

THE NORTH DEVON CHORAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

(1) The name of the Society shall be The North Devon Choral Society.

(2) OBJECTS: The object of the Society shall be to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as the Society through its Committee shall determine from time to time.

In furtherance of this object but not further or otherwise, the Society shall have the following powers:

(a) To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatever by way of subscriptions and otherwise, provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its primary charitable objects.

(b) To do all such other lawful things as shall further the objects of the Society.

(3) THE MANAGEMENT of the Society shall be invested in the Committee.

(4) OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE: The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Conductor, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven other members, who shall be elected annually by and from among the members of the Society at an Annual General Meeting, but the committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members to serve until not later than the next ensuing Annual General Meeting. Every member of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election.

(5) PRESIDENT: The Society may from time to time in General Meeting elect a President who need not be a member of the Society. The office of President may be occupied for up to five consecutive years without re-election and thereafter by annual re-election.

(6) VICE-PRESIDENTS AND PATRONS: The Committee may from time to time appoint Vice-Presidents and Patrons of the Society upon such terms as it may think proper in the interests of the Society, and such persons need not be members of the Society.

(7) MEMBERSHIP: Members of the Society shall be approved by the Committee. Applicants for membership shall furnish such evidence of their musical attainment as the Committee may from time to time require.

(8) RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP: Members shall (a) duly and punctually pay their subscriptions, (b) regularly attend rehearsals and concerts. The Committee may from time to time make rules designed to exclude from performance at concerts any members who have failed to comply with this rule.

(9) FINANCE: (a) The Subscription shall consist of such sum or sums payable at such times as the Society may from time to time determine in a General Meeting.

(b) [i] The income and property of the Society whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in its Rules, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or payment of a professional fee, to any trustee or member of the Society, except as honoraria to conductors, soloists or instrumentalists.

[ii] On the winding up of the Society, any surplus of assets over liabilities shall be handed over to a Charitable Society or Association having similar aims and objects.

(10) GENERAL MEETINGS: may be called either

- a) by not fewer than ten members giving a written and signed requisition to the Committee which requisition shall set out the text of any resolution to be put forward by them at such a meeting, or
- b) by the Committee. In either event, the Secretary shall give at least 14 days notice of the place, date and time of the General Meeting to members either in writing or by announcement at a rehearsal (whether or not all members of the Society are then present). There shall be an Annual General Meeting called by the Committee for the purposes of receiving Reports from the Officers, receiving and adopting the independently examined financial accounts, the appointment of independent examiners, and the election of officers and other members of the Committee, and any other business placed on the Agenda by the Committee. Subject to Clause 11, hereof all voting at General Meetings or in Committee shall be by a simple majority.

(11) Alterations to this Constitution shall receive the assent of two-thirds of the members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. A Resolution of the alteration of the Constitution must be received by the Secretary or the Society at least 21 days before the meeting at which the Resolution is to be brought forward. At least 14 days notice of such a meeting must be given by the Secretary to the members and must include notice of the alteration proposed.

Revised by the NDCS at its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 16th 2007 and most recently at the Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday October 20th 2015**.