Royal Charters and Statutes
of
The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem
(2004)
CONTENTS

1. THE ROYAL CHARTER, 1955  3-4

2. THE SUPPLEMENTAL ROYAL CHARTER, 1974  5-8

3. THE STATUTES OF THE MOST VENERABLE ORDER OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM  9-42

Part One – Introductory
1. Short title  9
2. Interpretation  9
3. Mottoes of the Order  10
4. Objects and Purposes of the Order  10

Part Two – The Organisation of The Order
5. The Sovereign Head  12
6. The Grand Prior  12
7. Powers of the Grand Prior  12
8. The Great Officers of the Order  13
9. The Principal Officers of the Order  14
10. The Hospitaller  15
11. Honorary Officers of The Order  15
12. Secretary of the Order  15
13. The Grand Council  16
14. Membership of the Grand Council  17
15. Procedure in the Grand Council  17
16. The Honours and Awards Committee  17
17. Delegation to Priories in respect of Honours and Awards  17
18. Establishments of the Order  19
19. Priories  20
20. Commanderies  20
21. Grand Prior’s Advisory Council  21
22. St. John Associations  22
23. Rules of Incorporated Establishments  23
24. Foundations  24
25. Visitations  24
26. Allocation of Property  25
27. Transfers of Property to Establishments  25
28. Liabilities  25
29. Indemnity Insurance  26
30. Financial Contributions by Establishments  26
31. The Order’s Powers of Investment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Three – Members</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32. Grades of the Order</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32A. Clerical Brethren</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32B. Sub-Prelates</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Qualifications for Membership of the Order</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Declaration before Admission to the Order</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34A. Specified Bodies</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Modified Declarations</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Concurrent Membership</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Complements of the various Grades</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Appointments to and Promotions in the Order</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Personal Esquires</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Donats</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Precedence within the Order</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Foundation Dues and Oblations</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. Termination of Membership</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Part Four – Arms, Insignia, etc. | |
| 44. Arms of the Order | 39 |
| 45. Badge of the Order | 39 |
| 46. Great Banner of the Order | 39 |
| 47. Seal of the Order | 39 |
| 48. Seals of Priories and Commanderies | 40 |
| 49. Armorial Bearings | 40 |
| 50. Insignia and Robes | 41 |
| 51. Uniform of the St. John Ambulance | 41 |
| 52. Medals | 41 |
| 53. Alterations Prohibited | 41 |
| 54. Emblem Protection | 41 |
| 55. Intellectual Property Rights in respect of the Arms or Badge of the Order or the name St. John | 41 |

| 56. Interpretation of Part Five | 42 |
| 57. Existing Establishments of the Order | 42 |
| 58. Existing St. John Associations | 42 |
| 59. Instruments of Allocation | 43 |
| 60. Foundations | 43 |
| 61. Regulations and Rules | 43 |

**ORDERS IN COUNCIL 1999 AND 2002**

An Order in Council made on 21st July 1999 substantially amended the Supplemental Royal Charter, 1974 and the Statutes of the Order. Those amendments took effect from 24th
October 1999. A subsequent Order in Council which was made on 17 December 2002 made further amendments which take effect from 1 January 2004. Both sets of amendments are incorporated in the text of the Supplemental Royal Charter and Statutes set out herein.
Royal Charter, 1955

By the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting!

Whereas by a Royal Charter under the Great Seal, bearing date at Westminster the fourteenth day of May in the fifty-first year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria and in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight (hereinafter referred to as the Original Charter) “The Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem in England”, was incorporated for the objects and purposes declared in the original Charter and in the Statutes set forth in the Schedule thereto:

AND WHEREAS by a Supplemental Charter bearing date at Westminster the twenty-second day of May in the seventh year of the Reign of His Majesty King Edward the Seventh and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven certain alterations were made in the provisions of the original Charter:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter under the Great Seal bearing date at Westminster the twelfth day of June in the seventeenth year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fifth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six (hereinafter referred to as “the Charter of 1926”) the provisions of the Original Charter and the said Supplemental Charter were amended, consolidated and superseded and in particular it was declared and ordained that the name, designation and title of the said Order should from the date of issue of the Charter of 1926 be “the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem”:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter under the Great Seal bearing date at Westminster the first day of August in the first year of the reign of His Majesty King Edward the Eighth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and thirty-six (hereinafter referred to as “the Charter of 1936”) the Charter of 1926 was amended and superseded and it was ordained that the Charter of 1936 was and should be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS it has been represented to Us by Our most dear and entirely beloved Uncle and most faithful Counsellor Henry, Duke of Gloucester, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, who is now the Grand Prior of the Grand Priory aforesaid, that the Charter of 1936 should be amended and superseded by a further Charter granted by Us AND WHEREAS it is considered expedient to amend and supersede the Charter of 1936 by the grant of a further Charter being these Presents:

Now know ye that We, having taken the premises into our consideration, by Our special Grace Certain Knowledge and Mere Motion for Us Our Heirs and Successors, by this further Charter, under the power by the Charter of 1936 reserved to Us Our Heirs and Successors and every other power Us hereunto enabling, do DECLARE AND ORDAIN as follows:
CHARTERS

Clause 1.—Amendment and Supersession of the Charter of 1936—

We do hereby amend and supersede the Charter of 1936 and grant to the Grand Priory aforesaid this further Royal Charter superseding the Charter of 1936 and We Ordain that this Our Royal Charter is and shall be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid.

Clause 2.—Title—

We do hereby further ordain that the name, designation and title of the Grand Priory aforesaid is and shall continue to be “the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Most Ven- erable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem”, and we further Declare that the same usually shall be styled and designated for brevity “The Order of St. John” and shall in this Charter be referred to as “the Order”.

Clause 3.—Rights and Privileges—

We do hereby further ordain that the Order shall have a Common Seal and have perpetual succession, and that it may by and in the said name and style, sue, implead and answer, and be sued, impleaded and answered in all Courts whatsoever, whether of Law or Equity, and be competent to do all other acts, matters and things incidental or appertaining to a body politic and corporate and to enjoy all rights and privileges lawfully appertaining to bodies politic and corporate.

(Clauses 4, 5 and 6 were revoked by the provisions of the Supplemental Royal Charter of 1974.)

In witness whereof We have caused these Our letter to be made Patent.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the fifteenth day of March in the fourth year of Our Reign.

By warrant under the Queen’s Sign Manual.

COLDSTREAM

THE GREAT SEAL

* * * * *
Supplemental Royal Charter, 1974

Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting!

Whereas by a Royal Charter dated the fourteenth day of May in the fifty-first year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria and in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight (hereinafter referred to as “the Original Charter”) all the Members (excluding Associates) for the time being of the Order created by the Original Charter were incorporated under the name and style of “The Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem in England” for the objects and purposes declared in the Original Charter and in the Statutes set forth in the Schedule thereto:

AND WHEREAS by a Supplemental Charter dated the twenty-second day of May in the seventh year of the Reign of His Majesty King Edward the Seventh and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven certain alterations were made in the provisions of the Original Charter:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter dated the twelfth day of June in the seventeenth year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fifth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six (hereinafter referred to as “the Charter of 1926”) the provisions of the Original Charter and the said Supplemental Charter were amended, consolidated and superseded and in particular it was declared and ordained that the name, designation and the title of the said Order should from the date of issue of the Charter of 1926 be “the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem”:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter dated the first day of August in the first year of the Reign of His Majesty King Edward the Eighth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and thirty-six (hereinafter referred to as “the Charter of 1936”) the Charter of 1926 was amended and superseded and it was ordained that the Charter of 1936 was and should be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter dated the fifteenth day of March in the fourth year of Our Reign and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and fifty-five (hereinafter referred to as “the Charter of 1955”) the Charter of 1936 was amended and superseded and it was ordained that the Charter of 1955 was and should be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS the Charter of 1955 was subsequently amended by two Supplemental Charters dated respectively the fourteenth day of November in the seventh year of Our Reign and the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight and the twenty-eighth day of February in the nineteenth year of Our Reign and the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seventy (hereinafter referred to collectively as “the Supplemental Charters of 1958 and 1970”):
AND WHEREAS it has been represented unto Us by Our most dear and entirely beloved Uncle and most faithful Counsellor Henry, Duke of Gloucester, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, who is now the Grand Prior of the Grand Priory aforesaid, that the Supplemental Charters of 1958 and 1970 should be revoked and that the Charter of 1955 should be amended by a further Supplemental Charter granted by US providing among other things that the name, designation and title of the Order should again be amended and that the Statutes set forth in the Schedule to the Charter of 1955 which regulate the internal administration and organisation of the Order should be replaced in revised form so that the objects and purposes of the Order may be better attained:

Now know ye that We, having taken the premises into Our Royal Consideration, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have declared and ordained and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors DECLARE AND ORDAIN as follows:

Clause 1.—Interpretation—

This Our Royal Charter shall supersede the Charter of 1955 except in so far as any provisions of the said Charter are not hereby revoked.

Clause 2.—Amendment of Charter of 1955—

The provisions of the Charter of 1955, except so far as they incorporate the said Grand Priory and confer on it perpetual succession and authorise it to have a Common Seal, to sue and be sued and to enjoy all the rights and privileges lawfully appertaining to bodies politic and corporate, are hereby revoked.

