



## COUNCIL OF THE ISLES OF SCILLY Registration Service

### GUIDANCE FOR THOSE WISHING TO MARRY IN THE ISLES OF SCILLY

- 1: If a couple have decided to marry on the Isles of Scilly in either the Register Office or the Council of the Isles of Scilly owned Approved Premise, the Old Wesleyan Chapel, they should contact the Superintendent Registrar for the islands, to discuss date, time and venue.

If a couple have decided to marry at another Approved Premise on the islands then they should firstly contact the venue directly and make a provisional booking. The Superintendent Registrar for the islands should then be contacted to confirm their availability. Without the attendance of a Superintendent Registrar and a Registrar there can be no marriage at an Approved Venue.

- 2: **Giving Notice of Marriage:**  
The couple will also have to give Notice of Marriage to the Superintendent Registrar(s) of the district(s) in which they live. The cost of this is £33.50 each. This notice must be given in person by both parties and is valid for twelve months. Both parties should, therefore, attend the Register Office where they live as soon as possible after notice can be given. The period of Notice is fifteen clear days, after which the Authorities (Certificates for Marriage) can be issued. If either party is not a British or EEC citizen, or does not have a certificate of entitlement giving right of abode in the UK in their passport, then both parties must give notice of marriage at a designated Register Office. Any Register Office can give further information on this.

- 3: **Documents you may need to produce to the Superintendent Registrar to give Notice of Marriage:**  
When you attend before the Superintendent Registrar to make the formal arrangements you will need to produce certain documents. For example, if you have been married, or in a Civil Partnership before, a decree absolute of divorce or dissolution of a Civil Partnership bearing the court's original stamp. If your spouse/civil partner have died, then a certificate of their death must be shown.

You must also produce your full birth certificate and passport (or some other identity document). Photocopies are not acceptable.

Evidence of your current address should also be produced, such as a bank statement or council tax bill.

Other documents may also be needed depending on the circumstances, for example, the consent of parents to a marriage where one of the couple is under the age of 18.

- 4: When Notice is given in a different registration district(s) from the one where the marriage is taking place, the couple will have to collect the Authorities before the ceremony and ensure that they are delivered to the Registrar who is to attend the ceremony.
- 5: Only a civil, non-religious, ceremony can be permitted by the Superintendent Registrar. Any music, reading, words or performance, which forms any part of the ceremony, must bear no more than a casual passing reference to anything religious, and this would have to be in an essentially non-religious context. The content of the ceremony must be agreed in advance with the Superintendent Registrar who will be conducting the ceremony.
- 6: Any rights of copyright for music, readings etc. permitted at the ceremony are a matter for the couple and the holder of the copyright approval.

Amended by Sarah Handy  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2009