

THE ALDEBURGH SOCIETY

(Registered Charity Number 262239)

Constitution

Name:

The name of the Society shall be The Aldeburgh Society. It shall be a non-profit making organisation.

Objects:

The objects of the Society shall be to encourage -

- a) Public interest in and care for the character of the Town of Aldeburgh and of its surroundings.
- b) High standards of architecture and of town planning in the Town;
- c) The preservation, development and improvement of general public amenity in the Town and its surroundings.

The Society will pursue these objects by means of meetings, exhibitions and lectures, and in other appropriate ways.

Membership:

Membership shall be open to all who are interested the aims of the Society.

Subscriptions:

The subscriptions, which shall become due in advance on the 1st January each year, shall be:-

Individual Members- £10.00 p.a. Couples- £15.00 p.a.

Membership lapses if a subscription is six months overdue.

The Committee shall have power to vary these rates of subscription.

Meetings:

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about April of each year to receive the Committee's report and audited accounts, and to elect Officers and members of the Committee and the Auditor for the ensuing year.

Other meetings shall be held as the Committee shall decide, except that a Special General Meeting shall be held at the written request of 50 or more members. The Secretary shall give not less than 21 days' notice of all General Meetings by public notice in the Town and in the local press, and in the case of a Special General Meeting the notice shall state the business to be considered at the meeting.

At any General Meeting, save one to amend the Constitution, 20 shall be quorum and every member present including the Chairman shall have one vote, and in the case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

The accidental omission to give the notice of any General Meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of any General Meeting of, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

President and Vice-Presidents:

There shall be a President and Vice-Presidents who shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting. The President shall hold office for five years: the Vice-Presidents for three. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Officers:

The Officers of the Society shall be:-

Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary.

Each shall hold office for not more than three years and shall be eligible for election or re-election by the Annual General Meeting.

Committee:

The Committee shall consist of the Officers and not more than 12 other members. Nominations for election to the Committee shall be made in writing to the Secretary before the day of the Annual General Meeting, supported by a proposer and seconder and by the consent in writing of the nominee.

In the event of a vacancy arising between Annual General Meetings, the Committee may co-opt a member until the following Annual General Meeting, and any such member shall then be eligible for re-election but shall not be taken into account in determining the members who are to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Members of the Committee shall serve for 4 (four) years. Any member having retired shall be eligible for re-election after one year from retirement.

The President and Vice-Presidents shall have the right to receive papers and to attend meetings of the Committee but shall not vote thereat.

Qualifications:

The Officers and Committee members of the Society shall be residents or owners of property or work in Aldeburgh or within 10 miles thereof.

Duty and Powers of the Committee:

The Committee shall organise and administer the Society in the manner they judge most apt to further its objects, and in particular the Committee shall have power to appoint from among its members or other members of the Society such sub-Committees as it thinks fit, with such duties and powers as the Committee may determine for the effective discharge of the business of the society.

The Committee shall have power to pay out of the funds of the Society the proper expenses of administration and expenses incurred in promoting the objects of the Society. The Committee shall invest any surplus monies in accordance with the law prescribed for charitable organisations.

Amendments to the Constitution:

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose by the Committee, provided firstly, that 21 days' notice of the amendment has been sent to all members; secondly, that not less than 50 or one-third of the total membership, whichever is the less, are present at the meeting; and thirdly, that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment the effect of which could be to cause the Society at any time to cease to be a Charity in the law.

Winding-up:

In the event of dissolution of the Society, which must be resolved upon by a simple majority at a General Meeting, any remaining assets shall be transferred to some other charitable organisation with objects similar to those of the Society, or to some other charitable purpose or object as the Committee may decide.

Original text 1971, amended in 1973, 1978, 1993, 2004, and 2006.