Clause 3.—Revocation of Supplemental Charters—

The Supplemental Charters of 1958 and 1970 are also revoked.

Clause 4.—Saving—

The revocation in part of the Charter of 1955 and the revocation of the aforesaid Supplemental Charters shall not affect the validity or legality of any thing done or executed or of any dealing with property or of any investment made under any of the revoked provisions of the said Charters or of any of the Statutes of the Order annexed thereto.

Clause 5.—Change of Name of the Corporate Body—

All persons who are at the date of this Our Supplemental Charter enrolled as Members of the Order in the roll of members thereof in the custody of the Secretary-General of the Order and are of any of the grades of Members hereinafter specified and all persons who shall for the time being in pursuance of and in accordance with these Presents be Members of the Order shall continue to be one body politic and corporate by the name and style of “The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem” which as heretofore may be styled and designated for brevity “The Order of St. John” and shall herein and in the Statutes be referred to as “the Order”.

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[296x32]6
Clause 6.—Property—

The Order shall have power to purchase, acquire, take and hold in perpetuity or otherwise any property, lands, tenements and hereditaments.

Clause 6A—Gifts to the Priory of England and the Islands—

With effect from 24 October 1999 unless a contrary intention shall be manifest, all gifts, legacies, and payments under covenant or Gift Aid to the Order made by a donor, testator or payor resident within the territory of the Priory of England and the Islands shall be deemed to vest in the Priory of England and the Islands.

Clause 7.—Powers of Investment—

The powers of the Order to invest moneys and funds of the Order not immediately required to be expended shall be such as shall be specified in the Statutes of the Order.

Clause 7A—Indemnity Insurance—

The Order shall have power to provide indemnity insurance to such extent and subject to such conditions as shall be specified in the Statutes of the Order.

Clause 8.—Statutes of the Order—

The Statutes contained in the Schedule to this Our Supplemental Charter are hereby declared to be the sole Statutes of the Order until they shall be altered in the manner hereinafter appearing.

Clause 9.—Saving for Establishments, etc., Overseas—

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Charter of 1955 and of this Our Supplemental Charter, it is hereby declared that any Establishment or other subordinate body of the Order shall have and shall be deemed always to have had power to incorporate or register itself under any local law.

Clause 10.—Amendment of Charter and Statutes—

The Order may revoke, amend or add to any of the provisions of the Charter of 1955 or this Our Supplemental Charter or the Statutes of the Order by a Resolution passed by not less than three-quarters of the members present and entitled to vote at a meeting of the Grand Council of the Order specially summoned for the purpose, and of which at least three months’ notice has been given, and any such revocation, amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effective so that the Charter of 1955 or this Our Supplemental Charter or the Statutes of the Order shall thenceforth continue and operate as though they had been originally granted and made accordingly. This provision shall apply to the Charter of 1955 or to this Our Supplemental Charter or the Statutes of the Order as revoked, amended or added to in the manner aforesaid.
In Witness whereof We have caused these Our letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the twenty-ninth day of April in the twenty-third year of Our Reign.

By Warrant under the Queen’s Sign Manual.

DOBSON

* * * * * *

Note: the headings to clauses are not included in the Charter and are inserted here for information only.
THE SCHEDULE
The Statutes of The Most Venerable
Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem

PART ONE—INTRODUCTORY

1. Short title

These Statutes may be cited as “the St. John Statutes 1974 to 2003”.

2. Interpretation

(1) In these Statutes, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) “Appointed Day” means (except in Part Five) 1 January 2004;

(b) “Associate Member” means a person who on or prior to St. John’s Day 1999 was attached to the Order in pursuance of the provisions of the statute which immediately before that date was numbered Statute 26(2) and who has not ceased for any reason to be attached thereto;

(c) “Establishment” means a Priory, Independent Commandery, Dependent Commandery or St. John Association;

(d) “the Lord Prior” means the Lord Prior of St. John whose Great Office is referred to in Statute 8;

(e) “Member” or “Member of the Order” means a person possessing the qualifications set out in Statute 33 who, having been duly admitted to the Order, has not ceased for any reason to be a Member;

(f) “the Order” or “The Order of St. John” means all the Members of the Order for the time being comprising the corporate body referred to in the Royal Charter;

(g) “Regulations” means Regulations made by the Grand Prior in pursuance of Statute 7(3);

(h) “Royal Charter” means the Royal Charter of 1955 and the Supplemental Royal Charter of 1974;

(i) “Rules” means Rules made in pursuance of Statutes 19(2), 20(3), 22(3) or 24(5);

(j) “Specified Body” has the meaning ascribed to it by Statute 34A;
(k) “St. John Ambulance” means the Foundation of that name and formerly known as the “St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade”;

(l) “St. John’s Day” means the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist save that in relation to the year 1999 it shall mean 24 October 1999.

(2) In these Statutes, unless the context otherwise requires, words importing the masculine shall include the feminine, words in the singular shall include the plural and words in the plural shall include the singular.

(3) If at any time the Grand Prior in the exercise of powers conferred on him shall ordain that any office or body constituted by or under these Statutes shall have its title changed to a new title, any reference to such office or body in these Statutes or in any Regulations or Rules made thereunder shall be read and construed as a reference to such office or body by such new title.

(4) If any question arises as to the interpretation of these Statutes, the matter shall be referred to the Grand Prior whose decision shall be final.

3. Mottoes of the Order

The Mottoes of the Order shall be “Pro Fide” and “Pro Utilitate Hominum”.

4. Objects and Purposes of the Order

The Order is an ancient Christian brotherhood and its objects and purposes shall be:

(a) The encouragement of all that makes for the spiritual and moral strengthening of mankind in accordance with the first great principle of the Order embodied in the Motto “Pro Fide”;

(b) The encouragement and promotion of all work of humanity and charity for the relief of persons in sickness, distress, suffering or danger, without distinction of race, class or creed and the extension of the second great principle of the Order embodied in the Motto “Pro Utilitate Hominum”;

(c) The rendering of aid to the sick, wounded, disabled or suffering and the promotion of such permanent organisation during times of peace as may be at once available in times of civil emergencies or war, including the training and provision of technical reserves for the medical services of the Armed Forces or any Civil Defence Organisations;

(d) The award of medals, badges or certificates of honour for special services in the cause of humanity, especially for saving life at imminent personal risk;
(e) The maintenance and development of the St. John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and the clinics and research projects connected therewith;

(f) The maintenance and development of the St. John Ambulance, the objects and purposes of which are:

(i) The instruction of members of the public in the principles and practice of First Aid, Nursing, Hygiene and other allied or ancillary subjects;

(ii) The preparation, publication and distribution of text-books and other training aids to facilitate such instruction and the organisation of examinations and tests for the purpose of issuing certificates of proficiency in such subjects;

(iii) The organisation, training and equipment of men, women and young persons to undertake, on a voluntary basis either as individuals or as organised groups, First Aid, Nursing and allied activities, in the streets, public places, hospitals, homes, places of work or elsewhere as occasion may require for the relief, transport, comfort or welfare of those in need;

(iv) The instruction of boys and girls in First Aid, Nursing and other subjects conducive to the education of good citizens;

(v) The provision of trained personnel to give assistance to Central or Local Government Departments or to the Armed Forces at times of emergency in peace or in war;

(g) The formation of ambulance and medical comforts depots and the organisation and administration of transport by ambulance;

(h) The formation and administration of establishments, councils, associations, centres or other subordinate bodies to facilitate the work of the Order in local geographical areas;

(i) The maintenance of contact and the development of collaboration with kindred Orders and bodies;

(j) The manufacture and distribution by sale or presentation of publications, equipment or materials useful for or connected with furthering the objects and purposes of the Order;

(k) The receipt and acceptance of donations, endowments and gifts of money, lands, hereditaments, stocks, funds, shares, securities or other assets whatsoever, and the borrowing, investing or raising of money with or without security for any objects or purposes of the Order and either subject to or free from any special trusts or conditions;
(l) The maintenance, administration or development of all real and personal property vested in or under the control of the Order, and the sale, lease, mortgage, loan, exchange, gift, or any other disposition of the same as circumstances may arise or permit; and

(m) The establishment and maintenance of libraries and museums and the collection of works of art and objects of historical interest relating to the Order.

PART TWO—THE ORGANISATION OF THE ORDER

5. The Sovereign Head

(1) Her Majesty the Queen, Her Heirs and Successors shall be the Sovereign Head of the Order.

(2) The Sovereign Head shall make such appointments to and within the Order as She in her absolute discretion shall think fit.

6. The Grand Prior

There shall be a Grand Prior of the Order who shall be appointed by the Sovereign Head after consultation with the Grand Council and who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Sovereign Head or until resignation.

7. Powers of the Grand Prior

(1) Subject to any directions he may receive from the Sovereign Head, the Grand Prior shall exercise supreme direction and administrative and executive control over the Order, its Establishments, its other subordinate organisations, and its Members and shall make all appointments other than those made by the Sovereign Head. The Grand Prior shall have the right to veto any recommendation, resolution, decision or proceeding of the Grand Council, or of any Establishment or other subordinate organisation of the Order.

