

Longstowe History Society

Constitution

January 2017

The name of the Society is the “Longstowe History Society”. It was formally launched on 28 June 2016.

The aim of the Society is to promote interest in the past, present and future of the village of Longstowe and its inhabitants. To that end the Society will undertake a range of activities including but not limited to the following:

- hold meetings and events for members and visitors, which will be planned by the committee each year;
- maintain and safeguard an archive of items relating to the village, encourage the growth of this asset and make it available for legitimate research;
- publish papers, reports, books and other literature;
- co-operate, where appropriate, with individuals and other organisations whose interests coincide or overlap.

Membership is open to all residents of the village, and to anyone else interested in the village. The committee reserves the right to withdraw/decline membership.

Funding of the Society is from subscriptions, sales and other fund-raising activities. Annual membership subscription and fees for visitors to meetings shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting each year. Membership fees become due on 1st June each year. Only fully paid members may vote on any matter concerning the Society

Expenses The committee shall, out of funds, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society, and allocate or donate such sums as deemed necessary for the furtherance of the aims of the Society, and invest funds in hand appropriately.

Accounts are for the period 1st January to 31st December each year and shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting.

An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year in or about January. The Annual Report and Accounts shall be presented at this meeting.

A committee consisting of chairman, secretary, treasurer and no more than three other members shall be elected at the AGM. The committee shall have the power to co-opt members and others in an advisory and non-voting capacity as appropriate. In the event of equality in votes cast in any matter the chairman shall have a casting

vote. A quorum for committee meetings shall be three members. No less than two committee meetings shall be held each year. At least five days' notice shall be given for committee meetings. Sub committees may be set up to deal with matters as considered fit by the main committee.

Amendments may be made to this constitution by a two thirds majority of those members present at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting providing 21 days' notice of the proposed amendments has been given to all members.

Special General Meetings may be held providing they are at the written request of at least 10 per cent of the fully paid membership and at least 21 days' notice has been given.

Dissolution The Society may be dissolved by a two thirds majority of members present at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting, followed by confirmation by a simple majority vote at a further Special General Meeting held at least 14 days after the initial meeting. If a motion for the dissolution of the Society is to be proposed at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, this motion shall be referred to specifically when notice of that meeting is given.

In the event of the dissolution of the Society, any available funds shall be transferred to one or more institutions having objectives reasonably similar to that of the Society, to be chosen by the committee and approved by the meeting at which the dissolution of the Society is confirmed.

On dissolution, any records of the Society are to be placed in appropriate safe-keeping as decided by the committee and approved by the meeting at which the dissolution is confirmed.

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