

CONSTITUTION OF ROTHERHAM AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

1. **Name:** The name of the Society shall be the Rotherham District Civic Society;
2. **Objects:**
 - (a) The Society shall promote the following objects by charitable means but not otherwise:-
 - (b) To encourage high standards of architecture and planning in the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham;
 - (c) To stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of the area of the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham;
 - (d) To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public amenity or historic interest;
 - (e) To listen to the concerns of local people and, where appropriate, act as a channel for their views;
 - (f) To form partnerships with other organisations to pursue common aims;

To pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions, lectures and promotion of schemes of a charitable nature.

3. **Membership:**

Membership shall be open to all who are interested in actively furthering the purpose of the Society. No member shall have power to vote at any meeting of the Society if his or her subscription is in arrear at the time.
4. **Subscriptions:**

Membership shall be open to all who support the aims of the Society. Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid six months after becoming due.

The subscription shall be:-
Membership £5 per annum;
Life membership £50;
Corporate membership £35 per annum.
5. **Meetings:**

An annual general meeting (**AGM**) shall be held in or about April, or as soon thereafter as circumstances permit, to receive the executive committee's report and accounts and to elect the officers and members of the executive committee. A special general meeting (**SGM**) shall be held at the request of 20 or more voting members. Fourteen days notice of an AGM or SGM shall be given to all members and ten members personally present shall constitute a quorum. Ordinary meetings shall be called at the discretion of the executive committee.
6. **Officers:**

The officers of the Society shall be the chairman, the vice chairman, the honorary secretary and the honorary treasurer. Nominations shall be made at or before the AGM and shall be subject of the consent of the nominee. The officers shall be eligible for re-election.

A president and a vice president may be elected at a general meeting for a period to be decided at such a meeting. Nominees for election as officers or committee members shall declare, at the meeting at which their election is to be considered, any financial or professional interest which may be of concern to the Society.

7. **Committee:**

- (a) The executive committee (EC) shall consist of the officers and ten further members and shall have the power to co-opt to fill vacancies. The president and vice president may speak at EC meetings but without ex officio voting powers.
- (b) Nominations for election to the EC shall be made at or before the AGM, in writing and subject to the consent of the nominee.
- (c) The EC shall be responsible for running the affairs of the Society and making decisions on its behalf. Five members shall constitute a quorum for an EC meeting.
- (d) Any member of the EC or other committee of the Society having a direct or indirect financial or professional interest in a matter being discussed shall declare such interest and shall not speak on such matters except by invitation of the chairman or vote thereon.

8. **Appeals:**

The EC shall have the power to make appeals, solicit donations and canvass monies for carrying out the objects of the Society.

9. **Expenses:**

The EC shall, out of the monies received by the Society, pay all proper expenses of administration and management and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit for or towards the objects of the Society.

10. **Investment:**

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not immediately required shall be invested by the EC in such manner as it thinks fit, subject to the law.

11. **Borrowing:**

The EC may borrow for the objects of the Society such monies at such rate of interest and in such manner as it thinks fit.

12. **Amendments:**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at an AGM or SGM, provided that ten days notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given to all members and provided that nothing therein shall authorise the expenditure of the Society's funds on an object which is not a charitable object.

13. **Dissolution:**

- (a) A motion for the dissolution of the Society may be moved at an AGM or SGM provided that the motion has been specifically referred to in the notice of the meeting.
The Society shall not be dissolved unless the motion is carried by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting and subsequently confirmed by a simple majority of members present and voting at a further SGM held not less than 14 days after the previous SGM.
- (b) In the event of dissolution, the minute books and other records of the Society shall be deposited with the Civic Trust and the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such charitable bodies, having objects similar or reasonably similar to those herein declared, and may be chosen by the EC and approved by the Charity Commissioners for England Wales.