(2) The Grand Prior shall submit to the Sovereign Head for approval or direction any matter which he deems to be of important principle and, in particular, shall submit for the sanction of the Sovereign Head all proposals for admission to or promotion in the Order as shall have been recommended by the Grand Council and approved by him.

(3) The Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, shall have power by Instrument under his hand and the Seal of the Order to make, amend, revoke or suspend (in whole or in part and either generally or in relation to any specified area) Regulations or Rules (not being repugnant to the Royal Charter or any law) for any purpose expressed in the Royal Charter or Statutes or otherwise as he may deem
necessary or expedient for the conduct, control or management of the affairs or work of the Order and, when published in such manner as the Grand Prior may direct, such Regulations or Rules shall be binding on the organisations or persons to which they are applicable.

(4) To facilitate the conduct of the affairs and work of the Order, the Grand Prior may, in his discretion and subject to such limitations as he may impose, delegate in such manner as he deems fit any of his powers or authority to any other Great Officer or other officer of the Order as he may specify:

Provided always that he shall not delegate his power of veto or his authority to make Regulations or Rules or to approve and submit to the Sovereign Head recommendations for admission to or promotion in the Order except when he is unable to exercise such power or authority owing to absence abroad or ill-health in which circumstances such power or authority may be exercised by the Lord Prior on his behalf.

(5) The Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, may appoint Standing or other Committees of such membership and with such terms of reference as he may specify or as may be prescribed by Regulations. Unless the Grand Prior otherwise directs, all such Committees shall report to and exercise their functions under the general supervision of the Grand Council.

8. The Great Officers of the Order

(1) The Grand Prior and those holding the four offices hereinafter mentioned shall be the Great Officers of the Order and ex officio shall be Bailiffs Grand Cross or Dames Grand Cross of the Order, that is to say:

(a) The Lord Prior of St. John who shall be the Lieutenant and Deputy of the Grand Prior.

(b) The Prelate shall be a Member of the Order of episcopal rank in the Church of England as by law established. The Prelate shall be the adviser to the Grand Prior in all matters of an ecclesiastical nature and shall determine the form of religious service and prayers to be used on such occasions as are not provided for by the Statutes or Regulations; save that in Scotland the Grand Prior shall be advised in these matters by the appropriate Executive Officer of the Priory of Scotland.

(c) The Deputy Lord Prior or if for the time being the Grand Prior shall think fit two Deputy Lord Priors. A Deputy Lord Prior shall be the Deputy of the Lord Prior. If the Lord Prior is unable to perform the functions of his office by reason of absence or ill-health, a Deputy Lord Prior shall act as Lieutenant and Deputy of the Grand Prior.

(d) The Sub-Prior who shall have special interest in Independent Commanderies and St. John Associations.
(2) The Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, may change the title of, or abolish, any Great Office or may create any new Great Office:

Provided always that any such change, abolition or creation shall forthwith be notified by the Secretary-General in writing to the Clerk of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council.

(3) The Great Officers (other than the Grand Prior) shall be appointed by the Grand Prior following consultation with the Grand Council.

(4) The duties of the Great Officers (other than the Grand Prior) may be prescribed by Regulations.

(5) The Prelate shall hold office during the pleasure of the Grand Prior or until resignation.

(6) A Great Officer (other than the Grand Prior and the Prelate) shall be appointed to hold office for such period not exceeding three years as the Grand Prior may determine but shall be eligible for re-appointment on one occasion only for a further period not exceeding three years:

Provided that if the holder of one Great Office is appointed to another then the period for which he may be appointed to that subsequent office shall not be restricted by the time which he served in the former office.

(7) A Great Officer

   (a) who is a member of a Priory shall remain on the Roll of that Priory;

   (b) shall be eligible to be or to continue to be a member of the Priory Chapter of his Priory; but

   (c) shall not hold concurrent office within any Priory.

(8) Before being appointed to any Great Office the postulant Great Officer shall in such form as the Prelate shall prescribe make a declaration that he or she personally professes the Christian faith.

9. The Principal Officers of the Order

(1) The Secretary-General and the holders of any other Principal Offices that may hereafter be created by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council shall be the Principal Officers of the Order.

(2) The Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, may change the title of, or abolish, any Principal Office or may create any new Principal Office:
Provided always that any such change, abolition or creation shall forthwith be notified by the Secretary-General in writing to the Clerk of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council.

(3) The Principal Officers shall be Members of Grade I or Grade II of the Order. They shall be appointed by the Grand Prior to hold office for such period not exceeding three years as he may determine and they shall be eligible for re-appointment save that the Secretary-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the Grand Prior or until resignation.

(4) The duties and responsibilities of the Principal Officers may be prescribed by Regulations.

(5) A Principal Officer other than the Secretary-General

(a) who is a member of a Priory shall remain on the Roll of that Priory;

(b) shall be eligible to be or to continue to be a member of the Priory Chapter of his Priory; but

(c) shall not hold concurrent office within any Priory.

10. The Hospitaller

(1) There shall be a Hospitaller of the Order who shall be appointed by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council.

(2) The provisions of Statute 9 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the Hospitaller save that the Hospitaller shall be entitled to hold concurrent office within a Priory.

11. Honorary Officers of The Order

(1) There shall be a Genealogist of the Order who shall be appointed by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council. The Genealogist shall be an Honorary Officer of the Order.

(2) There shall be such other Honorary Officers of the Order as the Grand Council may deem expedient from time to time.

(3) The Honorary Officers shall be Members of the Order in any Grade and shall be appointed to hold office for such period not exceeding three years as the Grand Council may determine and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

12. Secretary of the Order
The Grand Prior may appoint a Member of the Order in any Grade to be Secretary of the Order who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Grand Prior or until resignation and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by Regulations.

13. The Grand Council

(1) There shall be a Grand Council of the Order which, subject to the authority and the powers of the Sovereign Head and the Grand Prior, shall be the governing body of the Order and may deliberate upon and make recommendations to the Grand Prior regarding all matters which appertain to the affairs or work of the Order and may exercise any of the powers or authority expressly conferred upon the Grand Council by the Royal Charter, these Statutes, and any Regulations, or Rules.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the Grand Council shall:

(a) ensure the observance of provisions of the Statutes which are designed to safeguard the Christian nature of the Order;

(b) promote the furtherance of the objects of the Order as laid down in Statute 4;

(c) be responsible for the strategic planning of measures for strengthening or expanding the Order’s objectives;

(d) consider and, if thought fit, recommend the establishment, suspension or dissolution of Priories, Independent Commanderies, and St. John Associations and, subject to the provisions of Statute 20, recommend the establishment, suspension or dissolution of Dependent Commanderies;

(e) consider and, if thought fit, propose to the Grand Prior and the Sovereign Head any changes to the Statutes;

(f) consider proposed changes to Regulations and to the Rules of Priories, Commanderies and St. John Associations and advise the Grand Prior thereon, provided that before advising the Grand Prior to approve such changes the Grand Council shall be satisfied that the proposed Regulations and Rules accord with the Statutes of the Order;

(g) co-ordinate and encourage the activities and the development of Independent Commanderies and St. John Associations;

(h) be responsible, through an Honours and Awards Committee, for the policy on appointments to and promotions in the Order;

(i) consider any proposals from the Honours and Awards Committee for changes to the complements of Grades in the Order and the allocation between Establishments;
(j) adopt a budget for the Secretariat and central services of the Order;

(k) determine the basis of financial contributions by Establishments;

(l) exercise the powers of investment conferred on the Order by Statute 31;

(m) endeavour to co-ordinate and harmonise the use and exploitation by the Order or by any Establishment or other subordinate body of intellectual property rights held by any or by any other Establishment or other subordinate body;

(n) liaise with Priories on matters of common concern;

(o) liaise with Independent Commanderies and St. John Associations;

(p) recommend to the Grand Prior the appointment of the Secretary-General, any other Principal Officers, the Hospitaller of the Order and Honorary Officers of the Order;

(q) through the Secretariat, co-ordinate activities involving more than one Priory or more than one Independent Commandery or St. John Association (without having power to direct the activities of any such body);

(r) direct the work of the Secretariat;

(s) liaise with other bodies on matters affecting the Order as a whole; and

(t) appoint representatives of the Order (but not representatives of Priories) on such other bodies.

14. Membership of the Grand Council

(1) The Grand Council shall consist of *ex officio* and appointed members as follows:

(a) The *ex officio* members shall be:

(i) The Great Officers; and

(ii) The Prior or (if he so appoints) the Chancellor of each Priory; and

(b) there shall be such number (if any) of appointed members as the Grand Prior having regard to the advice of the Grand Council shall from time to time determine.

(2) The appointed members shall be Members of the Order selected by the Grand Prior. An appointed member shall be appointed to hold office for such period not exceeding three
years as the Grand Prior may determine but shall be eligible for reappointment on one occasion only for a further period not exceeding three years.

(3) The Grand Prior may on a recommendation of not less than three-quarters of all members of the Grand Council make changes in the composition of the Grand Council.

(4) The Hospitaller of the Order shall have the right to attend any meeting of the Grand Council when any matter affecting his office is on the agenda. He shall be entitled to speak but not vote upon such matter.

