

Weston super Mare Horticultural Society

Constitution

1. NAME

The name of the society shall be Weston super Mare Horticultural Society

2. OBJECTS

The society objects are:

To promote horticulture, gardening and allotment growing in the local community

To hold regular meetings for lectures, discussions, demonstrations and social activities

To hold an Annual Flower Show

3. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the society shall be open to anyone interested in horticulture, gardening and allotments in the local community.

The committee will keep a register of names and contact details of members

4. SUBSCRIPTION

All members should pay an annual subscription due on 1st January each year. The annual subscription shall be proposed by the committee, and ratified at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Any member who is more than three months in arrears with their subscription shall cease to be a member, except where there are extenuating circumstances.

5. OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

The officers of the society shall be:

President

Chair

Vice Chair

Treasurer

Secretary

Membership Secretary

Flower Secretary

And other such officers as shall be deemed necessary

The officers and committee members will be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Society and shall hold office until the end of the next AGM. A committee member's tenure will be limited to 3 years unless otherwise agreed.

Life membership of the Society may be given by the Committee in recognition of outstanding service to the society.

The society will be affiliated to likeminded organisations as decided by the committee

6. CONDUCT OF THE COMMITTEE

The affairs of the Society will be conducted by the committee. The committee will be no more than 14 members. The committee shall have the power to co-opt up to 4 additional members in any year and fill vacancies as they occur.

A quorum at committee meetings shall be no less than 5 members.

Any committee member who misses three meetings without apologies shall lose office and will be advised accordingly.

Minutes and register of attendance shall be kept for every meeting

7. GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY

The ordinary meetings of the society shall be held in accordance with the programme for the year. No matters of policy shall be agreed at ordinary meetings of the society

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held within three months of the financial year end for the purpose of:

- Approving the Annual report of the Committee and Audited Accounts
- Electing officers and committee members for the next year
- Considering any motion which has been notified to the secretary of the Society at least 14 calendar days prior to the date of the AGM
- Noting any other matters for consideration by the Committee

9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The committee can convene an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) at any time and must do within 28 days of a written request signed by five percent of the members. Notice in writing must be sent to all members not fewer than 14 calendar days before the meeting, informing them of the date, time, venue and purpose of the meeting.

10. QUORUM AND VOTING

No matters of policy shall be agreed at an AGM or EGM unless a quorum of five percent of the membership is present. In the event of no quorum the meeting will be adjourned.

Only members whose subscription is fully paid or those holding honorary membership of the Society shall be entitled to vote. Voting at all meetings shall be by a show of hands unless the Chair directs a secret ballot to be taken. All matters shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and voting. The Chair will have the casting vote.

11. SUB COMMITTEES

Sub committees shall be formed when agreed necessary by the committee.

12. FINANCES

The Society's Financial Year shall run from 1st January to 31st December. The Society shall have a bank account in the Society's name. The treasurer shall account for all monies received and present accounts for audit at the end of the financial year. All cheques and bank transfers shall be signed by the treasurer and one other officer.

An auditor shall be appointed to review the annual accounts.

The funds of the Society shall be used only to further the objects of the society and only in ways approved by the committee

13. DISPUTES

If a dispute arises between members about the validity or propriety of anything done by members and the dispute cannot be resolved by agreement, the parties to the dispute must first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.

14. DISSOLUTION

The Society may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a simple two-thirds majority of

those present and voting at an AGM or EGM.

If confirmed, the committee shall distribute any assets remaining after the payment of all bills to other charitable group(s) or organisation(s) having aims similar to the Society or some other charitable purpose(s) as the Society may decide.

15. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

The constitution may only be amended at an AGM or EGM and then only if notice of the proposed amendment has been notified to all members not fewer than 14 calendar days before the meeting.

Signed by the Chair

Date

Signed by the Secretary

Date

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