

# LEICESTER LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## NATURAL HISTORY SECTION

### CONSTITUTION

NB. Throughout this document "Society" refers to Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society  
"Section" refers to Natural History Section thereof.

#### 1. Objects

The objects of the Section shall be to encourage greater appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of Natural History, particularly in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (VC55)

#### 2. Membership

2.1 Any person may become a Member of the Section upon payment of the appropriate subscription. Any Member or Associate of the Society may become a Member of the Section on payment of a reduced subscription. Subscription rates to be determined at the Annual General Meeting.

2.2 Subscriptions shall become due on the 1st January and membership shall be deemed to have elapsed after more than six months overdue, or at the discretion of the Treasurer.

2.3 The Section reserves the right to remove a person's right to membership if it is believed to be in the best interests of the Section.

#### 3. Management

3.1 The management of the Section shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the following officers:- Chairperson (or Chairpersons, when it is agreed at an AGM that the Section be led by Joint Chairpersons), Vice Chairperson (if only one Chairperson), General Secretary, Minutes Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Co-ordinator(s) (Winter and/or Summer), Editor, and up to four other members.

3.2 Committee meetings will be led by one of the Chairpersons. If it is necessary, the Committee shall elect some other Officer to chair a particular meeting.

Six Members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Committee.

Each Member of the Committee shall have one vote and in the case of no clear majority, the Chair of the meeting shall have the casting vote.

3.3 Officers and other members of the Committee shall be elected annually. The Chairperson(s) shall not serve for more than two years consecutively, unless at the AGM it is agreed to extend the period in the absence of other nominations.

Members of the Committee other than Officers shall not serve for more than three consecutive years, unless at the AGM it is agreed to extend the period in the absence of other nominations.

3.4 The Section will use online and telephone banking services for the management of its finances.

3.5 The Committee may delegate matters to a Sub-committee or to individuals who shall be responsible to the Committee and need not be Members of it. No decision involving finance shall be delegated; such matters shall be dealt with by the Committee only. If necessary, co-opted Members shall be subject to re-appointment annually at the AGM. The Chairperson(s) and the General Secretary shall be ex officio members of such Sub-committees.

3.6 Meetings of the Committee shall be held on the dates and at the times decided by them. The number and frequency of meetings should be sufficient to meet the needs of the Section, but no less than twice a year.

3.7 The Committee may nominate and elect one of its Members to represent the Section on the Council of the Society.

3.8 The Section may elect on the recommendation of the Committee to the offices of Honorary President or Honorary Vice-President any Member who has rendered conspicuous service to the Section; the Honorary President to be elected annually and to be an ex-officio member of the Committee. The Section may also elect on the recommendation of the Committee to Honorary Life Membership any Member it wishes to honour in this way.

#### **4. Annual General Meeting**

4.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held to receive and approve the Annual Report and Accounts for presentation to the Council of the Society and to elect the Officers and Members of the Committee, all of whom shall be nominated by two Members of the Section.

4.2 Ten days' notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to all Members.

4.3 All decisions and elections at Meetings will be based on a simple majority vote.

#### **5. Special General Meeting**

A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee or on a written request sent to the General Secretary of not less than ten Members. A Special General Meeting shall be held within twenty days of such a request and ten days' notice shall be given to all Members.

Revised Constitution as per Working Group 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Members of the Working Group – Hazel Graves  
Peter Thompson  
Raita Hayes  
Richard Graves

This Constitution was originally drawn up in 1980, updated in 2013, and further updated in 2019, to be presented to the Membership at the AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019, where it was accepted.

The Constitution was amended on October 15<sup>th</sup> by the Committee, presented to the Membership and accepted by them.

12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Raita Hayes Secretary