15. Procedure in the Grand Council

(1) The Grand Council shall be convened by authority of the Grand Prior not less than once in each year upon not less than twenty-eight days’ previous notice at such place as the Grand Prior may from time to time appoint.

(2) Meetings of the Grand Council shall always be opened and closed with prayer, provided nevertheless that no Form of Prayer shall be used which is inconsistent with the forms of worship of the Church of England or of the Church of Scotland as by law established.

(3) The Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council and subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Statute, may make Regulations as to the manner in which the Grand Council shall conduct its business and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, such Regulations may prescribe who shall preside in the absence of the Grand Prior, the number of members forming a quorum, the method of voting and the circumstances in which persons who are not members of the Grand Council may be admitted to and be heard at any meeting.

16. The Honours and Awards Committee

(1) There shall be an Honours and Awards Committee which shall be a standing committee of the Grand Council.

(2) The Honours and Awards Committee shall advise the Grand Council on all matters relating to appointments to and promotions in the Order and relating to the eligibility for the award of The Life-Saving Medal and The Service Medal.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of Statute 16(2) the Honours and Awards Committee shall:

   (a) consider all recommendations for appointment as or promotion to the grade of Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross of the Order;

   (b) consider all recommendations for the appointment to or promotion in the Order in any grade of any person who is not resident within the territory of any Priory;
(c) keep under review and advise the Grand Council with regard to complements for the purposes of Statute 37;

(d) keep under review and where it thinks fit make recommendations to the Grand Council in respect of the criteria for the award of The Life-Saving Medal; and

(e) keep under review and where it thinks fit make recommendations to the Grand Council in respect of the criteria for the award of The Service Medal.

(4) The Honours and Awards Committee shall consist of the Lord Prior as President, the Prelate, the Deputy Lord Prior or Deputy Lord Priors and the Sub-Prior and the Secretary-General shall be the secretary of the committee.

(5) The Honours and Awards Committee shall meet whenever the Grand Prior or the Lord Prior may see fit to convene it.

(6) Subject to the approval of the Grand Prior, the Honours and Awards Committee may make By-laws to regulate its own procedures.

17. Delegation to Priories in respect of Honours and Awards

The Grand Council shall have the power to delegate to Priories in all cases subject to such conditions as it may from time to time prescribe:

(a) the power to make recommendations to the Grand Prior in respect of appointments to or promotions in the Order other than appointments or promotions to Grade I in the Order;

(b) the award of The Life-Saving Medal;

(c) the award of The Service Medal; and

(d) the appointment of Donats.

18. Establishments of the Order

(1) Distinct Establishments of the Order, designated Priories, Commanderies or St. John Associations, may be constituted within the Order in accordance with the provisions of Statutes 19, 20 and 22 in any area where the work of the Order is being carried on, subject to the Grand Prior being satisfied, in the case of Priories and Commanderies, that the number of Members of the Order resident in that area, and in all cases that the importance and value of the work being carried on therein, make it desirable to do so.

(2) A Priory shall be governed by a Prior and a Priory Chapter; a Commandery shall be governed by a Knight or Dame Commander and a Commandery Chapter.
(3) A St. John Association shall be governed in accordance with Rules made under Statute 22(3).

(4) Each Priory, Commandery and St. John Association shall have the immediate general control and supervision of the affairs and work of the Order and the Members of the Order resident within its geographical area of authority.

(5) Each Establishment shall be subject to the provisions of the Royal Charter and these Statutes as are in force from time to time.

19. Priories

(1) A Priory may properly be constituted with the widest practicable degree of autonomy in any country or group of countries.

(2) Where in any case, having regard to the foregoing provisions and to Statute 18, the Grand Council so recommends, the Grand Prior with the sanction of the Sovereign Head may by Instrument under his hand and the seal of the Order constitute a Priory and declare its style and title, its area of authority and its membership. In addition the Grand Prior, on the same recommendations, shall make Rules for the government of the Priory including its powers and functions and the composition of its Priory Chapter and thereafter such Rules shall be capable of addition, amendment or revocation from time to time (as shall be stated therein) by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Prior of the Priory and his Priory Chapter and having regard to the advice of the Grand Council. The provisions of the Priory Rules for the time being in force shall in all respects be consistent with local law.

(3) The Grand Prior shall have power to suspend temporarily all or any part of the operations of a Priory and all or any of the Rules applicable thereto and, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, may vary the constitution of the Priory, or dissolve it or any of its dependent Establishments.

(4) All Priories shall rank pari passu:

Provided that the Grand Council shall be entitled to prescribe differential rates of financial contribution to the central work of the Order and provided also that Priories which are in existence on St. John’s Day 1999 shall be listed in the order set forth in Statute 57 and any Priories which are created after that date shall be listed in the order of the dates on which they are created.

20. Commanderies

(1) A Commandery may properly be constituted in any country or part of a country or group of countries.

(2) A Commandery shall be either:
(a) an Independent Commandery, that is an Establishment the territory of which is wholly outside the territory of a Priory; or

(b) a Dependent Commandery, that is an Establishment the territory of which is wholly or partly within the territory of a Priory and which is dependent on that Priory.

(3) Where in any case, having regard to the foregoing provisions and to the provisions of Statute 18, the Grand Council so recommends and in the case of a Commandery dependent on a Priory, the Priory Chapter also recommends, the Grand Prior with the sanction of the Sovereign Head may by Instrument under his hand and the seal of the Order constitute a Commandery and declare its style and title, its membership, its area of authority and in the case of a Dependent Commandery its dependence on a stated Priory. In addition, the Grand Prior, on the same recommendations, shall make Rules for the government of the Commandery including its powers and functions and the composition of the Commandery Chapter and thereafter such Rules shall be capable of addition, amendment or revocation from time to time (as shall be stated therein) by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council together with, in the case of a Dependent Commandery, the recommendation of the Prior concerned and his Priory Chapter.

(4) The Grand Prior, or the Prior of a Priory on which a Commandery is dependent, shall have power to suspend temporarily all or any part of the operations of a Commandery and all or any of the Rules applicable thereto and on the recommendation of the Grand Council, coupled with that of the Priory Chapter where appropriate, the Grand Prior may vary the constitution of a Commandery or dissolve it or vary its dependence.

21. Grand Prior’s Advisory Council

(1) There shall be a Grand Prior’s Advisory Council to which the Grand Prior may refer any matter concerning the Order in regard to which he may desire its advice.

(2) The Grand Prior’s Advisory Council shall consist of *ex officio* and appointed members as follows:

(a) the *ex officio* members shall be the members for the time being of the Grand Council; and

(b) the appointed members, who shall be styled Grand Prior’s Councillors, shall be not more than fifty in number and shall be appointed by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of Priors of Priories in the manner prescribed by Regulations.

(3) The Secretary-General shall be the secretary of the Grand Prior’s Advisory Council.

(4) The Grand Prior’s Advisory Council shall meet if and whenever the Grand Prior shall see fit to convene it.
(5) Not less than ten per centum of the Grand Prior’s Councillors for the time being in office may require the Grand Council to consider any matter concerning the Order of which they give notice in writing to the Secretary-General.

(6) This Statute and all appointments of Grand Prior’s Councillors shall cease to have effect on St. John’s Day 2010 unless before that day the Grand Council shall resolve that this Statute shall continue in force.

(7) Subject to the approval of the Grand Prior, the Grand Prior’s Advisory Council may make By-laws to regulate its own procedure.

22. St. John Associations

(1) A St. John Association may properly be constituted in any country or group of countries (but not being within the territory of another Establishment).

(2) Within the territory for which it is constituted, the general objects and purposes of a St. John Association shall be to further any one or more of the objects of the Order as prescribed by Statute 4 and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing:

(a) To encourage and promote all work of humanity and charity for the relief of persons in sickness, distress, suffering, or danger without distinction of race, class, colour or creed; and

(b) To render aid to the sick, wounded, disabled, or suffering and to promote such permanent organisation during times of peace as may be at once available in times of civil emergencies or war, including the training and provision of technical reserves for the medical services of the Armed Forces or Civil Defence Organisations, and in particular a St. John Association shall have within its area the control and management of St. John Ambulance.

(3) Where in any case, having regard to the foregoing provisions, the Grand Council so recommends the Grand Prior may by Instrument under his hand and the seal of the Order constitute a St. John Association and declare its style and title together with its area of authority. In addition, on the same recommendation, the Grand Prior shall make Rules for the government of the St. John Association extending to all such matters as he shall deem appropriate including the powers, functions, organisation and membership thereof.

(4) The Rules of a St. John Association shall be capable of addition, amendment or revocation from time to time by a Resolution passed in such manner as the Rules may from time to time prescribe at a duly convened meeting of the Association and, subject to the provisions of its constitution and of any relevant provisions of local law, as the Grand Prior having regard to the advice of the Grand Council shall approve.
(5) Whenever possible, Members of the Order and members of the St. John Ambulance shall together form the majority of the members of the governing body of any St. John Association.

(6) The Grand Prior may call upon any St. John Association to suspend temporarily or to abandon all or any part of its operations. In addition, the Grand Prior may, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, by Instrument under his hand and the seal of the Order, deprive any specified St. John Association of its powers, authority and functions under this Statute and declare that it is no longer recognised by the Order as being lawfully constituted under the Royal Charter and Statutes of the Order.

