

CONSTITUTION OF THE LECHLADE ART SOCIETY

NAME

The Society will be known as the **LECHLADE ART SOCIETY**

DEFINITIONS

The intended meaning of specific terms used in this document are defined in Appendix 1

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Society are

- 1.1** To provide a forum for those interested in the visual arts in and around Lechlade
- 1.2** To provide opportunities for members to exhibit and sell their work through an annual exhibition and on other occasions
- 1.3** To welcome and foster art practice and appreciation by arranging meetings, talks and demonstrations, and outings for members and guests
- 1.4** The Society is an inclusive organisation. Instances of racism, sexism, ageism, bullying or homophobia will not be tolerated
 - 1.4.1** When such instances occur the appropriate action will be taken which may lead to a member being asked to leave the Society

MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1** Membership is open to all who accept the aims and objectives of the society
 - 2.1.1** Benefits of membership include the right to enter the annual exhibition, preference for attendance at workshops, news about local events (outings and activities organised by the Society and others) and the regular social interaction offered by the Thursday Group
- 2.2** The Committee will have the right to accept or reject an application for membership
- 2.3** Honorary Membership may be awarded by the Committee on behalf of the Society to a member who leaves the area or Society having provided outstanding service to the Society
- 2.4** Life Membership may be awarded by the Committee on behalf of the Society to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Society
- 2.5** Honorary Members and Life Members will have the same rights as members and such members will not pay an annual subscription

THE COMMITTEE

- 3.1** Nominations for election to the Committee will be made at or before the AGM, preferably in writing to the Secretary

3.2 Any member of the Society may be invited to join the Committee during the year but this appointment must be ratified at the following AGM

3.3 The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer will be the Officers of the Society and Committee members will fill the other roles required by the Society

3.4 The affairs of the Society will be administered by the Committee who may invite members to assist in the running of the Society

3.5 A quorum will comprise six Committee members including a minimum of two Officers

3.6 Members of the Committee may stay in office for as long as they wish provided:

3.6.1 They have a clear function within the Committee

3.6.2 They are returned to office at the AGM

3.6.3 They are successful at the AGM if challenged for their post by another member

3.6.4 They are willing to stand down at the request of the Committee

3.7 The Committee will elect the Officers from amongst their members

3.8 The Committee will recommend to the membership a suitable person to be invited to become President of the Society and this appointment must be ratified at the AGM

3.9 The Committee will recommend to the membership a suitable person to be invited to become Patron of the Society and this appointment must be ratified at the AGM

3.10 The President and Patron will not take part in the day to day running of the Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

4.1 There will be an AGM of the Society during the month of October with reports from the Chairperson and Treasurer

4.2 An EGM can be called at any time either by the Committee or by written request to the Secretary of no fewer than twelve members

4.3 The Secretary will give ten days' notice in writing of any EGM to all members by email or by post to their last known address; notification will also be given on the Society's website

4.4 The required number of members to be quorate at an AGM and EGM will be twenty per cent of the current membership plus five Committee members including a minimum of two Officers

4.5 Amendments to the Constitution may be made by the Committee at any time during the year but must be ratified at the following AGM. The Secretary will inform the membership as an agenda item that alterations to the Constitution have been made when the agenda is published for the AGM. Acceptance of an amendment will be by a show of hands of the members attending the AGM

4.6 Voting on all matters will be decided by a simple majority of those members attending either an AGM or EGM with the Chairperson having the deciding vote in the event of a tie

DEMONSTRATIONS, FUNCTIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

5.1 The Committee will maintain a programme of meetings and functions and notify members of dates, times and venue

5.2 The Committee may arrange annual and other exhibitions for members of the Society and the administrative arrangements will be at the sole discretion of the Committee

SUBSCRIPTIONS

6.1 The annual subscription for membership will be determined by the Committee

6.2 Subscriptions will become due on 1st July and should be paid no later than 31st July

6.3 Failure of a member to renew their membership by 31st July, despite having received a reminder to do so, will mean that individual will no longer have the benefits of membership

6.4 The Committee will determine fees paid to demonstrators and charges to visitors who attend the Society's events

VISITORS AND GUESTS

7.1 Visitors attendance at events (demonstrations, workshops, and other functions) is at the discretion of the Committee

CHAIRPERSON

8.1 In the absence of the Chairperson the Committee will appoint a member from the Committee to deputise

8.1.1 In the event of any discussion and subsequent vote being tied the appointed Chairperson will have the deciding vote at that meeting

INTERPRETATION

9.1 The Committee will be the sole authority for the interpretation of the Constitution of the Society and for settling any disputes relating to its affairs

FINANCE

10.1 The Society will not commit itself to expenditure where liability is greater than the Society's reserves unless guarantors are found who are willing to secure the excess

10.2 The Society will regulate its financial position to ensure that it is not liable for VAT

10.3 In the event that the Society ceases to exist, any remaining funds following a financial report on the accounts will be disposed of by donating to local charities or organisations as determined by the Committee

10.4 The financial year of the Society will end on 30th June

INSURANCE

11.1 The Society will maintain insurance in respect of third party liability and insurance of the Society's assets

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APPENDIX 1 - Definition of Specific Terms

Society Lechlade Art Society. An organisation formed for a particular purpose to which people who share similar interests belong.

Committee A group of members chosen and elected to represent the Society and to make decisions on behalf of the members.

Officer A member of the Committee with the honorary role of Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer.

Honorary Member/Membership A member who is deemed by the Committee to be making a notable contribution to the Society and/or to be promoting the interests of the Society. Such a member will have all the rights and privileges of membership without any obligation to pay any fees or subscription for a duration of time as determined by the Committee on behalf of the Society.

Life Member/Membership Awarded by the Committee to a member who has made a notable contribution to the Society. Such a member will have all the rights and privileges of membership but is not required to pay any fees or subscriptions for life in recognition of their role in or contribution to the Society.

President A member who has been appointed to this honorary role by the Committee in recognition of their contribution to the Society.

Patron A member who has been appointed to this honorary role by the Committee. The role is to support, encourage and promote the Society and its aims and objectives in the community.

AGM Annual General Meeting. The AGM of the Society will be held each year with a fixed agenda. All members are invited to attend and contribute.

EGM Extraordinary General Meeting. An EGM will be held if and when required. All members are invited to attend and contribute.