

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE FOLK ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HANTS

1 DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 The 'Association' shall be the Folk Association of South Hants, also known as 'FASH'.
- 1.2 The 'Society' shall be the English Folk Dance and Song Society
- 1.3 The 'District' shall be the southern part of Hampshire
- 1.4 The 'Membership' of the Association shall consist of those persons who support the objects of the Association and have paid the then current subscription
- 1.5 The 'Committee' shall be the executive committee of the Association appointed as below
- 1.6 The 'Financial Year' shall be the twelve months ending on the 31st March

2 OBJECTS

- 2.1 The objects of the Association shall be:-
 - a) To initiate and/or support and to encourage the initiation and/or support of folk activities in the District and surrounding areas
 - b) To assist with liaison between folk activities in the District

3 AFFILIATION

- 3.1 The Association shall be affiliated to the Society.

4 GENERAL MEETINGS

- 4.1 The Committee shall convene Annual General Meetings of the Membership to be held once in each calendar year and within three months of the end of the Financial Year. An Annual General Meeting will receive the reports and accounts of the Association, set subscription rates for the Association, appoint the Committee and conduct any other business as shall be deemed appropriate.
- 4.2 The Committee may, and if so requested by twenty members of the Association shall, within ten days arrange an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Membership to be held within a further thirty days.
- 4.3 A minimum twenty one days notice of such General Meetings shall be given in writing to the Membership. In the case of Extraordinary General Meetings this notice shall include the purpose of the meeting.
- 4.4 The chairman of such General Meetings shall be appointed by the Committee but may be replaced at any time at the will of the majority of the Membership present.
- 4.5 No business shall be transacted at a General Meeting unless there are at least five Members of the Association present.

5 THE COMMITTEE

- 5.1 The Committee shall consist of up to eight Members of the Association selected using the procedure defined below.
- 5.2 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than four additional members.
- 5.3 The Committee shall appoint from its own members a Secretary and a Treasurer and any other officers it deems advisable.
- 5.4 The Committee shall determine from time to time its own proceedings and frequency of meetings; however a quorum shall be at least four non co-opted members. The Committee may appoint sub-committees and such sub-committees may include non-members of the Association.
- 5.5 The Committee shall cause proper records to be kept of its proceedings, and shall maintain a register of members of the Association.

6 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

- 6.1 Members of the Committee shall be nominated at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the next Annual General Meeting. In the event that there are more than eight nominations, eight will be selected by ballot of the Membership present.

7 ACCOUNTS

- 7.1 The Committee shall cause proper records to be kept of all financial matters, maintain a bank or building society account in the name of the Association, and make its accounts up to the end of the Financial Year. The accounts shall be inspected by a suitable person.

8 CHANGE OF CONSTITUTION AND RULES

- 8.1 Changes to the Constitution and Rules shall only be made at a General Meeting of the Association. Proposed changes must be sent to the Secretary at least thirty days before the General Meeting and the Secretary shall notify the Membership in writing of these at least twenty one days before the General Meeting.
- 8.2 At the discretion of the Chairman, non substantive amendments to any such proposals may be considered at the Meeting and incorporated in the proposed change if there is a majority vote of the Membership present in favour.
- 8.3 The proposed changes, with any amendments agreed as above, shall take effect if supported by a two thirds majority vote of the Membership present at the Meeting.

9 DISSOLUTION

- 9.1 In the event that the Association shall cease to exist then no assets shall be paid or distributed to the Membership. Any remaining assets after discharging all debts and liabilities of the Association shall be given or transferred to the Society or other organisations with aims similar to those of the Association.

10 DETERMINATION

- 10.1 Any question on the interpretation or definition of these rules shall be determined by the Committee, but such determination may be over-ruled by a General Meeting.