(7) All National St. John Councils in existence immediately prior to the Appointed Day shall become St. John Associations on the Appointed Day.

(8) All Special Regulations or Rules applicable to a National St. John Council made under the powers previously vested in the Grand Prior as subsequently lawfully added to, amended or revoked shall be the Rules for that St. John Association within the meaning of paragraph (3) of this Statute.

23. Rules of Incorporated Establishments

(1) Where a Priory, Independent Commandery, Dependent Commandery or St. John Association is incorporated under local law, the instrument of incorporation of that Establishment and any amendment thereto for the time being in force shall be capable of constituting the Rules of that body.

(2) Nothing in Statute 23 (1) shall modify the requirement for such approvals as are specified in Statutes 19, 20 and 22:

Provided that where the Grand Prior has approved instruments of incorporation which are intended to operate as Rules he shall for the purposes of those Statutes be deemed to have made such Rules.

24. Foundations

(1) A Foundation shall be an institution or an organised body constituted for the furtherance of any of the objects or purposes of the Order and may be either a Foundation of the Order or a Priory Foundation as hereinafter provided.

(2) The Grand Prior may, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, constitute any Foundation of the Order in any part of the world in such manner as may be requisite by law and he may on the like recommendation, in the same manner alter, abolish, extend or restrict the objects or purposes of any Foundation of the Order as he may deem desirable in the interests of the Order.
(3) Foundations of the Order shall be under the entire control of the Grand Prior and the
Grand Council. Nevertheless the Grand Prior may, on the recommendation of the Grand
Council, assign the control and management of any specified Foundation
insofar as it concerns its operation within the territorial limits of a Priory, of an Independent
Commandery or of a St. John Association, to the Prior and the Priory Chapter or the Knight
or Dame Commander and the Commandery Chapter or the St. John Association as the
case may be of that territory. In like manner and after such recommendation, the Grand
Prior may revoke or modify any such assignment.

(4) The Grand Prior may, at the request of any Prior and on the recommendation of the
Priory Chapter, constitute a Priory Foundation for the territory of that Priory in such manner
as may be requisite by law and he may, on the like request and recommendation, in the
same manner alter, abolish, extend or restrict the objects or purposes of any such
Foundation. A Priory Foundation shall be under the joint control of the Grand Prior and the
Prior and Priory Chapter concerned.

(5) The Grand Prior may, on the recommendation of the Grand Council in the case of a
Foundation of the Order, or, on the recommendation of the Prior and Priory Chapter
concerned in the case of a Priory Foundation, make Rules under his hand and the seal of the
Order for governing the activities of any Foundation and may on the like recommendation,
suspend, revoke or amend such Rules from time to time.

(6) A Foundation of the Order may be incorporated in any part of the world or may be
unincorporated.

25. Visitations

(1) For the maintenance of discipline, sound administration and uniform policy throughout
the Order all Establishments and other subordinate bodies shall be subject to visitation by
the Grand Prior or his representative, whenever the Grand Prior thinks fit. Similarly all
Establishments and other subordinate bodies dependent on a Priory shall be subject to
visitation by the Prior of that Priory or his representative.

(2) On the completion of the visitation, the visitor shall render a report in writing to the
Grand Prior through the Secretary-General, or, in the case of a visitor appointed by a Prior,
to that Prior. In the latter case, the Prior concerned shall consider the report without undue
delay and shall forward it to the Grand Prior through the Secretary-General stating what
action has been taken or is proposed to be taken thereon.

(3) All such reports reaching the Grand Prior shall also be presented at the next meeting
of the Grand Council and in the case of a report prepared by a visitor appointed by a Prior
to that Priory Chapter, unless the Grand Prior in his discretion decides to treat the whole
report or any part of such report as confidential.
(4) The Grand Prior shall take such action as he thinks desirable in the interests of the Order upon any visitation conducted by him or any report of a visitation submitted to him.

26. Allocation of Property

(1) Property held by or for the purposes of the Order in any part of the world may be allocated by the Grand Prior either for a particular purpose or for the general purposes whether of the Order or of any Establishment and property not allocated expressly under this Statute shall be deemed to be held for the general purposes of the Order (when not impressed with any special trust at the time of acquisition).

(2) Every such allocation under this Statute shall be made on the recommendation of the Grand Council and if it is in favour of a Commandery dependent on a Priory also on the recommendation of the Priory Chapter of that Priory.

(3) Every such allocation shall be by instrument in writing under the hand of the Grand Prior and the seal of the Order and any such Instrument of Allocation may be revoked or varied by the Grand Prior on the like recommendation.

(4) Where property has been allocated to an Establishment under the foregoing provisions of this Statute, such Establishment shall have and may exercise on behalf of the Order all such powers of control and disposition over such property as are vested in the Order. Such allocated property shall be held in the name of the Order or, in case of land, buildings or money to be invested, shall if the Establishment or the Grand Prior so directs be vested in a trust holding company or corporation or in some individual person or persons holding as trustees under a trust created by the Establishment or by its superior Establishment, if any.

(5) Nothing herein contained shall restrict the rights or powers of the Order in respect of property not allocated to an Establishment.

27. Transfers of Property to Establishments

(1) In addition to the power of allocation conferred by Statute 26 property held by or for the purposes of the Order in any part of the world may be transferred by the Grand Prior to any Establishment (the transfer being subject to any special trust which was impressed on such property at the time of acquisition).

(2) Every such transfer under this Statute shall be made on the recommendation of the Grand Council and if it is in favour of a Commandery dependent on a Priory also on the recommendation of the Priory Chapter of that Priory.

(3) Every such transfer shall be by instrument in writing under the hand of the Grand Prior and the seal of the Order.

28. Liabilities
(1) All liability in contract or otherwise arising out of (a) the operations of an Establishment, or (b) the operations of any Foundation which are carried on in the territory of an Establishment, shall be discharged out of the property owned by or allocated to that Establishment.

(2) Every Establishment shall so far as may be practicable in any contract relating to such operations as are specified in Statute 28(1) arrange that liability under such contract shall only be met out of the property owned by or allocated to that Establishment.

29. Indemnity Insurance

(1) Subject to the provisions of Statute 29(2) the Order may at its expense procure the provision of indemnity insurance to cover the liability of members of the Grand Council which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Order.

(2) Any such insurance shall not extend to:

   (a) any claim arising from any act or omission which the members of the Grand Council knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the members of the Grand Council in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not; or

   (b) the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the members of the Grand Council in their capacity as trustees of the Order.

30. Financial Contributions by Establishments

The Grand Council shall have power to require Priories, Independent Commanderies and St. John Associations to make financial contributions to the central administration and work of the Order.

31. The Order’s Powers of Investment

(1) Moneys and funds of the Order not immediately required to be expended may be invested in or upon any of the investments following that is to say:

   (a) in any investments authorised by the law for the time being in force for the investment of trust funds;

   (b) upon the security of freehold or leasehold property in the United Kingdom (such leasehold property being held for a term of which at least sixty years remain unexpired at the date of investment);
(c) in the purchase and subsequent development of freehold or leasehold land in the United Kingdom (such leasehold property being held for a term of which at least sixty years remain unexpired at the date of investment);

(d) in any of the securities of the government of any country within the Commonwealth or of any province or constituent part of any such country that has a separate legislature;

(e) in or upon the mortgages or other securities of any municipal, county or other local or public authority incorporated in any country within the Commonwealth;

(f) in or upon the debentures or debenture stock or bonds, or loan stock or notes of any kind, or guaranteed, or preference, or preferred stock or shares of any company incorporated under any general or special Act of the United Kingdom Parliament or any general or special enactment of the legislature of any other country within the Commonwealth;

(g) in or upon any debentures, or debenture stock or bonds, or loan stock or notes of any kind, or guaranteed or preference, or preferred stock or shares, or ordinary, or deferred stock or shares normally dealt in on any investment Exchange recognised for the purpose of the Financial Services Act 1986 or on one of the Stock Exchanges authorised from time to time in Regulations;

(h) in or upon any debentures, or debenture stock or bonds, or loan stock or notes of any kind, or guaranteed, or preference, or preferred stock or shares, or ordinary, or deferred stock or shares, of any Investment, Financial or Unit Trust which is at the time of making the investment quoted on a recognised Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom;

(i) in the shares of or on loan to or deposit with any Building Society incorporated or registered in the United Kingdom;

(j) on deposit at any Bank:

Provided nevertheless that the powers hereby conferred shall be subject to the following stipulations and conditions.

(i) No investment shall be made which would transgress the powers (if any) contained in the instrument of gift (if any) governing the moneys or funds to be invested;

(ii) No investments shall be made in any company having an issued and paid-up share capital of less than £750,000 or its equivalent at the current rates of exchange. In the case of a company having shares of no par value such paid-up capital shall be deemed to include the capital sum (other than capital surplus) appearing in the company’s accounts in respect of such shares;
(iii) The Order may accept and hold for such period as is thought fit any investment or property transferred or to be transferred to the Order by any person or corporation and whether within the range of investments hereinbefore prescribed or not, subject always to the limitations for the time being imposed by the Charter of 1955 or any Supplemental Charter relating to the holding of land;

(iv) The Order shall not invest money in or retain any securities in respect whereof any liability exists unless the liability is of limited amount and is to be discharged or is capable of being discharged within a fixed period from the date of investment provided that this sub-paragraph shall not apply to investments in the stock or shares of banks and insurance companies the price whereof is normally quoted on a recognised Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom;

(v) Money awaiting investment may be advanced on the security of stocks, funds or securities the purchase of which would be authorised by the powers conferred by this Statute.

