

**Constitution**

**Of**

**The**

**CHRIST APOSTOLIC**

**CHURCH**

**SURREY DOCKS**

**Adopted on the 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2014**

***CHAPTER 1***

**NAME**

**The name of the Association shall be known, called and addressed as:**

**CHRIST APOSTOLIC CHURCH (SURREY DOCKS).**

**Hereinafter referred to as the church.**

**ADDRESS**

**The postal address of the Church in the United Kingdom shall be Christ  
Apostolic Church (Surrey Docks).  
163, Ilderton Road, London SE16 3LA.**

**Which also represent the building in which services are held.**

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **OBJECTIVES**

#### **A - For the advancement of religion by**

- 1. Propagating Christianity as laid down in the Holy Bible purely in accordance with the great prophetic relations of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Late Apostle Ayodele Babalola which led to the great revival of 1930 in Ilesha by him.**
- 2. To organise revivals, bible school, Christian fellowship and service.**
- 3. To promote the spiritual teaching and the maintenance of the doctrines of Jesus Christ especially as revealed to the Late Apostle Joseph Ayo Babalola.**
- 4. To promote the observance of these doctrines and others which give Christianity expression substance and meaning in the eyes of the world.**
- 5. To support ministers, evangelists and all other Christian workers or organisations engaged in any aspect of the Christianity ministry.**

#### **B - For the relief of the poverty by:**

- 1. Donating money, materials, clothing, shoes, food and other necessities for the poor, the needy, the handicapped and the abandoned babies and others who are in need as well as supporting organisations who are engaged in the same.**

#### **C - For the advancement of education by:**

- 1. Establishing and running children play groups and nursery school for the spiritual and educational development of the church pupils as well as others who might want to benefit**
- 2. Establishing and running of Bible School and Seminary and printing and publication of religious document and texts. Sales of such texts and prints (via the establishment of a bookshop).**
- 3. Encouraging and/or assisting research into religious texts and the publication and articulation of the research findings for the**

propagation of knowledge and upliftment of Christian principles and moral uprightness and lawful mannerisms.

D - Other purposes beneficial to the community.

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **TENETS OF THE CHURCH**

The following are the truths we believe in and hold

1. The Divine Inspiration and Authority of the Holy Scriptures. H Timothy 3:16-17
2. The Unity of the GOD-HEAD and the Trinity of the PERSONS there in 1 John 5:7
3. The utter depravity of human nature. Gen. 6:12; Gen. 3:23-24. The necessity for Repentance and Regeneration: John 3: 3&5. The eternal doom of the finally impenitent: Matt. 25: 44-46: Rev. 20:15
4. (a) The Virgin Birth; Matt. 1:18 OF  
(b) Sinless Life: 1 Pet 2:22  
(c) Atoning Death; 1 John 2:2 OUR  
(d) Triumphant Resurrection; Matt 28:5-7 LORD  
(e) The Ascension Acts 1: 9-11  
(f) The Abiding Intercession; 1 John 2:1 JESUS  
(g) The Second Coming and Millennial  
Reign on earth Rev. 20:4-6 CHRIST
5. Justification and Sanctification of Believers through the finished Work of CHRIST, 1 Cor.6: 11
6. The Sacraments of:  
(a) Baptism by Immersion. Matt 3:6 and  
(b) The LORD'S SUPPER Matt 26:26-29
7. The Baptism of the HOLY SPIRIT for believers with the signs following. Matt 3:11; Mk. 16:17-18

8. **The Nine Gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT for the edification, exhortation, spiritual and physical healing and comfort of the church which is the BODY OF CHRIST. 1 Cor. 12:8-10**
9. **Church Government by Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Elders and Deacons Eph. 4:1-13**
10. **The possibility of falling from Grace. Heb. 6:4-6**
11. **The Obligatory nature of Tithes and Offerings. Malachi 3: 8-12; Matt. 23:23**
12. **The Assurance of CHRIST'S return. Jn 14:3; Acts. 1: 9-11**
13. **The Rapture of Believers to be with HIM. 1 Thess. 4:17**
14. **HIS millennial Reign on Earth with HIS saints. Rev. 20: 4-6**
15. **The Eternal Life of the Saints and Eternal Punishment for the wicked Matt. 25: 34-46 and John 5:29.**

#### **CHAPTER 4**

##### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Membership shall be open to both male and female members of the public, of all nationalities, who accept the teachings of Our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Bible as reinforced by the great revelations made by Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Late Apostle Joseph Ayodele Babalola.**

**Admission shall be free without any obligation.**

##### **PLACE OF WORSHIP AND OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES**

**Religious services, prayer meetings and other such related activities shall be held in the Church Buildings, Community halls and other such places that may be approved by the Church Council, either on freehold or leasehold basis or rented.**

#### **CHAPTER 5**

##### **ADMINISTRATION**

1. **Subject to the matters set out below the Church shall be administered and**

managed in accordance with this constitution by the members of the Church Council, constituted by *CHAPTER 7* of this constitution and at appropriate levels by committees referred to, below in this constitution.

2. The Council of Trustees shall be charged with the day to day administration of the Church including employment of all staff, workers and other matters.

## *CHAPTER 6*

### **OFFICERS/OFFICES OF THE CHURCH**

#### *PASTORS/VICAR - IN - CHARGE*

The Church shall be provided with appropriate spiritual leadership by ordained Pastors of the Church. Branches that are yet to be installed with ordained Ministers shall be ministered by an Evangelist that is knowledgeable in the teachings of the Holy Bible and the doctrines of the Church. The Pastor who is also a Trustee of the Church shall be paid from Church funds.

