

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY **CONSTITUTION**

Proposed for adoption at the Annual General Meeting on 9th November 2022

1. **NAME:** The Society shall be known as “The Lindfield Horticultural Society”.
2. **OBJECTS:** The objects of the Society shall be to promote and encourage interest in all branches of horticulture.
3. **MANAGEMENT:** The management of the general affairs of the Society shall be vested in a committee.
4. **COMMITTEE:**
 - (a) The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and not more than twelve other members, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
 - (b) All members of the Committee shall retire at the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.
 - (c) The Committee has the power to co-opt additional members onto said committee subject to the limit set out in 4(a) above.
 - (d) Five members shall form a quorum for the Committee.
 - (e) The Committee shall have power to appoint any sub-committee and to co-opt any member for service thereon.
5. **PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS:**
 - (a) The members may appoint a President on an emeritus basis at Annual General Meetings.
 - (b) The President shall be entitled to open any General Meeting of the Society and shall be re-elected on an annual basis as per 4(b) above.
 - (c) The members may appoint Vice-Presidents on an emeritus basis at Annual General Meetings, and such appointments shall stand until terminated by resignation or a resolution at a General Meeting.
6. **MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS:**
 - (a) Members shall pay either an annual subscription or a life membership subscription which shall be fifteen times the annual subscription the amount of which to be fixed by the Society in General Meeting. Annual subscriptions shall be payable on the first day of October each year.
 - (b) Any member whose subscription is three months in arrears shall be deemed to have ceased to be a member.
 - (c) Each member upon payment of his/her current annual subscription shall be entitled to receive a membership card for the year.
7. **ACCOUNTS:** The financial year shall end on the 30th September and a Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet in respect of the previous financial year shall be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.
8. **GENERAL MEETINGS:**
 - (a) An Annual General Meeting of members shall be held not later than the end of December each year.
 - (b) A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee or at the written request of not less than twenty members or 10% of the membership, whichever figure is lower.

(c) Notice of each General Meeting shall be circulated to all members at least seven days before the date of the meeting, and this may be given by electronic means where the Society holds members' e-mail addresses.

(d) Any proposition which a member or members intend to submit at a General Meeting must be in the hands of the Secretary not less than twenty one days prior to such meeting and such proposition shall be incorporated in the Notice of the Meeting.

(e) If less than twenty members (or 10% of the membership, whichever figure is lower) are present at a Special General Meeting the meeting shall be declared void.

(f) At any General Meeting the question before the meeting shall be decided by a majority of those present and voting, except where the provisions of Rules 10 and 11 apply.

(g) At all General Meetings in the event of an equality of votes the Chairman for the time being of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

9. EXAMINER: An Examiner shall be elected at each General Meeting and the Committee shall have power to fill any casual vacancy arising during the year.

10. ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION:

(a) Any proposed alteration to the Constitution of the Society must be incorporated in the notice for a General Meeting.

(b) The Constitution may not be changed without the consent of two-thirds of the members present and voting thereat and Rule 8 (e) shall apply.

11. WINDING-UP:

(a) The Society may be wound up by a resolution passed by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a Special General Meeting.

(b) Any surplus arising from such winding-up shall be handed to another organisation having similar aims and objects or to a local charitable organisation as determined by the members at the Special General Meeting.