(2) Any investments belonging to the Order may at any time be varied and transposed for or into any other investment or investments of any kind authorised by this Statute and subject to the provisions hereof.

(3) Where any moneys or funds of the Order have been allocated under Statute 26 or have otherwise accrued to an Establishment or other subordinate body situate in a country outside the United Kingdom, the foregoing provisions may be construed in relation to the investment of such moneys or funds in such country as if references to such country were substituted for the United Kingdom and such provisions shall then apply only to the extent that so construed they do not conflict with any law of such country or the terms of any subsisting trust applicable to the investment of such moneys or funds.

(4) In the following provisions of this Statute 31:

(a) the expression “the 1986 Act” means the Financial Services Act 1986 and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof; and

(b) the expression “Investment Manager” means a person appointed as such pursuant to Statute 31(5).

(5) The Grand Council may appoint as the Investment Manager a person whom it is satisfied after inquiry is a proper and competent person to act in that capacity and who is either:
(a) an individual of repute with at least 15 years’ experience of investment management and who is an authorised person within the meaning of the 1986 Act; or

(b) a company or firm of repute which is an authorised or exempted person within the meaning of that Act otherwise than by virtue of section 45(1) (j) of that Act.

(6) The Grand Council may delegate to the Investment Manager power at his discretion to buy and sell investments for the Order in accordance with the investment policy laid down by the Grand Council. The Grand Council may only effect such delegation on terms consistent with this Statute 31.

(7) Where the Grand Council makes any delegation under this Statute 31 it shall:

(a) inform the Investment Manager in writing of the extent of the Order’s investment powers;

(b) lay down a detailed investment policy for the Order and immediately inform the Investment Manager in writing of that policy and of any changes to it;

(c) ensure that the terms of the delegated authority are clearly set out in writing and notified to the Investment Manager;

(d) ensure that the Grand Council is kept informed of and reviews on a regular basis the performance of its investment portfolio managed by the Investment Manager and the exercise by him of his delegated authority;

(e) take all reasonable care to ensure that the Investment Manager complies with the terms of his delegated authority;

(f) review the appointment of the Investment Manager at such intervals not exceeding 24 months as it thinks fit; and

(g) pay such reasonable and proper remuneration to the Investment Manager and agree such proper terms as to notice and other matters as the Grand Council shall decide and as are consistent with this Statute 31:

 Provided that such remuneration may include any or all of commission and fees earned and reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Investment Manager if and only to the extent that such commission fees and expenses are disclosed to the Grand Council.

(8) Where the Grand Council makes any delegation under this Statute 31 it shall do so on terms that:

(a) the Investment Manager shall comply with the terms of his delegated authority;
(b) the Investment Manager shall not do anything which the Order does not have power to do;

(c) the Grand Council may with reasonable notice revoke the delegation or vary any of its terms in a way which is consistent with the terms of this Statute 31; and

(d) the Grand Council shall give directions to the Investment Manager as to the manner in which he is to report to it all sales and purchases of investments made on its behalf.

(9) Where the Grand Council makes any delegation under this Statute 31 it may also delegate to the Investment Manager power to exercise the voting rights attaching to investments in accordance with the policy on such voting for the time being laid down by the Order.

(10) The Grand Council may:

(a) make such arrangements as it thinks fit for any investments of the Order or income from those investments to be held by a corporate body as custodian trustee or as the Order’s nominee; and

(b) pay reasonable and proper remuneration to any corporate body acting as custodian trustee of the Order’s nominee in pursuance of this provision.

PART THREE - MEMBERS

32. Grades of the Order

(1) The Order shall be divided into the following Grades:

Grade I  Bailiffs or Dames Grand Cross (G.C.St.J.)
Grade II  Knights or Dames of Justice or Grace (K.St.J. or D.St.J.)
Grade III Commanders (Brothers or Sisters) (C.St.J.)
Grade IV  Officers (Brothers or Sisters) (O.St.J.)
Grade V   Serving Brothers or Serving Sisters (S.B.St.J. or S.S.St.J.)
Grade VI  Esquires (Esq.St.J.)

(2) The letters specified above after each Grade may be used by those to whom they apply to such extent as may be prescribed in the case of those borne on a Roll of a Priory by the Priory Rules of that Priory and in the case of those borne on the Roll of the Order by Order Rules but admission or promotion to any Grade of the Order or the privileges derived...
therefrom of wearing the insignia appertaining or belonging thereto shall not confer any rank, style, title, dignity, appellation or social precedence whatsoever.

32A. Clerical Brethren

(1) Save as hereinafter provided in this Statute, clerical Grades in the Order shall cease to exist on the day immediately before the Appointed Day and ministers of the Christian religion who are then or who are thereafter admitted to be members of the Order shall be placed in the appropriate Grade specified in Statute 32(1).

(2) (a) A minister of the Christian religion placed in the Grade of Chaplain prior to the Appointed Day shall unless and until he or she shall be promoted be entitled to style himself or herself “Chaplain” and to use in accordance with Statute 32(2) the postnominal letters “Ch.St.J.”.

(b) Subject to paragraph (a) a minister of the Christian religion placed in the Grade of Chaplain prior to the Appointed Day shall be re-classified as a “Commander” with seniority according to the date on which he or she was placed in the Grade of Chaplain.

(3) (a) A minister of the Christian religion who is a Member in Grade IV or V of the Order who prior to the Appointed Day desired to be termed a Sub-Chaplain or an Assistant Chaplain shall unless and until he or she shall be promoted continue to be entitled to be so termed and to use in accordance with Statute 32(2) the postnominal letters Sub-Ch.St.J. and Asst.Ch.St.J. respectively.

32B. Sub-Prelates

(1) The Senior Ecclesiastical Officer (or Officers) of each Priory shall for as long as he holds that office be concurrently a Sub-Prelate of the Order but in relation to his duties as such he shall be accountable to the Prior of the Priory and not to the Prelate of the Order.

(2) A Member of Episcopal rank or other eminent status in the Christian Church appointed prior to 24 October 1999 by the Grand Prior to be a Sub-Prelate of the Order shall from the Appointed Day be styled an “Honorary Sub-Prelate”.

33. Qualifications for Membership of the Order

(1) No person shall be qualified for membership in any Grade of the Order unless he or she:
(a) makes a declaration in the terms specified in Statute 34;

(b) furnishes a certificate in accordance with Statute 34A;

(c) either:

(i) has performed or is prepared to perform good service for the Order and its objects and purposes in accordance with the Mottoes of the Order; or

(ii) has acted conspicuously in a manner which furthers such objects and purposes; and

(d) has undertaken to comply with the provisions of the Royal Charter, the Statutes, and the Regulations and Rules of the Order.

(2) No person shall be admitted to the Order in Grade VI unless he has attained the age of 16 or in any other Grade unless he has attained the age of 18.

(3) Persons who were Associate Members of the Order on St. John’s Day 1999 shall be re-classified as Members of the Order retaining the same Grade.

(4) An Associate Member who is re-classified as a Member of the Order shall rank for seniority according to the date of his or her attachment in the Grade which is applicable at the date of reclassification.

34. Declaration before Admission to the Order

Subject to the provisions of Statute 35, before initial admission to the Order, a Declaration in the following terms shall be signed by prospective Members:

“I do solemnly declare that I will be faithful and obedient to The Order of St. John and its Sovereign Head as far as it is consistent with my duty [to my Sovereign/President and] (*) to my country; that I will do everything in my power to uphold its dignity and support its charitable works; and that I will endeavour always to uphold the aims of this Christian Order and to conduct myself as a person of honour.”

*The words in brackets to be adapted according to the circumstances of the declarant.”

34A. Specified Bodies

(1) No person shall be admitted to the Order if he or she shall also be a member of a Specified Body.
(2) Before initial admission to the Order and before any promotion in the Order the Member or prospective Member shall furnish a certificate in such form as the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council shall prescribe that he or she is not a member of a Specified Body and that he or she will not become a member of a Specified Body for so long as he or she is a Member of the Order.

(3) (a) A Specified Body is any body of persons (whether or not incorporated and whether or not a legal entity) which:

(i) holds itself out or represents itself or styles itself to be an order which is:

(aa) an order of St. John; or

(bb) derived from an order of St. John; or

(cc) associated with an order of St. John;

(ii) is not one of the Mutually Recognised Orders of St. John (as defined in paragraph (3)(c) of this Statute); and

(iii) either or both:

(aa) uses the words “St. John” or any translation or variant thereof in its title (irrespective of any other words used in the title); or

(bb) uses:

i. the Emblem (as defined in paragraph (3)(d) of this Statute) with or without any other device or motif; or

ii. any other device or motif sufficiently similar to the Emblem as to be likely to cause confusion therewith.

(b) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (i) of this paragraph a body shall be capable of being an order of St. John whether or not it is one of the Mutually Recognised Orders.

