

Election of Candidates to represent Carlisle Diocese on General Synod

Election Address from James Johnson

I am a retired Chartered Accountant, a native of Cumbria, who during my career gained considerable experience in senior board level corporate financial management, latterly specialising in business recovery situations.

I am presently serving my second term of 6 years as Churchwarden in a rural group of North Cumbria parishes, and have recently been appointed Chair of our Parish Council, for which I managed the creation of our first Parish Plan 2013-18.

I am a keen supporter of amateur music, as an essential lifelong and lifestyle interest and skill, and have served as Finance Director on the Boards of “The Association of British Choral Directors”, and “The National Federation of Music Societies”. I am a keen singer, being a member of both “Encore Opera” and “The Wordsworth Singers, and deputise for Carlisle Cathedral Choir as needed.

I was elected in 2014 to a 9 member Board representing the 40,000 Bondholders in “The Holiday Property Bond”, acting as the non-executive overseers of the management of this c.£300m concern.

I was appointed, also in 2014, as a Director and Trustee of the Carlisle Diocesan Board of Finance and thereby have gained valuable insight into the business, as well as the ecclesiastical, affairs of the Diocese.

If elected to the General Synod, I would be keen to gain greater understanding of the transitional, as well as traditional, issues and opportunities facing the Anglican Church, and to participate in the development of appropriate strategies, and structures, to safeguard and secure its future position in the leadership of the promotion and support of Christian faith.