## *CHAPTER 7*

### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

The Church Council shall comprise the Pastors/Vicar - In - Charge of the Church (whether ordained or not). It shall form the highest decision making body of the church. It shall be charged with the effective running of the church and also deal with finance and other issues that may directly affect the Church. Its Chairman shall be the Pastor/Vicar - In - Charge. Where a branch has more than one Pastor/Vicar, the most Senior one shall be the Chairman.

*Note:* Church Council should eventually metamorphosised into Board of Elders.

## *CHAPTER 8*

### *ELDERS*

Elders shall be appointed by the Pastor/Vicar - In - Charge. Where a branch is having its first set of elders, it shall be subject to the approval of the Church Council. This shall also be the case where a branch has more than three leaders. In other cases, it

shall be subject to the approval of the Church Council.

These shall be men of honour and filled with the spirit of GOD, both in the eyes of the Church authorities and the congregation. They shall form the vital link between the Clergy and the laity, at all levels. They shall participate actively in reading, preaching, Sunday School teaching, night vigil and other such activities that may edify the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and according to where their talents will be better served.

## **CHAPTER 9**

### **BANDS AND BAND LEADERS**

The Church shall be organised on the basis that should be devoid of nepotism, tribalism or racism, or discrimination based on wealth or lack of it

Members may join bands but be assigned to the band by the minister of God. The band leaders shall first be appointed by the Pastor/Vicar-In-Charge for an initial period of two years, after which the relevant band may choose to change such a leader by a unanimous decision of its members.

The bands shall organise prayer meetings among its members and assist one another in whatever reasonable and lawful way possible as Christians. The bands shall also perform any such duties that may be assigned by the Pastor/Vicar-In-Charge or the Church Council.

## **CHAPTER 10**

### **COMMITTEES OF THE CHURCH**

The Church Council shall have powers to set up any committee(s) that may be needed for any special task as it may deem fit. Such committee(s) may be ad-hoc or and shall function in the best interest of the Church. The decision of such committee, shall be subjected to ratification by the Church Council or Board of Elders that sets them up unless otherwise specifically stated.

### **MEETING**

The meetings of each committee<sup>^</sup>) or Council charged with functions or activities related to the good running of the church shall be called when necessary by the Chairman in consultation with the secretary of the relevant body and with the approval of the Pastor/Vicar - in - charge.

## **CHAPTER 11**

### **TRUSTEES**

**They shall be members of the Church, who are in good standing spiritually, in the eyes of the church and the congregation, and faithful to the objectives of the Church.**

**They shall be appointed by the Church Council and shall hold office for five years or as long as the Church Council may deem fit**

**The trustees of the Church shall include two members who in the eyes of the Church Council, identifiable with the revelations of the Lord to the Late Apostle Joseph Ayodele Babalola.**

**The position of a Trustee shall be declared vacant in the following circumstances where:**

- 1. The Trustees decides not to continue in office.**
- 2. Cannot continue in office due to personal or health reasons.**
- 3. Is removed from office by a decision of the Church Council.**
- 4. Death of a Trustee**

## **CHAPTER 12**

### **TRUSTEES POWER TO SELL, CHARGE OR REMORTGAGE**

**All lands buildings and other immovable property and all investments and securities which shall be acquired by the Church shall be vested in the names of not less than four Trustees who have the authority to sell borrow and remortgage properties to promote their objects. Three of these Trustees may form a quorum in a meeting in which a decision regarding property is to be taken.**

**The Trustees should be members of the Church and are appointed for a period of ..... years in a General Meeting. On retirement such Trustees shall be eligible for re-election. The Trustees shall pay all income received from property vested in the Trustees to the Treasurer. Any expenditure in respect of such property which in the opinion of the Trustees is necessary or desirable shall be reported by the Trustees to the Executive Board which shall authorise expenditure of such money as it thinks fit.**

## **CHAPTER 13**

### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

**The Church shall adopt the Order of Service which befits its pentecostal orientation and doctrines. It shall however be simple and fundamentally enriching in terms of scriptural content.**

## **CHAPTER 14**

### **FUND RAISING**

**The Church shall have as its sources of income such sources that do not conflict with the teachings of the Holy Bible and the doctrines of the Church.**

**Its main sources of fund shall be**

- 1. Tithes**
- 2. Thanksgiving and Offering**
- 3. Voluntary donations**
- 4. Legacy by Members**
- 5. Interests from savings**
- 6. Grants from statutory bodies or other Voluntary or Charitable bodies.**

## **CHAPTER 15**

### **CUSTODY OF CHURCH FUNDS**

**Monies raised by the Church shall be deposited in a bank that may be so chosen by the Church Council or the bands, in each case, as may be appropriate, by officers designated with functions.**

## **CHAPTER 16**

### **WITHDRAWAL OF CHURCH FUNDS**

**The Chairman, Financial Secretary, Treasurer and the Church Secretary shall be signatories in respect of all church accounts. Cheques signed by the Chairman and any two of the above shall be valid for withdrawal purposes. However, if the Chairman is not available due to i.e. overseas travels or any other reasons, the remaining three signatories will suffice.**

**In any other cases when any of the above mentioned officers is not available, the Church Council shall decide who should take the position of the absenting signatory. Expenses in excess of £100. 00 (One hundred pounds) shall be by express approval of the Church Council or the band as may be appropriate.**

## **CHAPTER 17**

### **USE OF CHURCH FUNDS**

**Monies belonging to the Church shall only be used for the purposes of the Church and the furtherance of its objectives.**

## **CHAPTER 18**

### **CHURCH PROPERTIES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS**

**These shall be kept in banks at which the accounts of the Church are kept, except otherwise required to be kept somewhere else as condition for loans or other essential financial transactions, with the approval of the Church Council.**

## **CHAPTER 19**

### **AMENDMENT**

**This constitution shall be amended (delete from or added to) by simple majority decision of the Church Council.**