

MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION & RULES

1. **NAME:** The name of the Society shall be the Mere Historical Society.
2. **OBJECTS:** The objects of the Society shall be to foster interest in history in general and in Mere and district in particular. It will do this by arranging Lectures and Talks and by organising visits to relevant places of interest.
3. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership of the Society shall be open to anyone on application to the Membership Secretary and payment of the annual subscription.
4. **SUBSCRIPTION:** The annual subscription shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and be payable on the 1st April each year, or on joining. A member joining on or after 1st January in any year shall not be required to pay a further subscription until 1st April of the following year. A member whose subscription is more than 12 months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned from the Society.
5. **CONDUCT OF AFFAIRS:** The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and such others as the Committee deems necessary. Five Committee members, including the Chair and/or Vice-Chair, shall form a quorum.
6. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE:** The election of members to the Committee shall take place at the AGM. Committee members shall hold office until the next AGM, when they will be eligible for re-election. The Committee may co-opt additional members at any time.
7. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The AGM shall be held in March or April each year and the business to be transacted shall include:
 - (a) The presentation by the Committee of a report on the affairs of the Society.
 - (b) The presentation of checked accounts by the Treasurer.
 - (c) Any business of which notice has been given by any member of the Society in writing to the Secretary at least two weeks before the date of the Meeting.
 - (d) The election of a Committee.

8. **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM):**..The Committee may at any time, or at the request of any twenty members in writing to the Secretary, convene an EGM. At such a Meeting only the business specified shall be considered.
9. **CONDUCT OF GENERAL MEETINGS:** At all General Meetings (AGM or EGM) the chair shall be taken by the Chair, Vice-Chair or other Committee member chosen by the Meeting.
- (a) A majority of at least two-thirds of those present shall be necessary to delete, alter or make additions to the Rules of the Society or to dissolve the Society, provided that at least one quarter of the total membership of the Society is present.
 - (b) All other resolutions shall be decided by a majority vote. Twenty members present shall form a quorum.
10. **FINANCE:**
- (a) The financial year of the Society shall end on 31st December in any year.
 - (b) An account in the name of the Society shall be maintained at a bank to be approved by the Committee.
 - (c) Cheques drawn on the Society's account may be signed, or electronic bank payments authorised, only by named officers agreed by the Committee to include the Treasurer and Chair. A minimum of two officers will be required to authorise each payment.
11. **DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY:** In the event of the dissolution of the Society, all assets of the Society remaining after discharge of its liabilities shall be donated to an organisation whose aims are broadly similar to those of this Society, selected by the members at a General Meeting.

Diane Ellis
Secretary
11/01/2023