

CONSTITUTION

[Adopted at the A.G.M. held on 21st June 1994]

1. TITLE

The name of the Society shall be "The Norwich Philharmonic Society" [hereinafter referred to as the Society].

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Society shall be to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of music, by the presentation of concerts and other activities.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The members of the Society shall be members of the Orchestra and Chorus and Friends of the Society who pay the annual subscription at the appropriate rate or rates as shall be determined by the Committee, the subscription being payable in advance, and [in the case of performing members] who shall provide such evidence of musical ability as the Committee may require.

4. AUDITIONS

All members of the Orchestra and Chorus shall be given an audition at the discretion of the Orchestral and Choral Conductors respectively with such Officers and Members of the Committee as they shall appoint. Auditions will in every case be held at intervals of not more than five years.

5. OFFICERS

The Society shall have a Patron and a President. The President shall, whenever possible, take the chair at all Annual General Meetings. The Officers of the Society, all of whom shall be honorary and elected annually at the Annual General Meeting, shall be:

- Chairman
- Vice-Chairman
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Chorus Secretary
- Orchestra Secretary
- Secretary of the Friends of the Society
- Librarian

6. COMMITTEE

The management of the Society, including all the arrangements for the concerts and other events and the control of finance shall be in the hands of the Committee which shall consist of the Officers and seven ordinary members elected by the Annual General Meeting and comprising one from the Orchestra, two from the Chorus and four who are not members of either of these two bodies; and in addition such co-opted members as shall be thought necessary. Ten shall form a quorum. The ordinary members, whether elected or co-opted, shall retire after three years' service and shall not be eligible for re-election or co-option for one year. The Committee shall have power to fill any casual vacancy and the person so appointed shall serve for the unexpired period of office of his or her predecessor. The Committee shall have power to appoint such sub-Committees as it shall from time to time think necessary. The Committee shall appoint an Orchestral Conductor, a Chorus Conductor and a Leader of the Orchestra to hold office for such period and upon such terms as the Committee shall consider appropriate. The Committee shall also appoint annually a representative to the National Federation of Music Societies who, if not already a member of the Committee, shall be co-opted upon it.

7. FINANCE

- a] The financial year shall end on the 31st May.
- b] A banking account shall be opened in the name of the Society and cheques shall be signed by not less than two signatories authorized by the Committee of whom one shall be either the Chairman or the Treasurer.
- c] The Society may receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees, and tickets for any or all of its concerts and other events may be offered for sale to the public.
- d] The income and property of the Society whensoever derived shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of the Society as set forth above and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred either directly or indirectly to any member or members of the Society except in payment of professional fees or legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.
- e] In the event of the winding-up or dissolution of the Society any remaining assets after all liabilities have been discharged shall not be paid or transferred to any members of the Society but shall be transferred to a charitable organization whose objects are similar to those of the Society and whose rules preclude the distribution of income and assets among its members.

8 GENERAL MEETING

As soon as possible after the end of each financial year the members shall be summoned to an Annual General Meeting of which at least fourteen days' notice in writing shall have been given.

9 VOTING

Voting shall be by show of hands, unless the Chairman rules to the contrary, and in the event of equality the Chairman shall have the casting vote. At the Annual General Meeting or at any Special General Meeting only a member as described in Clause 3 is entitled to vote.

10 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The annual financial accounts of the Society shall be examined by an independent examiner who shall carry out a review of the accounts in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 1993 or any amendment thereof and such accounts shall be submitted to the members at the Annual General Meeting for approval.

11 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting shall be called upon the receipt by the Honorary Secretary of a request for such a meeting either from the Committee or from at least twenty members of the Society. The Honorary Secretary shall call such a meeting within twenty-eight days of the receipt of the request, the same notice being given as for the Annual General Meeting.

12. AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that fourteen days' notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members and provided also that nothing herein contained shall authorize any amendment which shall have the effect of the Society ceasing to be a charity.
