

RETFORD ART SOCIETY

RULES OF THE SOCIETY

1 NAME

Retford Art Society

2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the society shall be to promote fellowship between members and to develop, encourage and provide facilities for the pursuance of art in any form, medium or style by demonstrations, discussions and practical occasions. (Exhibitions shall reflect a representative selection of the memberships' original work).

3 MEMBERSHIP

Persons wishing to join the society shall make application to the Membership Secretary.

4 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

The General Committee may if they unanimously agree, elect any person as an Honorary Member of the Society. The list of such Honorary Members to be reviewed at a General Committee Meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting.

5 CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Any member may resign from the Society by informing the Membership Secretary.

6 SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

6a Any member who has not paid their subscriptions in full by 31st March will be deemed to have left the Society.

6b The General Committee may expel any member who shall offend against any of the Rules of the Society.

Before any such member is expelled, he shall be given at least fourteen days written notice to attend a meeting of the General Committee, which notice shall contain particulars of the complaints against him.

7 VISITORS

Regular visitors to meetings of the Society shall be encouraged to become members.

8 FINANCIAL

8a Subscriptions

- (i) Subscriptions shall be payable in advance. (The amount to be determined at the Annual General Meeting).
- (ii) Any person joining the Society after the 31st July shall pay half of the current year's subscription.
- (iii) Visitors to give a donation per visit.
- (iv) Charges in addition to the aforesaid subscription may be prescribed by the General Committee for any activity of the Society, to be payable by members participating there.

8b Managing the society bank accounts

- (i) The Society can hold an internet banking account.
- (ii) It is understood and accepted that the primary user, usually the treasurer, will have access to the accounts on-line and will be able to make payments solely.
- (iii) Access to the account can be delegated to other users.
- (iv) Bank statements will be shown to the committee at each quarterly meeting, and will always be available on demand by a committee member.

8c Audit

The accounts of the Society, made up to 31st December in each year, shall be approved by an auditor or independent examiner who shall be approved by the Committee annually.

8d Assets of the Society

- (i) All property of the Society (other than cash, which shall be under the control of the Honorary Treasurer, shall be vested in Trustees who shall comprise of:
Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the Society.

- (ii) The trustees shall deal with the property of the Society as directed by Resolution of the Committee (of which any entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence), and they shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Society's property.

9 MEETINGS

9a Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of January each year for the presentation and (if accepted) the passing of the accounts for the financial year ending on 31st December, immediately prior to the meeting.

The Election of the Officers and Committee, and any other business which has been communicated to the Honorary Secretary and included in the notice of the meeting sent by him to the members will be the only agenda items. Non-members of RAS will not be allowed to attend the RAS AGM

9b Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be convened at any time by the General Committee, or shall be convened within twenty-one days of the request in writing to the Honorary Secretary by not less than one third of the members, stating the purpose for which such a meeting is required.

9c Voting

Every society member present at an Annual General Meeting shall have one vote. In cases of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

10 MANAGEMENT

10a Officers

The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. In the absence or non-election of any of these Officers of the Society, the Committee will continue to function to the best of its collective ability, until such time as that proves impossible. At that point, a decision will be made to suspend or dissolve the Society.

10b Management

The affairs of the Society shall be managed by the General Committee consisting of the Officers of the Society and ten Committee Members. Members of the Committee will serve a two year tenure after which they may offer themselves for re-election. Any General Committee Member failing to attend three consecutive meetings without good cause shall be deemed to have resigned from the General Committee.

10c Election of Officers and General Committee.

The Officers and Members of the General Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Officers shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting whilst committee members will serve for two years.

10d Resignation of Officers or General Committee.

- (i) Any Officer or Member of the General Committee may resign by giving not less than one month's notice to the Honorary Secretary or Chairman.
- (ii) Any casual vacancy occurring amongst the Officers and Members of the General Committee may be filled by the General Committee; any person so elected shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.

10e Meetings of the General Committee

- (i) Meetings of the General Committee shall take place at least once every three months. Subject thereto the General Committee may meet together for the dispatch of their business, adjourn and regulate their proceeding as they think fit.
- (ii) At any meeting of the General Committee two officers and four members shall be a quorum.

10f The Honorary Secretary

The Secretary shall keep a register of the names and addresses of all members, call meetings and keep correct minutes of the proceedings at all meetings of the General Committee, conduct the correspondence and be responsible for books and papers appertaining to his office, and perform such other duties in connection with the affairs of the society as the General Committee may from time to time direct.

10g The Honorary Treasurer

The Honorary Treasurer shall receive and, on the authority of the General Committee, disburse all monies due to or from the Society, shall prepare all financial statements, and shall be responsible for the books appertaining to his office.

10h Bye-Laws

The General Committee shall have power from time to time to make such Bye-Laws consistent with these Rules as they think expedient for regulating the conduct and affairs of the Society. All such Bye-Laws shall be binding upon the members of the Society until repealed by the General Committee or set aside by a Resolution of a General Meeting of the Society.

10i Exhibitions

- (i) From time to time the General Committee shall arrange exhibitions of members' work. (Such exhibitions shall be representative of the members' original work).
- (ii) All work submitted for such exhibitions shall conform to the agreed Conditions of Entry. Each member is allowed between one and three entries depending on availability of space.
- (iii) Work will not be accepted from non-members except by prior arrangement with the Chairman. No work shall be accepted by a member of the Society in arrears with his subscriptions.

10j Amendment of Rules

No alteration of, deletion from, or additions to these Rules shall be made except by a ballot of the members at an Annual General Meeting or of a vote at an Extraordinary General Meeting at which a quorum of at least 25% of members are present. In the case of a ballot the ballot paper shall show the existing rule and the proposed amendment in the form which if carried would appear in the Society Rules. In the case of an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting the existing rule and the proposed amendment shall be issued with the notice of the meeting. In each case the amendment will stand only if a majority of two thirds of votes of members present are in favour of the amendment. The mechanism to be used for any proposed rule changes shall be decided by the General Committee.

10k Dissolution

If at any General Meeting a Resolution for the dissolution of the Society, of which notice has been duly given, shall be passed by a majority of at least three quarters of the members present, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such future date as shall be specified in such Resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Society and after the discharge of all liabilities shall apply the same in such manner as the General Committee may by resolution determine, and upon the completion of such application of the Society shall be dissolved.

10l Interpretation

- (i) Any question arising relating to the meaning or application of any of these Rules, shall be determined by the General Committee, whose determination shall be final and binding.
- (ii) Reference in these Rules and in any Rules and Bye-Laws made thereunder to words in the singular shall be construed as including the plural and vice-versa and to words in the masculine gender as including the feminine.

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