



WOMBOURNE
& DISTRICT
SCIENTIFIC
& NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

(27th February 2007)

1 NAME

The Society shall be known as the Wombourne & District Scientific and Natural History Society

2 OBJECTS

The objects of the Society shall be to practice, promote and discuss all aspects of Science and the Humanities.

3 MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Ordinary membership shall be open to any person over the age of 18.
- (b) Junior membership shall be open to any person under the age of 18.
- (c) Junior members must be accompanied at meetings by a parent or guardian.
- (d) Junior members shall not be entitled to propose a motion or vote at society meetings.
- (e) Honorary Membership may be conferred by reason of service to the Society, and such membership should be proposed, seconded and approved by a unanimous vote of Council.
- (f) A Register of Members will be maintained.

9 WINDING UP

- (a) In the event of the winding up of the affairs of the Society, funds shall be distributed with causes consistent with the objects of the Society as decided by Council members; such decisions will be incorporated in the resolution to wind up.
- (b) The resolution to wind up shall have two thirds of the members in attendance in agreement and shall be passed at a meeting called specifically for that purpose. The meeting shall be called with at least 28 days notice to members, in writing by the Secretary. The meeting shall have no less than 50% of the members in attendance. The meeting shall also be attended by a minimum of two-thirds of Council members.

10 DISCRETIONARY POWERS

The Council shall have discretionary powers in regard to the application of these Rules and shall have power to deal with matters for which no provision is made within the rules.

11 CONSTITUTIONAL ALTERATIONS

This Constitution shall not be altered except at the Annual General Meeting, or at an Extraordinary General Meeting with two thirds of the members in attendance being in agreement. Notice of a proposed alteration must be received in writing by the Secretary prior to the meeting. Proposed alterations can only be made by members.

8 LIBRARIES, EQUIPMENT & INSTRUMENTS

The Secretary or other Council members shall hold a list of books and works of reference, equipment or instruments belonging to members which they are prepared to lend to other members which will be available at meetings.

No responsibility shall be held by the Society for the loss or damage to the property of members. Items must be returned in the same condition as received and conditions of lending/borrowing must be made between the two parties involved. The period of lending shall be the time between one meeting and another although it may be at the discretion of the lender.

4 MANAGEMENT - COUNCIL

- (a) The Society shall elect, annually, the following officers:
Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer.
- (b) The Council shall comprise the officers and *four* other members who shall be elected at the AGM.
- (c) The Council shall have the powers to co-opt members for any purpose it thinks fit.
- (d) The Chair will normally be expected to hold office for two years or longer if re-elected. It would then be expected that the Deputy Chair shall become Chairman the year following his/her term of office.
- (e) Each elected official shall hold office from the close of the meeting at which he or she was elected until the next AGM.
- (f) All persons elected shall be eligible for re-election.

5 FINANCE

- (a) Subscriptions shall be as recommended by the Council. Junior membership will be free provided Junior Members are accompanied by an adult who is a member. Family membership shall also be available. The subscription rates shall be agreed annually at the AGM.
- (b) All subscriptions shall be due for payment by the first meeting of the season, or on joining the Society.
- (c) The Treasurer shall collect all monies due or payable to the Society and make payments as authorised by the Committee.
- (d) The treasurer shall keep a bank account in the name of the Society with signatures for cheques being issues by two out of the following three: Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- (e) Any loans made by Council members or others to the Society shall be repaid as/when agreed by a unanimous vote of Council, or in the event of a resolution to wind up the Society.

6 MEETINGS

- (a) The society shall aim to meet at least once a month year-round.
- (b) The AGM shall be held once a year where the business of the meetings shall include:
 - Presentation of Accounts,
 - Election of Council
 - Election of Auditor
 - AOB
- (c) All members will be notified at least 28 days in advance of the AGM.

7 VISITORS

Visitors are welcome to Society meetings, an entrance fee will be charged per non-member visit. The entrance fee t be decided at the discretion of the Council.