

# Buckinghamshire Guild of weavers, Spinners and Dyers

## Articles of Constitution

1. Name. The name of the guild shall be "Buckinghamshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers" and the area covered by the Guild's activities shall be that of Buckinghamshire.

2. The Guild shall maintain membership of the Association of the Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers and support the objects laid down in its constitution.

3. Objectives.

The objectives of the guild shall be:-

- a) To promote and encourage interest in the traditional crafts of weaving, spinning and dyeing;
- b) To maintain and improve existing standards of craftsmanship and design;
- c) To assist members in the choice and use of apparatus and materials, and to give mutual aid at all stages of progress;
- d) To co-operate or affiliate with other organisations having similar objectives;
- e) To collect and collate all information, specimens of craftsmanship, books and pamphlets, as may be of use to the members for their crafts and to hold these at the disposal of the members.

4. Subscriptions

- a) The annual subscription shall be agreed at the Annual General Meeting prior to the applicable year.
- b) The Guild year shall run from 1st January to 31st December, the AGM to be held on the first or second meeting of the year.
- c) Membership shall lapse in cases where the annual subscription is 4 months in arrears.
- d) Associate Membership of the guild is available to any person aged 16 or under at the discretion of the Committee at an annual subscription of 50% of adult membership. (See 4a)

5. Officers

The following Honorary Officers shall be elected to serve for a term of not longer than five years.

- a) Chairman
- b) General Secretary
- c) Treasurer

6. Executive Committee

- a) The management of the guild shall be the responsibility of an executive committee of six members, each of whom is elected to perform a specific function, viz: Catering, Workshop Organiser, Newsletter and Publicity and Programme Secretary, together with the three Honorary Officers appointed under Article 5, which committee shall have power to appoint such other officers as may be required and shall have the power to co-opt a maximum of three additional committee members.

- b) The election of officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be conducted by ballot at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected to serve for not longer than three years.
- d) Officers and Committee members may be nominated for and elected to perform another function in replacement of their original appointment.
- e) Four shall be considered a quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- f) Any member may nominate another member to be an Honorary Officer or a member of the Executive Committee. Such nominations must be made in writing in a form to be decided by the Executive Committee and received by the Honorary General Secretary at least eight days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

## 7 Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have power to take any action, not inconsistent with the articles of this Constitution, which it deems advisable for the Benefit of the Guild, including the following:

- a) Fill a vacancy arising on the executive committee during any year by the appointment of a member who shall have voting power.
- b) Fill a vacancy arising among the officers mentioned in Article 5 during a year by the appointment of a member who shall have voting power on the Executive Committee.
- c) Appoint and direct sub-committees for special purposes. Such sub-committees shall not incur any expenditure or undertake any publicity without the written authority of the Executive Committee. The Honorary Officers under Article 5 shall be Ex-Officio members of every sub-committee.
- d) Call a General Meeting of the Guild at any time in accordance with the conditions mentioned in Article 9.
- e) Decide any question of interpretation of the Articles of the Constitution pending confirmation at the next ensuing General or Annual General Meeting.
- f) The Executive Committee shall meet not less than once quarterly.

## 8. Prevention of publicity or trading in the name of the Guild

- a) No member in the name of the Guild may publish any matter without the written consent of the Executive Committee.
- b) No member may carry on any trade activity in the name of the Guild or so word an advertisement of a trade activity that the General Public would be led to believe that it was sponsored by the Guild. Any contravention of Clause 8a and 8b will render the member liable to expulsion.
- c) The decision whether a contravention has occurred or not shall be taken by the members at the next General Meeting which shall have power to expel a member for such contravention.

## 9. General Meetings

- a) There shall not be less than six meetings each year, one of which shall be held no later than 31st January.

- b) A report of the activities of the Guild during the previous year and a Financial Statement signed by the Honorary Auditor, shall be presented by the Executive Committee at each Annual General Meeting.
- c) A General Meeting shall be called at any time, if considered necessary, by the Executive Committee or within one calendar month of the receipt by the Honorary General Secretary of a written request, signed by at least ten members, stating the purpose of the General Meeting.
- d) At least fifteen days written notice of a General Meeting shall be sent to every member. The notice shall state the Agenda for consideration at the meeting and no other business shall be decided.
- e) Written notice of intention to move a resolution at a General or Annual General Meeting, together with a copy of the resolution, shall be sent to the Honorary General Secretary at least five weeks before the date of the meeting.
- f) The chairman at a General or Annual General Meeting shall have a casting vote.

#### 10. Dissolution of the Guild

If, at a General or Annual General Meeting, a resolution for dissolution of the guild is approved by a two-thirds majority of the members voting and, within one calendar month thereafter, such resolution is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of members on the current register voting by postal ballot, the executive committee shall liquidate the assets of the guild and, after discharge of all known liabilities, shall divide the proceeds equally among all the members of the current register and declare the dissolution of the guild.

#### 11. Amendment of the Constitution

- a) The articles of the Constitution of the Guild shall be amended only by Resolution at the Annual General Meeting, due notice having been given in accordance with Article 9.
- b) The amending resolution shall not be effective unless it is approved by a two thirds majority of members voting.

Amended at AGM 12 January 1991

Amended at AGM 9 January 2016

Amended at AGM 20 January 2019