

Subject: John Gould's thoughts on church fights.

Never go to a meeting without a witness.

Journal everything.

Make it clear to the other side what the possible outcome if their actions could be.

Know your civil and legal rights.

Watch for the other side to make a mistake which they always will make.

Use it as a bargaining chip for safe passage out to another pastoral charge.

Make trusted friends with clergy from other denominations to run things by. Never trust anyone in your own denomination.

When arriving at a new Charge become a client of the lawyer who is a member so that lawyer can't give free advice in a conflict without being up for discipline by the Law Society. Getting a new Will is a cheap investment.

Explore any avenues where legal breach of contract might apply.

Above all be creatively paranoid because 'they ' are out to get you :o)