

CONSTITUTION OF THE GLASTONBURY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY 2019

1 Name and Objects

The Society is named '**The Glastonbury Antiquarian Society**'. Its primary object is the advancement of education in the fields of Archaeology, Literature, and Science and the Arts amongst the inhabitants of Glastonbury and in furtherance thereof the Society maintains a collection of artefacts from the Glastonbury Lake Village and elsewhere and undertakes the proper care and protection of such artefacts and the maintenance of a collection of books of local antiquarian interest.

2 Membership

Membership is open to all who may choose to join the Society and pay their subscriptions.

- 2.1 Ordinary members pay either an annual subscription which is due on 1st September each year or a lifetime fee. Should a member not pay their annual subscription, then their membership is deemed to have lapsed.
- 2.2 Persons eminent for their services to the Society or to the objects of the Society may be elected as honorary lifetime members. They are not required to pay a subscription and such persons may be proposed and agreed at an Annual General Meeting.
- 2.3 Members are bound by the constitution of the Society.
- 2.4 Continuing membership is at the discretion of the Committee. Any Society member who is deemed to have brought the Society into disrepute as established by a resolution of the Committee will be expelled from the Society.

3. Officers of the Society

3.1 Elected Officers of the Society

- **The President** of the Society is elected by the Annual General Meeting for a period to be determined by the membership. The President acts as Chair at the Annual General Meeting until the new Chair is elected. The Mayor of Glastonbury acts as a *de facto* Vice President.
- **The Chair** of the Society is elected from the membership for one year at the Annual General Meeting and is eligible for re-election. The role of the Chair is to chair all meetings of the Committee and General Meetings and to act on behalf of the Committee with the membership and the wider public in such ways as to promote the objects and business of the Society.
- **The Vice Chair** of the Society is elected from the membership for one year at the Annual General Meeting and is eligible for re-election. The role of the Vice Chair is to help support the work of the Chair.
- **The Secretary** of the Society is elected from the membership for one year at the Annual General Meeting and is eligible for re-election. The Secretary or an approved deputy attends each meeting and keeps a record of its decisions. The Secretary takes the lead in ensuring the good governance of the Society.
- **The Treasurer** of the Society is elected from the membership for one year at the Annual General Meeting and is eligible for re-election. The Treasurer keeps the financial records of the Society, accounts for all monies received, pays all expenses agreed by the Committee and produces reports showing these to the Committee on a regular basis and to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

3.2 Appointed Officers of the Society

- Appointed from the Committee are
a Membership Secretary who has charge of the membership list for data protection purposes and who receives, pays in and details all subscriptions.
An Honorary Librarian and
An Honorary Curator

3.3 Custodian Trustees

The property of the Society is held in Trust for the members by four Custodian Trustees who are appointed for a set period after being chosen at an Annual General Meeting.

4. Management of the Society

- 4.1 The affairs of the Society are directed by a Committee elected from the membership at the Annual General Meeting for one year, and who are eligible for re-election. The Committee holds meetings to receive reports and conducts any necessary business in furtherance of the objects of the Society.
Five members of the Committee are a quorum and the Chair at all meetings has the casting vote in addition to their vote as an ordinary member of the Committee.
The Committee should not normally exceed 12 members.
Members wishing to join the Committee should put their names forward to the Chair at least 2 weeks before the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.2 All elected Officers sit on the Committee. They undertake such duties as have been authorised by the Committee. If any Officer or Committee post becomes vacant, the Committee may make an appointment to fill the post. Such appointments remain in force only until the next General meeting, when they can be confirmed or annulled.
- 4.3 Any member of the Committee who, after notification and without reasonable excuse, is absent from four consecutive meetings of the Committee, is deemed to have resigned from the Committee immediately after the fourth such meeting.
- 4.4 Any member of the Committee who ceases to be an ordinary member of the Society is automatically considered to have resigned from the Committee.
- 4.5 Any member of the Committee who is held to have brought the Society into disrepute as established by a resolution of the Committee is to be immediately removed from the Committee.

5. Meetings

- 5.1 An Annual General Meeting of members is held for the purpose of electing the Officers, receiving the annual report of the Committee for the past year and of transacting all other necessary business. Seven days' notice is to be given to the membership of the Annual General Meeting. The quorum for an Annual General Meeting is twenty members. The Chair at all meetings has the casting vote in addition to their vote as an ordinary member of the Committee.
- 5.2 There may also be occasional General Meetings fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting the Society's business.
- 5.3 The Committee is also empowered to call Special Meetings upon receiving a resolution signed by five ordinary members. Seven days' notice of such a meeting is to be given to the membership in writing. In the case of a Special Meeting, its objectives are to be made known beforehand.

6. No change is to be made in the constitution of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which a minimum of twenty members is present. Seven days' notice is to be given to each member of the proposed change.

7. Dissolution

In case of dissolution, the property of the Society unclaimed is to be vested in the Mayor and Town Council of Glastonbury, or any other local authority which may have succeeded the Town Council and to be held at their discretion for charitable purposes connected with the advancement of Literature, Science or the Arts in the town of Glastonbury.

APPROVED BY THE GAS AGM NOVEMBER 2019