

CHRISTCHURCH SOCIETY OF WOODTURNERS

CONSTITUTION

Adopted at the Annual General Meeting 16th. March 1994
Amended, 17th March 2022

11. FINANCE

(a) The Society shall, at the Annual Members Meeting of each year, appoint a professional accountant or a Member, not being of the Committee, to audit the accounts for the year ending on the last day of December. A copy of such accounts when duly audited shall be sent to each Member of the Society with the notice convening the next Annual Members Meeting. At such a meeting the Treasurer - or in his absence a person nominated by the Committee - shall present the accounts to the Society for acceptance;

(b) The Treasurer shall maintain a record of all equipment and assets of the Society;

(c) The Society will maintain an insurance policy to indemnify the Committee and Members against claims for loss or injury sustained by Members of the Society or by members of the public;

(d) In the event of dissolution of the Society, any tangible assets will be sold by the Committee within a period of two months after the date of dissolution and together with the remaining funds after all debts have been paid, be distributed in equal proportions to the current Members of the Society;

(e) No contract for purchases or services that exceeds 75% of the bank assets then current shall be awarded unless two tenders have been received. Any expenditure exceeding this amount is to be approved by a majority of Members present at a general members meeting.

12. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

Should the Committee decide that the conduct of a Member is prejudicial to the interests of the Society then a Special Members Meeting shall be convened to decide the case for expulsion of that Member by giving no less than twenty one days notice in writing. Any action taken at that meeting shall be carried by a vote of more than two thirds of the voting Members present.

13. NOTICES

A notice may be served by the Committee upon any Member either personally or to his last known address.

14. DISSOLUTION

The Committee may, at its discretion, propose the dissolution of the Society at a Special Members Meeting convened for the purpose by giving no less than twenty one days notice. The proposition may be carried by a vote of more than two thirds of the voting Members present.

15. INTERPRETATION AND BINDING EFFECT

(a) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the Constitution and the decision of the Committee upon any question of interpretation or upon any other matter not provided for by the Constitution shall be final;

(b) Every Member of the society shall, by virtue of his membership, be bound by the provisions of the Constitution (and rules and regulations if there be any).

16. NON DISCRIMINATION

Any expressions used within the Constitution (or within the rules and regulations if there be any) shall be capable of interpretation as applying to all genders.

17. DATA REGISTRATION ACT

To facilitate the administration of the Society, the Committee shall be empowered to maintain a computerised data base of membership details. Under no circumstances shall this information be transferred or communicated to any other person or organisation. Any Member not willing for his membership details to be stored on computer shall so inform the Committee in writing.

1. NAME

The society shall be known as the "Christchurch Society of Woodturners".

The Society's name shall not be used for personal gain by any Member without the prior consent of the Committee.

2. OBJECTS

The objects shall be to encourage, foster, develop and promote the study and practice of the art science and craft of woodturning, and to that end :-

(a) To establish and maintain contact and communication and fellowship amongst those interested therein;

(b) To hold private and public meetings for discussion, display of work and instruction (by lecture, display, demonstration or otherwise);

(c) To hold and to participate in the holding by others, of private and public exhibitions;

(d) To co-operate with other bodies.

3. SOCIETY NOT FOR PROFIT

(a) The income and property of the Society, however derived, shall be applied solely toward promotion of the Objects of the Society as set forth in this Constitution;

(b) No portion of the income or property shall be paid or transferred by way of dividend, bonus or by any other way of profit to the Members of the Society other than as provided in Article 11 para (d);

(c) No Member shall be paid expenses, other than those agreed by the Committee.

4. PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

a) The privileges of membership shall include the right to attend all meetings of the Society, to use and enjoy the facilities of the Society upon such terms as the Committee may from time to time determine and, subject to the provision of these articles, to submit any matter and to vote on any matter submitted to the decision of any meeting or poll of the Society;

(b) The right to and privileges of membership shall not be transferable and shall cease upon the termination of membership.