(c) The Mutually Recognised Orders of St. John are:

(i) the Order;

(ii) the three other Orders which comprise the Alliance of the Orders of St. John, namely:

(aa) Balley Brandenburg des Ritterlichen Ordens St. Johannis vom Spital zu Jerusalem (commonly referred to as “the Johanniter”);
(bb) Johanniter Orde in Nederland; and

(cc) Johanniterorden i Sverige; and

(iii) the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, called of Rhodes, called of Malta (commonly referred to as “the Sovereign Military Order of Malta” or “the Order of Malta”).

(d) The Emblem is a white equidistant eight-pointed cross (commonly referred to as “the Maltese Cross” or “the Amalfi Cross”) with or without embellishments in the angles on a background of any colour or colours and of any shape.

(4) A decision of the Grand Council as to whether any body is or is not a Specified Body shall be final and binding on all persons interested under these Statutes.

35. Modified Declarations

(1) Notwithstanding and in priority to the provisions of Statute 34 a Priory shall be entitled to prescribe a modified form of declaration to be signed before initial admission to the Order of a person who will be borne on the Roll of that Priory. Such declaration, which shall be in such terms as the Grand Prior may approve, shall require the declarant to declare that he personally professes the Christian faith and subject thereto shall as nearly as the circumstances permit be in the form set forth in Statute 34.

(2) Before initial admission to the Order of a person who will be borne on the Roll of a Priory which has not prescribed a modified form of declaration under Statute 35(1), that person may, if he so wishes, in the Declaration to be made by him under Statute 34 include a statement that he personally professes the Christian faith. Such statement shall be in such form as the Prelate may approve.

(3) Where a Member wishes to transfer to the Roll of a Priory which has prescribed a modified form of declaration for the purposes of Statute 35(1), he may be required by that Priory to make a declaration in such modified form before such transfer is effected.

36. Concurrent Membership

(1) A Member of the Order who is resident within the territory of a Priory shall be concurrently a member of that Priory.

(2) A Member of the Order who is resident within the territory of a St. John Association shall, if the constitution of that Council so provides, be concurrently a member of that Council.

37. Complements of the various Grades
(1) The aggregate maximum complement for Members in all Grades shall be 35,000 or such other number as the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council shall from time to time prescribe.

(2) (a) The maximum complement for Grade I of the Order shall be:

(i) the Great Officers; and

(ii) twenty-one other Bailiffs or Dames Grand Cross.

(b) When a Great Officer shall cease to hold such office he shall continue in the Grade of Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross but shall not count against the complement thereof. This shall be so whether or not such Member was a Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross before being appointed to be a Great Officer.

(c) A Member in Grade I on the Appointed Day who is a Head of State or a member of a Commonwealth or Foreign Royal Family and a person who after the Appointed Day is admitted to the Order in Grade I in accordance with Statute 38(1) shall not count against the complement of Grade I.

(3) The maximum complement for each of the other Grades in the Order and the method of allocation between those to be borne on the Roll of the Order and those to be borne on the rolls of Priories shall be prescribed by Regulations.

38. Appointments to and Promotions in the Order

(1) The Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council and with the sanction of the Sovereign Head may invite any Head of State or any member of the British Royal Family or of any other Commonwealth or of any Foreign Royal Family to become a Member of Grade I or Grade II of the Order as the Sovereign Head shall approve and upon acceptance he or she shall thereupon be admitted as such and be supernumerary to the Grade without the payment of any Foundation Due or Annual Oblation.

(2) All other admissions to and promotions in the Order shall be sanctioned by and be made in the name of and by the authority of the Sovereign Head after recommendation by the Grand Council and approval by the Grand Prior. The names of those approved by the Sovereign Head shall be published in the London Gazette or such other official Gazette as the Grand Prior shall specify. The procedure relating to the selection of suitable persons and verification of their qualifications under these Statutes before submission of their names to the Sovereign Head may be prescribed by Regulations.

(3) Unless in any particular case the Grand Council otherwise recommends or it is otherwise provided by these Statutes or any Regulation, admissions to the Order shall normally be in Grade V and promotions from a lower to a higher Grade shall be dependent upon the rendering of good service in the lower Grade.
(4) On appointment, each Prior of a Priory shall become a Knight or Dame of Justice if he or she does not already hold that rank and if he or she is not a Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross. Further the Grand Prior may at his discretion sanction the reclassification, for good cause *motu proprio*, of a Knight or Dame of Grace as a Knight or Dame of Justice. No other person shall be qualified to be classified as “of Justice” on promotion or appointment to Grade II of the Order unless at such time he or she is entitled to bear Arms. A Knight or Dame of Grace may elect at any time to be re-classified as a Knight or Dame of Justice, as the case may be, without any change in seniority in the Order if he or she is able to satisfy the Genealogist of the Order, or if domiciled in Scotland, the Genealogist of the Priory of Scotland, or in the case of other Priories, the Genealogist of the Priory, provided the latter is an Officer of Arms in Ordinary to the Sovereign Head of the Order, that he or she is entitled to bear Arms.

(5) There shall be a Homage Roll for Members which shall be signed by Members as soon as possible after first admission to the Order in token of their voluntary submission to the supreme authority of the Sovereign Head and of the Grand Prior.

(6) Each Priory shall maintain a Roll of all Members of the Order within that Priory.

(7) Subject to the provisions of Statute 35(3), a Member may be transferred from the Roll of one Priory to the Roll of another Priory in such manner as may be prescribed by Regulations.

(8) The Secretary-General shall maintain a Roll of all Members of the Order who are not borne on the Roll of a Priory in such manner as may be prescribed by Regulations.

39. Personal Esquires

Each Member of the Order in the Grade of Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross or Knight or Dame of Justice shall have the right to nominate two Personal Esquires and each Member of the Order in the Grade of Knight or Dame of Grace shall have the right to nominate one Personal Esquire. Each nominee shall possess the qualifications prescribed by Statute 33 (1) and subject to the recommendations of the Grand Council and the approval of the Grand Prior the name of the person shall be submitted in the usual manner for admission to the Order in Grade VI and appointment as a Personal Esquire. Such person shall hold his appointment during the pleasure of his nominator and, unless he is subsequently promoted to a higher Grade, his admission to Grade VI shall lapse should his nominator revoke the appointment or cease for any reason to be a Member of the Order.

40. Donats

(1) Any person not being a Member of the Order who from an appreciation of the objects or work of the Order makes a worthy contribution to its funds or to the funds of a Priory may be appointed:
(a) by the Grand Prior, on the recommendation of the Grand Council, a Donat of the Order; or

(b) by the Prior of a Priory, on the recommendation of his Priory Chapter, to be a Donat of the Priory

and thereafter his name shall be recorded in the List of Donats of the Order which shall be maintained by the Secretary-General or as the case may be in the List of Donats of the Priory which shall be maintained by the proper officer of the Priory.

(2) The rights and privileges of a Donat of a Priory shall in all respects be the same as those of a Donat of the Order.

(3) The appointment of a Donat shall lapse and his name shall be deleted from the List of Donats if he shall subsequently be admitted as a Member of the Order in any Grade.

41. Precedence within the Order

(1) Precedence within the Order shall be as follows:

The Sovereign Head
The Grand Prior
The Lord Prior of St. John
The Prior of a Priory or the Knight or Dame Commander of a Commandery when within the territory of the Establishment
The Prelate of the Order
The Deputy Lord Prior or the Deputy Lord Priors and if more than one in the order of seniority in their Grades
The Sub-Prior of the Order
Former Great Officers
Bailiffs and Dames Grand Cross
The Prior of a Priory outside the territory of the Priory
The Members of the Grand Council not included above in the order of seniority in their Grades
The Principal Officers in the order of their offices as laid down in Statute 9
The Sub-Prelates and the Honorary Sub-Prelates
The Hospitaller of the Order
Knights and Dames
Chaplains
Commanders
Officers
Serving Brothers and Serving Sisters
Esquires

(2) Precedence in any Grade is determined by the date of appointment within the Grade, subject to the observance of the following special provisions:
(a) Members of the British Royal Family shall take precedence in their respective Grades, followed immediately by the undermentioned in the order stated:

(i) Commonwealth Heads of State;
(ii) Foreign Heads of State;
(iii) Members of Commonwealth Royal Families;
(iv) Members of Foreign Royal Families.

(b) The precedence of a Knight or Dame Commander of a Commandery outside the territorial limits of his or her Commandery shall be determined by his or her seniority within his or her Grade.

(c) A Knight or Dame of Grace who is re-classified as a Knight or Dame of Justice shall rank for seniority according to his or her date of original appointment as a Knight or Dame.

42. Foundation Dues and Oblations

The Order is devoted to works of Charity and Humanity and it is a fundamental rule that those who belong to the Order should contribute to its Charities such Foundation Dues and Oblations according to their position in the Order as may from time to time be prescribed by Regulations made under Statute 7(3) or subject thereto, by Rules made in that behalf by the Grand Prior or, as the case may be, by a Prior in respect of his Priory or by a Knight or Dame Commander in respect of his or her Commandery.

43. Termination of Membership

(1) (a) A Member who is borne on the Roll of a Priory and who is desirous of resigning from the Order shall give written notice of such desire to the Priory Secretary or other proper officer of the Priory.

