



Alvechurch Village Society

CONSTITUTION

NAME

The name of the Society is the ALVECHURCH VILLAGE SOCIETY (“The Society”)

AIM

The aim of the Society is to promote and encourage the following objectives by charitable means:

- to stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of the village of Alvechurch and its surroundings
- to encourage high standards of architecture / planning and the preservation and improvement of features of general public amenity or historic interest
- to pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions and the promotion of initiatives

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone interested in the aims of the Society.

There are 3 categories of membership.....individual, family and group. Family membership applies to 2 adults and any children under 16. Group membership applies to organisations and societies and entitles the latter to appoint one of their members to represent their organisation at meetings of the Society. Members can transfer from one category to another by paying the appropriate difference in subscription.

Subscriptions are due on the 1st January in any year or (in the case of new members) on the date when they join the Society. Subscriptions for members who join the Society after the 30th June in any year are payable from the following 1st January. Membership lapses if a subscription is unpaid more than 6 months after it is due.

COMMITTEE

The Society’s Committee consists of the Officers and no more than 15 further (voting) members. The Committee can co-opt up to 2 additional voting members. Committee members may be nominated by existing Committee members, by any of the organisations listed below (special nominations) or co-opted by the Committee.

Notifications for elections to the Committee must be made at, or before, the Annual General Meeting. Casual vacancies on the Committee may be filled at any Committee meeting. Officer nominations must be made in writing, supported by a seconder and have the consent of the proposed nominee. If nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a secret ballot must take place. The Committee is responsible for running Society affairs and can take decisions on its behalf. Committee meetings are quorate with 6 or more members.

SPECIAL NOMINATIONS to the COMMITTEE

The following organisations can nominate one person for election to the Committee.....these are known as *Special Nominations*.

- The Parochial Church Council of St Laurence’s Church, Alvechurch
- The Priest in Charge of the Roman Catholic Church, Alvechurch
- The Deacons of the Baptist Church in Alvechurch
- The Committee of the Alvechurch Historical Society
- The Committees of the Women’s Institutes in Alvechurch
- The Governing Body of Alvechurch Church of England Middle School
- The Governing Body of Crown Meadow First School

Worcestershire County Council, Bromsgrove District Council and Alvechurch Parish Council are each entitled to nominate a representative on the Committee. Such nominees are entitled to receive notice of and attend all Committee meetings, at which they can speak, but not vote.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscription rates are fixed annually by the Committee and reported to the Annual General Meeting.

MEETINGS

An Annual General Meeting must be held no later than 31st March each year to receive reports and audited accounts from the Committee and to elect Officers and Committee Members. Special General Meetings can be held at the request of 10 or more Society members. Except in emergency, a minimum of 21 days notice of General Meetings must be given to all Society members.

OFFICERS

The officers of the Society are the President, Chairman, 2 Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and Treasurer; all of whom relinquish their office every year and are eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. The President and Chairman cannot hold office for longer than 3 consecutive years. A Vice-President or Vice-Presidents may also be elected. The Society must appoint an independent examiner to be elected at each Annual General Meeting.

Nominations for the election of officers must be made at or before the Annual General Meeting in each year. Such nominations must be in writing, supported by a seconder and have the consent of the proposed nominee. Officers must be elected before further Committee members are elected. If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a secret ballot must take place.

APPEALS

The Committee can make appeals, solicit donations and canvass monies for carrying out the aims of the Society.

EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION

The Committee must pay all proper expenses of administration and management from Society funds and use the residue towards the aims of the Society.

INVESTMENT

Society funds not required for immediate use can be invested by the Committee.

BORROWING

The Committee may borrow funds as it thinks fit.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, providing 10 days notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members. Any proposed amendment(s) must not permit expenditure on aims which are not of a charitable nature.

WINDING UP

In the event of the winding up of the Society, all funds must be transferred to one or more charitable bodies with similar aims to those of the Societyas proposed by the Committee.

Constitution approved by Committee on ... 7th May 2008 Signed: ... Andy Humphries (Chairman)

Constitution approved at the Society's AGM on 26th March 2008