

Hampshire Ornithological Society

RULES

November 1994

Name

1. The name of the Society is the Hampshire Ornithological Society.

Objects

2.
 - a) The objects of the Society are, within the County of Hampshire;
 - i) To advance the education of the public in all aspects of ornithology.
 - ii) To promote research into ornithology and to publish the useful results of such study and in particular to publish reports, newsletters and other papers of ornithological interest or as may be deemed by the Management Committee suitable or desirable for promoting the Society's objects.
 - iii) To support and encourage the preservation and conservation of wild birds and places of ornithological interest.

Powers

- b) In furtherance of the foregoing charitable objects but without prejudice to the generality of the same, the Management Committee shall have the following powers:-
- c) To promote interest in the objects of the Society and for this purpose to arrange lectures and meetings and to organise tours, walks, excursions and the like.
- d) For the above purposes to raise and maintain funds, and in connection therewith to fix subscriptions and to receive donations, legacies and other gifts and to make and publish appeals and requests for financial assistance and to enter into and accept covenants to pay an amount for a fixed number of years.
- e) To invest the monies of the Society not immediately required for its purposes in or upon such investments, securities and properties as may be thought fit provided that:
 - i) In case the society shall take or hold any property which may be subject to any trusts, the Society shall only deal with or invest the same in such manner as allowed by law, having regard to such trusts.
 - ii) In case the Society shall take or hold any property which may be subject to the jurisdiction of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales the Society shall not sell, mortgage, charge or lease the same without such authority or consent as may be required by law.

Membership

3. The Society shall consist of Honorary Life Members, Ordinary Members, Joint Members, Associate Members, Junior Members and Corporate Members.
 - i) Honorary Life Members - all members and others as the Society may wish to honour may be proposed by the Management Committee as Honorary Life Members without payment of any further subscriptions and such proposals shall be voted on at the Annual General Meeting next ensuing.
 - ii) Ordinary Members - shall be entitled to receive one copy of all publications of the Society and notices of all meetings and other matters pertaining to the Society including the rules of the Society.
 - iii) Joint Members - can be any two or more members of the Society living at the same address who shall receive one copy of the publications and notices of the Society but in other respects shall enjoy all privileges extended to Ordinary Members of the Society.
 - iv) Associate Members - can be full time registered students aged 18 or over and under 25 who shall enjoy all the privileges of the Society.
 - v) Junior Members - can be members under the age of 18 who shall enjoy all the privileges of the Society except those of voting on the affairs of the Society and holding office.
 - vi) Corporate Members - shall be interested bodies who shall be entitled to one vote, to send one member to meetings and to receive one copy of the publications and notices of the Society.
 - vii) All Honorary Life Members and members whose subscriptions for any year have been received shall be entitled to the Society's publications for that year.
 - viii) If any member shall be guilty of conduct which in the opinion of the Management Committee is contrary to the interests of the Society or injurious to its reputation he shall be liable to expulsion by resolution of an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting provided that at least seven days before such meeting he shall have had notice thereof and the allegations made against him, and of the intended passing of the resolution and that he shall at such meeting and before the passing of the resolution have had an opportunity of giving orally or in writing any defence he may think fit. A notice under this rule shall be held to have been duly given if sent by prepaid post to the address of the member appearing in the Society's books.

Subscriptions

4.
 - i) Annual subscriptions shall be fixed from time to time by the Management Committee. Subscriptions shall be due and payable in advance on the 1st January in each year. The subscriptions for any new member joining after 30th September shall cover the succeeding calendar year, save that members so joining shall not be entitled to receive the Bird Report published in the year they join.
 - ii) The Society's Fiscal Year shall be from the 1st January to the 31st December.
 - iii) Members whose subscriptions are unpaid by the 1st March shall be reminded by the Treasurer. Those whose subscriptions remain unpaid by the 1st June shall cease to be entitled to the privileges of membership.

Officers

5.
 - a) The Executive Officers of the Society shall all be honorary and be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting. They shall be the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
 - b) The Management Committee may propose an Honorary President of the Society for election at the Annual General Meeting. Such Honorary President shall hold office for five years and be eligible for re-election. He shall be invited to take the chair at each Annual General Meeting during his term of office.

