Ordinance 1926-1971".
- (c) The Parishes and Provisional Districts Ordinance 1961-1971 as amended by this Ordinance may be cited as the "Parishes and Provisional Districts Ordinance 1961-1971".
- (d) The Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1971 as amended by this Ordinance may be cited as the "Sydney Church Ordinance 1912-1971".

I certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

**ATHOL RICHARDSON**  
Chairman of Committees.

We certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney this 15th day of October, 1971.

**W. L. J. HUTCHISON**  
**K. N. SHELLEY**  
Secretaries of Synod.

I assent to this Ordinance.

**MARCUS LOANE**  
Archbishop of Sydney.

15/10/1971.