

The Constitution of All Stretton History Society

1. TITLE

The name of the organisation shall be All Stretton History Society (hereinafter referred to as 'the Society')

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Society are:

- a) To promote and foster the study of historical topics relating to All Stretton by meeting for discussions, talks, visits and social purposes.
- b) To promote and foster the distribution of local history material and publications (hard copy and electronic) for the benefit of our members and the local community.
- c) To encourage research into local history and to promote and foster the publication of any such findings.
- d) To encourage the deposit of local history study results or findings in the local libraries, Shropshire Archives and on the Discovering Shropshire's History website thus making them available to the general public.
- e) To encourage the publication of promotional material advertising our work and our programme of events for the benefit of our members and the general public.
- f) Seek and maintain contact with other groups locally who are interested in local history.
- g) To undertake any other business in furtherance of the above objectives.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership shall be open to all individuals who accept the objectives of the Society as set out in Section 2.
- b) Membership shall be conditional upon the receipt of the annual subscription (if any) as decided by the elected committee as announced annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) Only members over 18 years old may vote on issues that may have an impact on the finances or the reputation of the Society as defined by the Committee

4. COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee shall, if possible, comprise a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary, together with no less than three other representatives of the membership of the Society.
- b) The members of the Committee shall be appointed at an Annual General Meeting and shall retire annually. All retiring members shall be eligible for re-election subject to approval by the society's membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) The committee shall administer the affairs of the Society and shall meet at least four times each year.
- d) A quorum of the Committee shall comprise fifty percent of the committee members, these to include one officer of the Society.

- e) Any individual member of the Society shall be eligible for election as an officer or a general member of the committee.
- f) Minutes of the proceedings of all committee meetings shall be taken and distributed to committee members. These minutes should be available and confirmed at the following committee meeting. The Committee shall also ensure that minutes of the Annual General Meeting are made and approved at the following Annual General Meeting.
- g) Sub committees shall be appointed if deemed necessary but the Chairman of such a sub committee should be a serving member of the Committee and this person will be responsible for the running of such a committee and report back to the Committee.

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held annually in May or June. The membership must be given at least fourteen days notice of the place, date, time and business of the forthcoming meeting.
- b) The minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting shall be read by the Secretary and approved by the meeting.
- c) The Chairman shall give a report of the activities of the Society for the previous twelve months.
- d) The Treasurer shall give a financial report of the affairs of the Society and produce independently inspected accounts. These accounts shall be approved by the meeting.
- e) The meeting shall elect the Officers and the members of the Committee for the forthcoming twelve months.
- f) The meeting shall discuss and transact any other business of the Society proposed by any member and accepted by the Chairman as relevant to the Annual General Meeting. In the event of any such proposal being associated with any significant change to the established rules and practices of the Society, this business must be announced in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the Annual General meeting to give the Committee time to discuss the proposal.
- g) The constitution of the Society can be approved or amended only at an Annual General Meeting or at a specially called Extraordinary General Meeting and then only if it receives approval by two thirds of the members present. Any such amendment must be proposed in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the meeting.

6. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Committee. The rules binding this shall be that at least ten members of the Society shall sign a notice specifying the business required to be discussed and that this shall be presented to the Secretary. Such an Extraordinary General Meeting must be advised in writing to all the membership giving them at least 28 days notice and must not be delayed any longer than sixty days from receipt of the signed notice. The business discussed shall be approved only if two thirds of the membership agree. Full minutes of such a meeting must be taken.

7. FINANCE

- a) The elected Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the Society's funds. This committee shall not have the power to raise loans or mortgages without the authority of an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- b) The Chairman, Treasurer and two other members of the committee shall be appointed signatories and all cheques shall be signed by any two of the authorised signatories.
- c) The Treasurer shall keep a regular account of receipts and payments. The treasurer shall also maintain an inventory of the Society's equipment.
- d) The monies of the Society shall be applied solely in accordance with the objects of the Society as laid down in Section 2 of this Constitution.
- e) No payment shall be made from the Society's funds to any officer or member of the Society except by way of reimbursement for reasonable out of pocket expenses or for payments where an acceptable receipt is produced.
- f) The Committee shall ensure that adequate insurance provision is in place to cover liabilities relating to any activity organised by the Society
- g) The Society's financial year shall end on the 31st March and independently inspected accounts should be presented to and discussed by the committee before being presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- h) Sub committees shall not have the power to incur any expenses other than those previously approved by the Executive Committee.

8. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

A motion for the dissolution of the Society may be submitted to the Committee not less than three months before the date of the next Annual General Meeting. If such a motion shall be passed by a two thirds majority of the membership present at such a meeting, any assets of the Society remaining on dissolution and after satisfying that all outstanding debts are met, shall not be distributed among individual members of the Society but shall be given to the All Stretton Village Society.