

LECHLADE ART SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The Society shall be called the **LECHLADE ART SOCIETY**

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Society shall be:

- 2.1 To provide a forum for those interested in painting and other art forms in the Lechlade area.
- 2.2 To promote exhibitions of work, by members only, primarily for sale to the public.
- 2.3 To encourage art and art appreciation within the Society by arranging meetings, talks and outings and other functions related to art generally.
- 2.4 Lechlade Art Society is an inclusive society and therefore will not tolerate any instances of bullying, racism, sexism or homophobia. Where such instances are brought to the attention of the committee, appropriate action will be taken which may lead to the removal of a member from the society (Ref. Minutes 12.6.19)

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Full membership shall be open to all those who accept the aims and objectives of the society.
- 3.2 Associate membership shall be open to young persons not exceeding 18 years of age.
 - 3.2.1 Associate members will have all the rights and obligations of Full Members except that they will not be eligible to vote.
- 3.3 Honorary Membership may be awarded to Members who leave the area or the Society after some outstanding work on the Society's behalf.
 - 3.3.1 Honorary Members will have all the rights and obligations of Full Members except that they will not be eligible to vote.
- 3.4 Life Membership may be awarded to a member who, in the opinion of the Society Members, has made an outstanding contribution to the Society.

3,4,1 A Life Member will have all the rights and obligations of Full Members free of Annual Subscription.

3.5 Awards in sub-paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 above must have the approval of a majority of Society Members

3.6 The Executive Committee, at its sole discretion, shall have the authority to accept or refuse to admit any person to Membership under categories 3.1 and 3.2 above.

4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4.1 The affairs of the Society shall be administered by the Executive Committee consisting of the officers and not more than six additional members, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 The officers of the Society shall be Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

4.3 The Executive Committee shall further appoint from within its membership a Programme /Speakers Secretary, Membership Secretary, Publicity Secretary and anExhibition Secretary.

4.4 The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt further Members, as deemed necessary for specific purposes and to establish sub-committees.

4.5 A quorum shall compares six Members including not less than three Officers.

4.6 No member of the Executive Committee shall normally serve more than three consecutive years and each member shall retire in rotation, based on the date of their election, except in the case of an existing member of the Executive Committee being elected Chairperson.

4.7 Nominations for election to the Executive Committee shall be given in writing to the Secretary prior to the Annual General Meeting.

4.8 The Executive Committee shall recommend to the Annual General Meeting that a suitable person be invited to become President of the Society and may appoint a Vice-President.

4.9 The Executive Committee may recommend a suitable person to be invited to act as Patron of the Society.

4.10 The President, Vice-President and Patron shall have no executive function within the Society.

5. MEETINGS

- 5.1 There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Society during the month of **July** at which reports by the Executive Committee and audited accounts for the past year will be presented; the officers and Executive Committee will be elected and and Honorary Auditor, who shall not be a member of the Society, shall be appointed.
- 5.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened at any time either by the Executive Committee or at the written request of no fewer than twelve Members, addressed to the secretary.
- 5.3 The Secretary shall give ten days notice in writing of any General Meeting to all members at their last known address, or email address, stating the reason for such a meeting.
- 5.3.1 An attendance of 23 of the Members including not less than three Officers shall form a quorum
- 5.4 .Any amendment to the Constitution shall be made at a General Meeting defined in 5.1 and 5.2 above. The Secretary shall give 21 days notice of the proposed amendment or alteration ion required as in 5.3 above. The quorum stated n 5.3.1 shall apply.
- 5.5 Voting at all meetings, save matters affecting the Constitution, shall be a simple majority of those members present. In matters affecting the Constitution a majority of two thirds of the members present or voting by proxy shall be required to affect an alteration in the same.

6. MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

- 6.1 The Executive Committee shall maintain a programme of meetings and functions and notify members of dates, times and venues of the same.
- 6.2 The Executive Committee shall arrange one or more exhibitions annually. The administrative arrangements shall be at the sole discretion of the Executive Committee.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 7.1 The subscriptions for full membership and associate membership shall be determined by the Executive Committee and approved at the Annual General Meeting.

7.1.1 Subscriptions shall be paid at the Annual General Meeting or not later than one calendar month after the date of such meeting.

7.1.2 Failure of a member to pay within the due period following notification to the member of his obligations will result in termination of membership of the Society.

7.2 The Executive Committee shall determine fees to be paid by visitors and guests in respect of their attendance at meetings or functions of the society.

8. VISITORS AND GUESTS

8.1 Visitors and guests may attend meetings and functions at the discretion of the Executive Committee on payment of a fee as set out in 7.2 above.

9. CHAIRPERSON

9.1 The Chairperson or in his/her absence, the Vice-Chairperson, shall take the Chair at meetings. In the event of equality of votes the person taking the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

10. CONSTITUTION

10.1 The Executive Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of this Constitution and for any rules that the Constitution permits and for settling any dispute relating to the affairs of the Society.

11. FINANCE

11.1 The Society shall 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.

11.2 The Society will regulate its financial position to ensure that it is not liable to be registered for V.A.T. liabilities.

11.3 In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, any funds remaining, following the audit of accounts, shall be disposed of by donation to local charities or organisations determined by the Executive Committee.

11.4 The financial year of the Society shall terminate on **30th June**, following which the accounts shall be audited.

12. INSURANCE

12.1 The Society shall maintain insurance with an approved company in respect of Public Liability and insurance of the Society's assets, particularly during Exhibitions.