(b) A Member who is borne on the Roll of the Order maintained under Statute 38(8) and who is desirous of resigning from the Order shall give written notice of such desire to the Secretary-General.

(c) Upon receipt of a notice given under paragraphs (a) or (b) the Member shall cease to be a member of the Order.

(2) (a) If any Member shall for three years or more be in arrears with his or her Foundation Due or Annual Oblation any Great Officer in the case of a Member borne on the Roll of the Order or the Prior in the case of a Member borne on the Roll of a Priory shall be entitled to terminate the membership of the Order of that person.

(b) If such membership is terminated but all arrears are subsequently paid such person may be re-admitted if the Grand Prior thinks fit.
(3) Without prejudice to the generality of Statute 43(4), if a member shall also be a member of a Specified Body any Great Officer in the case of a Member borne on the Roll of the Order (acting under specific or general authority of the Grand Council) or the Prior in the case of a Member borne on the Roll of a Priory (acting on a recommendation of his Priory Chapter) may terminate the membership of such person; provided that if such person shall thereafter cease to be a member of a Specified Body he may be considered for re-admission to the Order as if he had never been a Member.

(4) The Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council and with the sanction of the Sovereign Head may terminate the membership of any person and on the like recommendation and with the like sanction may re-admit such person.

(5) If the Grand Council shall recommend to the Grand Prior the dissolution or de-recognition of a Priory or Commandery or a St. John Association then the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council and with the sanction of the Sovereign Head may terminate the membership of the Order of some or all of those who are borne on the Roll of that Priory or Commandery or as the case may be of the section of the Roll of the Order relating to that St. John Association.

(6) Where any person who is borne on the Roll of a Priory ceases in accordance with any of the provision of this Statute to be a Member of the Order he shall thereupon automatically also cease to be a member of the Priory.

(7) As from the date on which any person ceases to be a Member of the Order, he or she shall cease to be liable to pay any future Annual Oblations and shall lose any right to wear or use the Insignia, Augmentation of Arms and any other distinction or privilege of the Order or of membership thereof.

PART FOUR – ARMS, INSIGNIA, ETC.

44. Arms of the Order

The Arms of the Order shall be: Gules a cross argent, in the first quarter a representation of the Sovereign’s Crest and they shall be depicted and used in conformity with such provision as may from time to time be made by Regulations.

45. Badge of the Order

The Badge of the Order shall be a white eight-pointed cross embellished in argent in the four principal angles alternately with a lion passant guardant and a unicorn passant, and it shall be designed and used in conformity with such provision as may from time to time be made by Regulations.
46. **Great Banner of the Order**

The Great Banner of the Order shall bear the Arms of the Order as defined in Statute 44 and it shall be designed and flown in conformity with such provision as may from time to time be made by Regulations.

47. **Seal of the Order**

(1) The Seal of the Order shall have engraved thereon the Badge of the Order, as laid down in Statute 45, surmounted by an Escutcheon of the Arms of the Order, as laid down in Statute 44, the whole surrounded by the legend: “SIGILLUM MAGNI PRIORATUS ORDINIS HOSPITALIS SANCTI IOHANNIS HIERUSALEM”. This may be abbreviated to “SIG:MAG:PR:ORD: HOSP:S.IOHIS:HIER”.

(2) The Grand Prior shall make Regulations providing for the custody and use of the Seal of the Order.

48. **Seals of Priories and Commanderies**

(1) The seal of a Priory, Commandery or St. John Association shall bear the head of St. John Baptist surrounded by the same words similarly abbreviated as appear on the seal of the Order with the substitution of the name of the Establishment in place of the words “MAGNI PRIORATUS”. Provided that nothing in these Statutes shall affect the right of the Priory of Scotland to bear on its seal and otherwise the Arms of the Priory of Scotland as recorded under the Law of Arms of Scotland.

(2) The Prior of each Priory and the Knight or Dame Commander of each Commandery, on the recommendation of his or her Priory or Commandery Chapter and the Council or other governing body of a St. John Association, shall provide for the custody and use of the Priory, Commandery or St. John Association Seal, as the case may be.

49. **Armorial Bearings**

Members of the Order in the following Grades shall be permitted to display their Arms, and to bear the Augmentations of Arms, as hereinafter laid down, provided that their right to Arms is duly established and recorded in the Offices of Arms in England or Scotland or as otherwise authorised by Statute 38(4):

(a) Bailiffs Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross may bear and use supporters to their Arms, and Garter Principal King of Arms for the time being is hereby authorised to grant supporters to such Bailiffs Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross as shall not otherwise be entitled thereto; the Lord Lyon King of Arms for the time being is likewise authorised to grant supporters to those of them whose arms are Scottish, and Officers of Arms in other Priories are similarly authorised to grant supporters.
(b) Bailiffs Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross may bear their Arms with those of the Order in chief. They may further display their Arms on the Badge of the Order.

(c) Knights and Dames, whether “of Justice” or “of Grace”, and ministers of the Christian religion placed in the Grade of Chaplain prior to the Appointed Day may display their Arms on the Badge of the Order.

(d) Members of any Grade of the Order other than Grade VI may suspend from their Armorial Bearings the riband and badge of their Grade.

50. Insignia and Robes

The Insignia and Robes of the Order shall be such as may from time to time be specified by Regulations and shall be used and worn as therein provided.

51. Uniform of the St. John Ambulance

Members of the St. John Ambulance so entitled by the appropriate Regulations or Rules shall if so directed and when on duty wear such uniform as is specified in or pursuant to such Regulations or Rules.

52. Medals

(1) The Order may award Medals, Certificates of Honour, and Votes of Thanks in accordance with such provision as may from time to time be made by Regulations.

(2) The award of medals shall be made, in the name of the Sovereign Head, by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council and where appropriate of a Priory Chapter, save that in the case of the Life Saving Medal an immediate award may, where the circumstances so justify, be made by the Grand Prior on the advice of the Lord Prior.

(3) If any person to whom a medal has been awarded shall be deemed by his or her subsequent conduct to have become unworthy of it, his or her name may be erased by the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council and where appropriate of a Priory Chapter from the Register of those upon whom the medal of the Order has been conferred, and he or she shall thereupon cease to be entitled to wear it.

53. Alterations prohibited

No addition to, nor alteration nor modification of the Arms, Badge, Banner, Insignia or Robes of the Order, nor of any other item in these Statutes, may be made by any Priory or Commandery, except that in the case of the Arms of a Priory or a Banner to be used by an Establishment, the Grand Prior may authorise the addition of a suitable distinctive emblem.
54. Emblem Protection

Each Establishment shall use its best endeavours at its own expense to comply with any directions given by the Grand Council for the protection of the Arms of the Order, the Badge of the Order, or the cross commonly known as the Amalfi Cross being a white eight-pointed cross without embellishments.

55. Intellectual Property Rights in respect of the Arms or Badge of the Order or the name St. John

Each Establishment shall use its best endeavours at its own expense to comply with any directions given by the Grand Council with regard to the use and exploitation of intellectual property rights in relation to the Arms of the Order or the Badge of the Order or any variants of them or of the names “St. John” or “St. John Ambulance” with or without additions.

PART FIVE – TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

56. Interpretation of Part Five

In this part of these Statutes, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) the expression “appointed day” means 29 April 1974; and

(b) the expression “1955 Statutes” means the Statutes annexed to the Royal Charter of 1955 as amended and in force immediately prior to the appointed day.

57. Existing Establishments of the Order

It is hereby declared that the following are the existing Priories and Commanderies of the Order which shall be deemed to be duly and effectively constituted by their existing Instruments and Regulations or Rules under the provisions of Statutes 18, 19 and 20 hereof, that is to say:

(a) The Priory of England and the Islands, the Priory of Scotland, the Priory for Wales, the Priory for South Africa, the Priory in New Zealand, the Priory of Canada, the Priory in Australia, and the Priory in the United States of America; and

(b) The Commandery in Western Australia (dependent on the Priory in Australia) and the Commandery of Ards in Northern Ireland (dependent on the Priory of England and the Islands).

58. Existing St. John Associations
It is hereby declared that the following are the St. John Associations which shall be deemed to be duly and effectively constituted under the provisions of Statute 22 that is to say Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Bermuda, Cyprus, Fiji, Ghana, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Montserrat, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

59. Instruments of Allocation

It is hereby declared that any instrument having legal force immediately prior to the appointed day by virtue of which any property of the Order is allocated to any Establishment under the provisions of Statute 20 of the 1955 Statutes shall continue to have full force and effect on and after the appointed day as if such instrument had been made under the provisions of Statute 26 hereof until such time as it is varied or revoked thereunder.

60. Foundations

It is hereby declared that there shall be two Foundations of the Order, namely:

(a) The St. John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem; and

(b) St. John Ambulance.

61. Regulations and Rules

Where under powers conferred by any provisions of the 1955 Statutes, any Regulations were made and were in force immediately prior to the appointed day, such Regulations shall be deemed to be duly made under the corresponding provisions of these Statutes and any such Regulations shall be read and construed as Rules if the corresponding provisions of these Statutes provide for the making of Rules for corresponding purposes instead of Regulations.

Order Secretariat
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December 2003