

CONSTITUTION FOR THE RINGWOOD SOCIETY

1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be The Ringwood Society.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Society shall be to promote and encourage the following objects by charitable means but not otherwise:-

- (a) To encourage high standards of architecture and to foster good sustainable development in the town and neighbourhood of Ringwood.
- (b) To stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of the area of the town and its surroundings.
- (c) To encourage the preservation, development, improvement and beautification of features of general public amenity or historic interest.
- (d) To pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions, lectures, publications, other forms of instruction and publicity and by making representations to persons or Authorities concerned and promotion of schemes of a charitable nature.

The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards promotion of the Objects. A member is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the Society or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the Society.

None of the income or property of the Society may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the Society.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all who are interested in the aims of the Society. Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid six months after it is due.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The subscription shall be fixed each year for Individual Members, Business Membership and Students in full time education. Subscriptions shall be due on the 1st January each year.

5. MEETINGS

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about the month of March each year to receive the Executive Committee's report and accounts and to elect Officers and Members of the Committee. The Committee shall decide when General Meetings of the Society shall be held. Extraordinary General Meetings of the Society shall be held at the request of twenty five or more members or if considered necessary by the Executive Committee. Ten day's notice of all General Meetings shall be given to all members. Twenty members personally present shall constitute a quorum for any General Meeting of the Society.

Whilst normally, all meetings of the Society will be physical meetings, nothing will prevent the holding of virtual meetings using video or telephone conferencing facilities (or a combination of both physical and virtual), if, in the opinion of the Executive Committee it is appropriate to do so.

All notices given in writing (including any nomination for election, support for the same and consent of the proposed nominee) may be given by hand delivery, by post or by email.

6. OFFICERS

Nominations for the election of officers shall be made at or before the Annual General Meeting. If before such nominations shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary, supported by a seconder with the consent of the proposed nominee having first have been obtained. The election of Officers shall be completed prior to the election of further Committee members. The Officers of the Society shall consist of:

President
Chairman
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Treasurer

all of whom shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

7. COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers and not more than ten further members. The Committee shall have power to co-opt further members.

Nominations for election to the Executive Committee shall be made at or before the Annual General Meeting. If before they must be in writing to the Honorary Secretary, supported by a seconder with the consent of the proposed nominee having first been obtained.

If the nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place.

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for running the affairs of the Society and may take decisions on its behalf. Five shall form a quorum for Meetings of the Executive Committee.

8. APPEALS

The Executive Committee shall have power to make appeals, solicit donations and canvass monies for carrying out the objects of the Society.

9. EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION

The Executive Committee shall out of the monies received by the Society pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit or towards the objects of the Society.

10. INVESTMENT

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not required for immediate application for its objects shall be invested by the Executive Committee upon such investments, securities or property as it may think fit.

11. BORROWING

The Executive Committee may borrow for the objects of the Society such monies at such rate of interest and in such a manner as it may think fit.

12. AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that ten days' notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members, and provided that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment permitting the expenditure of funds of the Society on anything which is not in accordance with the Society's objects as set out by this Constitution

13. WINDING UP

In the event of the winding up of the Society, the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such one or more charitable bodies having objects similar or reasonably similar to those hereinbefore declared as may be chosen by the Executive Committee.

In no circumstances shall the net assets of the Society be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society (except to a member that is a charity).

With effect from EGM – 5th January 2023

Signature

Name

Role