

Revised January 2020

THE SANDGATE SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. The Society shall be called "The Sandgate Society", hereinafter called "The Society". It is independent from any other body and is non-political.
2. The Society is established for the public benefit for the following purposes in the Village of Sandgate, being all that area within the boundaries of the civil Parish of Sandgate in the County of Kent, hereinafter referred to as "the area of benefit".
 - (i) To stimulate public interest in the area of benefit.
 - (ii) To ensure the preservation, development and improvement features of historic or public interest in all that area within the boundaries of the civil Parish of Sandgate.
 - (iii) To promote high standards of planning and architecture in the area of benefit.
3. In furtherance of the said purposes by charitable means but not otherwise, the Society shall have the following powers:-
 - (a) To publish papers, reports and other literature
 - (b) To hold meetings, lectures and exhibitions
 - (c) To promote or assist in promoting activities of a kindred charitable nature throughout the area of benefit.
4. Membership shall be open to all in sympathy with the Society on completion of an application form together with the designated subscription which shall be determined by the Executive Committee and ratified at a General Meeting of members.
5. A President and Vice-President may be elected who are non-executive. They and all advisory members may attend committee meetings in a non-voting capacity.
6. The Executive Committee shall consist of up to twelve members, who at their first meeting will elect from their own number a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.
7. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt three members and all co-opted members may stand for election at a following Annual General Meeting "AGM").
8. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman is empowered to use a second or casting vote.
9. Nominees for election to the Committee shall declare at the AGM at which their election is to be considered, any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Society.
10. Further, it shall be the duty of every Officer or member of the Executive Committee or sub-committee who is in any way directly or indirectly interested financially or professionally in any item discussed at any Committee meeting at which they are present, to declare such interest and they shall not discuss such item (except by majority consent).
11. There shall be an Annual General Meeting of all members of the Society, summoned at not less than 15 days' notice in March, at which the Treasurer shall present Accounts for the year.

12. At the Annual General Meeting, three members of the Executive Committee shall resign, who will be eligible for re-election. If they should be re-elected, three other members of the Executive Committee shall resign in rotation at the succeeding three AGMs, the nominations for such resignations to be determined by a process deemed fair and acceptable to all members. The three retiring members shall not be the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary together, one only of these officials retiring each year under this rule of rotation.
13. An Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM") may be called by the Executive Committee or ten or more ordinary members on written request to the Secretary, such Extraordinary General Meeting to be held within four weeks of such a request.
14. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held at least once in every two months.
15. In the event of any members of the Executive Committee being absent from 3 consecutive meetings without reasons acceptable to the Committee, they shall be deemed to have resigned and shall be replaced by co-option if desirable.
16. Six members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum.
17. When the subscriptions and/or funds in hand shall exceed the sum of £30 (thirty pounds), an account shall be opened at a bank in the name of the Society, all cheques drawn on this amount shall be signed by the Treasurer and counter-signed by the Chairman or Secretary.
18. Paid up members only shall be entitled to vote at the AGM or EGM.
19. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, the Society may be affiliated to or be represented at meetings of any kindred charitable organisations.
20. The Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of members voting at an AGM or EGM of the Society, confirmed by a simple majority of members present at a meeting convened for that purpose and of which notice has been served. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, if after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities there remains any property whatsoever, this shall not be paid or distributed to the members of the Society but shall be given to another charitable organisation or organisations having similar objectives.
21. Any propose change of alteration to this Constitution must be the subject of a resolution passed by the Executive Committee and confirmed by a general meeting of the Society, provided that no amendment may be made to Clause 2, 14 and this clause without the prior consent of the Charity Commissioners and no addition or deletion or alteration may be made, the effect of which would cause the Society at any time to cease to be a charity in law.

Signed :

Name :

Status :

Date :