5. MEMBERSHIP

There shall be two categories of membership - Honorary and Ordinary.

6. (a) A Member of the Society or other person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Society or to the art, science or craft of woodturning may be elected as a Honorary Member of the Society;

6. ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS

(b) A Member wishing to propose a candidate for election to Honorary Membership shall inform the Committee prior to the Annual Members Meeting;

(c) The proposal that that person shall be elected as a Honorary Member will be placed before the membership at the Annual Members Meeting, and must be carried by a majority of two thirds of the Members present at that meeting;

(d) A Honorary Member shall enjoy all the privileges of membership but shall not be required to pay any fees associated with that membership.

7. ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS

(a) Every candidate for membership shall furnish such information and details as the Committee shall require;

(b) A candidate for membership may attend a meeting as a guest or visitor but will be expected to apply for membership of the Society before attending further meetings;

(c) A candidate shall become a Member of the Society upon being elected by the Committee;

(d) The Society, through the Committee shall reserve the right to refuse membership without giving reason;

(e) A notification of election and a copy of the Society's Constitution shall be made available to each candidate upon election to the Society.

8. SUBSCRIPTION

(a) Subscriptions to the Society shall be due on the first day of April each year;

(b) A Member joining after the first day of September shall pay one half of the annual subscription;

(c) A Member joining after the first day of January shall pay the full annual subscription but no further subscription shall be due on the following first day of April for that Member;

(d) The subscription shall be set by the Committee having regard to the forecast of expenditure in the forthcoming year and shall be offered to the membership for acceptance at the Annual Members Meeting. At the discretion of the Committee, a revised rate of subscription may be offered to the membership for acceptance at a Special Members' Meeting convened for that purpose;

(e) Any Member who has not paid the appropriate subscription by 31st of May in any year shall be deemed to be no longer a Member of the Society;

(f) A Member wishing to resign shall do so by notice in writing to the Secretary. Any refund of subscription will not normally be made but this shall be entirely at the discretion of the Committee.

9. MANAGEMENT

(a) The elected officers of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary;

(b) The general management of the Society shall be vested in the Committee which shall consist of the elected officers and at least one elected Member;

(c) A Member may be co-opted onto the Committee by agreement of the membership at a general meeting;

(d) The Committee shall meet at such times as they may consider necessary for the transactions of the Society's business and in any case, one shall not be later than twenty one days after the Annual Members Meeting;

(e) The Committee shall regulate its own procedure;

(f) The Committee shall have the power of filling by invitation any vacancy which may have occurred during its term of office;

(g) The Committee shall have the power to appoint a sub-committee which shall be chaired by a Member of the Committee;

(h) The Committee shall have the power to make such rules and regulations as they may deem to be necessary for the well-being of the Society provided that such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the articles of the Constitution;

(i) The Officers and members of the Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Members Meeting. Notice of any proposals of candidates for any of the posts should be given before the Annual Members Meeting and be accompanied by the consent of the Member so proposed. If at the Annual Members Meeting, it appears that the number of candidates duly proposed does not exceed the respective vacancies, the Chairman of the meeting may ask the Members to accept the candidates as duly elected. If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, the Meeting shall forthwith proceed to election by secret ballot. No nomination of a candidate shall be valid unless both the candidate and his proposers are entitled to attend the meeting at which the election is to take place;

(j) The Officers and Committee Members shall stand down annually, but be eligible for immediate re-election subject to the vote of the membership and their willingness to so be elected;

(k) The Annual Members Meeting shall be held in the month of March each year. The agenda, together with nominations for the Officers and Committee Members, shall be sent to all Members prior to the meeting;

(l) The agenda for the meeting shall include "any other business".

10. OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

The Committee may propose to the membership at the Annual Members Meeting that a person be elected to the office of Honorary President of the Society for the time being. Such election must be approved by a majority vote of two thirds of the Members present. A person holding the office of President of the Society shall not be eligible to hold another office within the Society.