Committee

6.
 - a) The Society shall be administered by a Management Committee which shall consist of the Society's Executive Officers, the Chairmen of sub-committees and the following officers:-
Conservation Liaison Officer, County Recorder, Editor of the Bird Report, Field Studies Secretary, Librarian, Membership Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Meetings Co-ordinator, Publicity Officer, Sales Officer. In addition, there shall be four ordinary members. All committee members shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting in every year.
 - b) Ordinary members of the Management Committee shall not serve for more than three consecutive years and after serving for this period shall not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year.
 - c) The Management Committee shall have power to fill any casual vacancy that may occur and shall also have power to co-opt not more than five additional members. Additional members of the Management Committee appointed under this clause shall cease membership automatically at the next Annual General Meeting.

- d) All nominations for officers and members of the Management Committee must be in writing and must reach the Secretary not later than 28 days before the Annual General Meeting and nominations must be accompanied by the written consent of the nominees.
- e) The Management Committee shall have power on behalf of the Society to enter into deeds of covenant with such members as shall be willing to covenant to pay an annual sum by way of donation for a period of at least seven years or for such a period as shall from time to time be prescribed by the general law and to make claims for the repayment of tax deducted by members in respect of payment under such Deed of Covenant.
- f) The Management Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees and to depute to them any of its powers except the power to appoint sub-committees. All sub-committees shall periodically report their proceedings to the Management Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with the directions of the Management Committee. Two shall constitute a quorum of a sub-committee.
- g) The Management Committee shall meet at least four times a year. Emergency committee meetings may be called at the discretion of the Chairman and one other officer of the Management Committee or shall be held within twentyone days on the written request of not less than five members of the Management Committee or on a petition signed by not less than thirty members of the Society.

Meetings

- 7.
 - a) An Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held once in every calendar year at which the Chairmen of the Management Committee and the sub-committees shall submit reports, and the Treasurer his financial report. Notices shall be sent out not less than six weeks before an Annual General Meeting. There shall not be more than fifteen months between one Annual General Meeting and the next.
 - b) Extraordinary General Meetings shall be convened within 28 days at the discretion of the Management Committee or by written request from thirty members of the Society.
 - c) At Management Committee meetings five shall form a quorum. At General Meetings 20 shall form a quorum. Junior members may attend general meetings but they shall not be entitled to vote and they shall not be counted as part of the necessary quorum.
 - d) At Committee Meetings and at General Meetings the Chairman shall preside (or in his absence a deputy chairman who shall be elected for this purpose). The Chairman of all committee meetings or general meetings shall have a vote, and an additional vote in the event of an equality of votes.

Visitors

8. The Management Committee shall decide from time to time if any fee is payable by visitors.

Deeds

9. All deeds and documents which require to be executed and signed by the Society (except transfers of real and personal property) which shall be executed in the names of Trustees to be nominated (as occasion may require by the Management Committee) shall be executed and signed by the Chairman and Honorary Secretary for the time being on behalf of the Society but no such deed or document shall be executed or signed except in pursuance of a resolution of the Management Committee.

Alteration of Rules

10. Alteration to these Rules shall receive the assent of two-thirds of the members present and voting at an Annual or an Extraordinary General Meeting. A resolution for the alteration of the Rules must be received by the Secretary of the Society at least 21 days before the meeting at which the resolution is to be brought forward. At least 14 days' notice of such a meeting must be given by the Secretary to the membership and must include notice of the alteration proposed. Provided that no alteration to Rule 2 Objects and Powers, Rule 11 Dissolution or this rule, shall take effect until the approval in writing of the Charity Commissioners or other authority having charitable jurisdiction shall have been obtained; and no alteration shall be made which would have the effect of causing the Society to cease to be a charity in law.

Dissolution

11. The Society may be dissolved by a Resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for the purpose of which 21 days' notice shall have been given (to the members). Such resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by or in the name of the Society, provided that if any property remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities such property shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the Society but shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to some or all of the objects of the Society as the Society may determine and if and in so far as effect cannot be given to this provision then to some other charitable purpose.