



Vestries Act 1818

1818 CHAPTER 69 58 Geo 3

An Act for the regulation of Parish Vestries.

[3d June 1818]

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1 Short title given by [Short Titles Act 1896 \(c. 14\)](#)
 - C2 Preamble omitted under authority of [Statute Law Revision \(No. 2\) Act 1890 \(c. 51\)](#)
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Commencement Information

- I1 Act wholly in force at Royal Assent

[1.] Three days notice to be given of vestries; by publications in the church, and affixing on church door.

No vestry or meeting of the inhabitants in vestry of or for any parish shall be holden, until public notice shall have been given of such vestry, and of the place and hour of holding the same, and the special purpose thereof, three days at the least before the day to be appointed for holding such vestry, . . . ^{F1} by affixing the same, fairly written or printed, on the principal door of such church or chapel.

Textual Amendments

- F1 Words repealed by [Parish Notices Act 1837 \(c. 45\), s. 1](#)
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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C3 [S. 1](#) repealed by [Local Government 1894 \(c. 73\), Sch. 2](#) so far as relates to parish meetings under that Act

2 Chairman of the vestry appointed to have a casting vote. Minutes to be entered and signed.

In case the rector or vicar or perpetual curate shall not be present, the person so assembled in pursuance of such notice shall forthwith nominate and appoint by plurality of votes, to be ascertained as herein-after as directed, one of the inhabitants

Status: Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Vestries Act 1818 (repealed 1.6.1992). (See end of Document for details)

of such parish to be the chairman of and preside in every such vestry; and in all cases of equality of votes upon any question arising therein the chairman shall (in addition to such vote or votes as he may by virtue of this Act be entitled to give in right of his assessment) have the casting vote; and minutes of the proceedings and resolutions of every vestry shall be fairly and distinctly entered in a book (to be provided for that purpose by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor), and shall be signed by the chairman, and by such other of the inhabitants present as shall think proper to sign the same.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C4 S. 2 repealed by [Local Government Act 1894 \(c. 73\)](#), [Sch. 2](#) so far as relates to parish meetings and parish councils under that Act
- C5 Duty to provide minute book transferred (rural parishes) to parish council by [Local Government Act 1894 \(c. 73\)](#), [s. 6\(1\)\(c\)](#) and (urban parishes) to rating Authority by S.R. & O. 1927/55 (1927, p. 964: Rev. XIX, p. 599), Sch.

3 Manner of voting in vestries.

In all such vestries every inhabitant present who shall, by the last rate which shall have been made for the relief of the poor, have been assessed and charged upon or in respect of any annual rent, profit, or value not amounting to fifty pounds, shall have and be entitled to give one vote and no more; and every inhabitant there present, who shall in such last rate have been assessed or charged upon or in respect of any annual rent or rents, profit or value, amounting to fifty pounds or upwards (whether in one or in more than one sum or charge), shall have and be entitled to give one vote for every twenty-five pounds of annual rent, profit, and value, upon or in respect of which he shall have been assessed or charged in such last rate, so nevertheless that no inhabitant shall be entitled to give more than six votes; and in cases where two or more of the inhabitants present shall be jointly rated, each of them shall be entitled to vote according to the proportion and amount which shall be borne by him of the joint charge; and where one only of the persons jointly rated shall attend, he shall be entitled to vote according to and in respect of the whole of the joint charge.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C6 S. 3 extended by [Vestries Act 1819 \(c. 85\)](#), [s. 1](#)
- C7 S. 3 repealed by [Local Government Act 1894 \(c. 73\)](#), [Sch. 2](#) so far as relates to parish meetings and parish councils under that Act
- C8 Reference to rate for relief of the poor to be construed as reference to general rate by virtue of [General Rate Act 1967 \(c. 9\)](#), [s. 116\(2\)](#)

4 Inhabitants coming into a parish since the last rate may vote.

Provided, that when any person shall have become an inhabitant of any parish, or become liable to be rated therein, since the making of the last rate for the relief of the poor thereof, he shall be entitled to vote for and in respect of the lands, tenements, and property for which he shall have become liable to be rated and shall consent to be rated, in like manner as if he should have been actually rated for the same.

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C9** S. 4 repealed by [Local Government Act 1894 \(c. 73\)](#), [Sch. 2](#) so far as relates to parish meetings and parish councils under this Act
- C10** Reference to rate for relief of the poor to be construed as reference to general rate by virtue of [General Rate Act 1967 \(c. 9\)](#), [s. 116\(2\)](#)

5 ^{F2}

Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 5 repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1873 \(c. 91\)](#)

6 ^{F3}

Textual Amendments

- F3** S. 6 repealed by [Local Government Act 1933 \(c. 51\)](#), [Sch. 11](#) and [London Government Act 1939 \(c. 40\)](#), [Sch. 8](#)

7 Provisions in relation to parishes extended to townships, &c. Manner of giving notice of vestries and meetings in special cases.

Provided always, that all provisions, authorities, and directions in this Act contained in relation to parishes shall extend and be construed to extend to all townships, vills, and places having separate overseers of the poor, and maintaining their poor separately; and that all the directions and regulations herein contained in regard to vestries shall extend and be applied to all meetings which may by law be holden of the inhabitants of any parish, township, vill, or place, for any of the purposes in this Act expressed; and that the notices by this Act required to be given of every vestry may, in places in which there is or shall be no parish church or chapel, or where there shall not be divine service in such church or chapel, be given and published in such manner as notices of the like nature shall have been there usually given and published, or as shall be most effectual for communicating the same to the inhabitants of every such parish, township, vill, or place respectively.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C11** Reference to overseers of the poor to be construed as reference to rating authority: [Rating and Valuation Act 1925 \(c. 90\)](#), [s. 62\(3\)](#)

8 Not to alter time for holding vestries, specially directed; nor to affect vestries held under special Acts, &c.

Provided also, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to alter the time of holding any vestry, parish, or town meeting, which is by the

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authority of any Act required to be holden on any certain day, or within any certain time in such Act prescribed and directed; nor shall any thing in this Act contained extend to take away, lessen, prejudice, or affect the powers of any vestry or meeting holden in any parish, township, or place, by virtue of any special Act or Acts, of any ancient and special usage or custom, or to change or affect the right or manner of voting in any vestry or meeting so holden.

9 Not to extend to London;

Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to any parish within the city of London.

10 nor to Southwark;

Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to any parish in the borough of Southwark.

11 to extend only to England and Wales.

This Act shall extend only to England and Wales.

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