

# **WONERSH HISTORY SOCIETY**

## **CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

### **1 Name**

The name of the Society shall be The Wonersh History Society (The Society).

### **2 Objects**

To research and record the history of the village of Wonersh and its immediate environs and to promote a wider awareness of matters of historical interest in the area.

### **3 Admission of Members**

Persons wishing to join The Society shall not enjoy the full privileges of membership until a valid application form and the appropriate fee have been received by the Membership Secretary. The application form must state his or her full name and address. The Committee shall also be empowered to elect honorary (Life) members and to institute a class of associate and/or junior members upon the terms and conditions it thinks fair and these honorary members, associate members and junior members shall not be obliged to pay an annual subscription nor will they have any voting powers.

Members who fail to pay their subscriptions or who bring the Society into disrepute by their actions may be required by the Committee to relinquish their membership.

### **4 Management**

The management of the Society shall be entrusted to a Committee of not more than ten members who shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting from amongst the members of the Society. The Honorary Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected by the Committee from amongst their members. All members of the Committee shall resign at each AGM but shall be eligible for re-election if they so wish. The Committee shall have the power to appoint a member to fill any vacancy that shall occur during their year of office.

### **5 Subscriptions**

The annual subscription shall be due by the 1st day of April each year and shall be reviewed at each AGM.

### **6 Committee Meetings**

There shall be a minimum of five meetings per year. Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum. Each member shall have one vote on every question and in case of an equality, the Chairman or other member presiding at the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

## **7 General meetings**

An Annual General Meeting of the Society shall normally be held in April or May in each year and fifteen months shall not elapse without a general meeting. At the Annual General Meeting the following business shall be conducted.

- a) To receive the Honorary Chairman's Report.
- b) To receive and, if approved, to adopt a statement of accounts to the end of the preceding year.
- c) To elect members of the Committee. Nominations shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary in writing not less than five days before the AGM with the consent of the nominee.
- d) To deal with any other matter which the Committee wish to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from members for consideration by the Committee.

## **8 Extraordinary Meetings**

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time and shall be convened within thirty days on the requisition of not less than five members of the Society for the time being for any of the following purposes which must be specified in the requisition:

- a) To consider and if approved sanction any alterations to these rules
- b) To deal with any matter which the Committee wishes to bring before members
- c) To deal with any special matter which the members requesting the meeting may decide to bring before the members

## **9 Notice of Meetings**

The Honorary Secretary shall at least ten days before any General Meeting send to every member at his address as recorded in the Society's records a Notice of the Meeting stating the time when and the place where it will be held and the business to be conducted. The accidental omission to give notice of any meeting to or the non receipt of such notice by any individual member shall not invalidate the proceedings at such meeting.

## **10 Business at a General Meeting**

At all General Meetings the Chairman or in his absence a Member elected by the Committee shall take the Chair and the business at a General Meeting shall be limited to that provided by these Rules and those further matters set out in the Notice convening the Meeting. The quorum at any General Meeting shall be twelve members and every member present shall have one vote on every question and in the case of any equality of votes the person presiding over the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

## **11 Audit of Accounts**

An Honorary Auditor shall be appointed annually by the Committee. The Auditor shall audit the Accounts of the Society not less than fourteen days before the AGM.

## **12 Modification of Rules**

No alteration or addition to these rules shall be made except by a Resolution carried out by a majority of at least two-thirds of the Members present at a General Meeting, the Notice of which shall have contained particulars of the proposed alteration or addition.

## **13 Commercial Operations**

Any commercial operation undertaken by any member of the Society on behalf of the Society must first be sanctioned and then managed by the Committee.

## **14 Winding up the Society**

In the event of winding up the Society, its assets will fall into three groups:

- a) Those assets of whatever nature belonging to members will be returned to them
- b) Those assets on permanent loan (mainly archive material) will be divided between the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Surrey History Centre and the Surrey Archeological Society, each of these bodies at present owning material relating to Wonersh. The person appointed by the Committee to supervise the winding up will, if necessary, adjudicate between these three bodies
- c) Any assets remaining, if over £100, shall be distributed equally among the members for the time being who have paid their annual subscription fee, and if less than £100 shall be given to a charity determined by the Committee.

**Version 1** dated 24 February 1993

**Version 2** brought in at the AGM dated 2 May 2002 It was agreed to raise the subscription rate to £5 per annum and insert rule 14. Documented in Bulletin No 23 for Wonersh History Society - Winter 2002-3

**Version 3** dated 10 May 2011 agreed at AGM