



# Walsall Society of Artists

## CONSTITUTION

1. The Society shall be called 'Walsall Society of Artists'.
2. The Society will not be organised for profit but only for charitable purposes in the advancement of education and community arts for the people of Walsall and surrounding districts. To do so, the Society will cultivate interest in Art through lectures, demonstrations, workshops, painting and sketching excursions, public art exhibitions and visits to galleries. In order to benefit other people as well as our members, meetings will be open to anyone who wishes to attend.
3. Membership of the Society shall be open to anyone living in Walsall, the surrounding districts, or anyone who wishes to join. However, any member who contravenes the rules of the Society or acts in a manner detrimental to the interests of the Society shall be liable to have their membership withdrawn at the discretion of the committee.
4. The business of the Society shall be controlled by a Management Committee consisting of Officers and up to six elected members.
5. The Officers of the Society shall be Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretaries (as specified at the Annual General meeting, e.g. Business, Programme etc.) and Treasurer, and must be elected or re-elected annually. If the Chairman is unable to conduct the business of the Society, the Vice-Chairman shall deputise as necessary.
6. The Annual General meeting of the Society shall be held before 31 March each year when the Officers shall present their reports to the Membership. The financial accounts must be audited and the Auditors shall be appointed annually.
7. At the A.G.M., members of the Management Committee shall serve for no longer than three consecutive years. If, at the A.G.M., members are unwilling to stand for election to the Committee, it will be permissible for a serving member of the Management Committee to serve for one more year.
8. Five members of the Management Committee (of which at least two shall be Officers) shall form a quorum and one quarter of the members of the Society shall form a quorum at the Annual General Meeting.
9. The positions of President and Vice- President shall be Honorary positions at the discretion of the Management Committee. The appointment of a President is for a period of three years, and all appointments shall be ratified by a vote of the membership at an Annual General meeting. At the end of their term of office, Presidents may be referred to as 'Past Presidents' in Society literature.
10. The attendance at committee meetings of each individual member of the Management Committee shall be announced to the Society at the A.G.M.. Any member failing to attend a majority of meetings in any year shall be stood down and not be available for re-election.

11. The Chairman may, at his or her discretion, organise an 'ad hoc' working party of selected Management Committee Members if, in his or her judgement, urgent business needs to be attended to which cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting of the Management Committee. A 'Chairman's Book' shall be kept, to be presented at each Committee Meeting.
12. The Management Committee shall, when necessary, devolve business to a number of sub-committee and/or working parties who will report their proceedings at the next meeting of the Management Committee.
13. Application for membership of the Society shall be made to the Membership secretary.
14. The Annual Subscription shall be discussed by the Management Committee and the proposed fee submitted to members at the A.G.M. for ratification. The subscription is valid for one calendar year, e.g. 1 January to 31 December. There is a cut-off date of 30 June for existing members to renew their subscription, with anyone wishing to renew after that date being invited to come as a visitor, the membership list being closed from that date until January of the following year.
15. Members' work submitted for public exhibition must comply with the rules of entry as stated on the exhibition schedule.
16. These rules can only be altered by a majority of members present at an A.G.M., (subject to ten days written notice of any such proposal having been given to all members). Proposals for alterations, amendments, or proposals for consideration at an A.G.M., must be submitted in writing to the Chairman at least six weeks before the date of an Annual General Meeting.
17. The Chairman shall convene an Extra Ordinary General Meeting at any time on receiving a requisition to that effect, signed by no fewer than ten members and stating a specific notice of motion.
18. The Society may only be dissolved by a decision at a General Meeting. 21 days' notice must be given of the proposals for discussion and the time and place of the meeting.
19. If, at a General Meeting, it is decided to dissolve the Society, any money or property remaining after paying debts shall be donated to such other charitable organisations as the meeting may decide.

TO BE REVIEWED ANNUALLY AND CHANGED IF NECESSARY