

RULES AND REGULATIONS
of the
CHICHESTER & DISTRICT LAW SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP

1. (a) All admitted Solicitors of the Supreme Court of Judicature practising or residing in the area of the Society shall be eligible for membership of the Society.
- (b) The area of the Society shall consist of the District of Chichester and the District of Arun except for the Parishes of Rustington, East Preston, Kingston, Ferring, Angmering, Patching, Clapham and Findon.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

2. All principal objects of the Society shall be:
 - (a) To protect the character, status, rights and interests of the members of the Society, and the profession generally.
 - (b) To preserve honourable practice amongst solicitors.
 - (c) To settle disputed points of practice, and to decide all questions of professional conduct, usage or courtesy which may be referred to the Society by all parties concerned, being members of the Society.
 - (d) To consider and take any action which may be thought desirable on all questions affecting the interest of the profession at large, or the alteration or administration of the law.
 - (e) To promote improved legal education.
 - (f) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

3. (a) The officers of the Society shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary.
- (b) The management of the Society shall be entrusted to a Committee which shall consist of the Officers, the immediate Past President, any member of the Society who is a member of the Council of the Law Society and eight elected members, six or more of such

elected members to serve as chairmen of such standing sub-committees as the committee shall from time to time by resolution create.

- (c) At meetings of the Committee three shall form a quorum, and in a case of an equality of votes the Chairman (who shall be the President or in his absence the Vice-President or in the absence of both President and Vice-President such other member as the Committee shall elect) shall have a second or casting vote.
- (d) The Officers and the elected members of the Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting by a ballot (if required) of the members then present and.
- (e) Elected members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election except that:
 - (i) If any member of the General Committee shall be absent without reasonable cause from three consecutive meetings of that body, he shall be considered, by reason of such absence, to have tendered his resignation, and the Committee shall be at liberty to consider such absence, a resignation or not as they may think proper.
- (f) All Candidates for election as Officers or as elected members of the Committee must be nominated in writing. Nominations must be sent so as to reach the Honorary Secretary not less than fourteen clear days before the date appointed for the Annual General Meeting and a list of the nominations together with the names of the Proposer and Seconder in each case shall be circulated with the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- 4. The Committee shall be responsible for the general management of the Society and the conduct of its affairs, and (without detracting from such general powers) shall have power in the name and on behalf of the Society:
 - (a) To take any steps towards opposing or supporting any legislative or other changes affecting the interest of members of the Society or of the profession as a whole;
 - (b) To oppose the admission of any person as a Solicitor who in their opinion ought not to be admitted on the Rolls;
 - (c) To appoint their own meetings and subject to these Rules to regulate their proceedings;

- (d) To fill up any vacancy that may occur in the Officers of the Society or other members of the Committee by death, resignation or otherwise between the General Meetings;
- (e)
 - (i) To appoint from time to time five or more elected committee members to serve as chairmen of such standing sub-committees as the committee shall from time to time by resolution create
 - (ii) To appoint from time to time any ad hoc sub-committee from amongst the members of the Society for any special purpose which the committee shall see fit and to delegate to such ad hoc sub-committee such powers and terms of reference as the committee shall by resolution determine
 - (iii) To appoint from time to time from amongst the members of the Society additional members to serve on the standing sub-committees under the chairman-ship of an elected member such appointment to continue until the committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting next following and to delegate to such sub-committee such powers and terms of reference as the committee may determine.
- (f) To dispose of the funds of the Society according to the Rules of the Society.
- (g) To co-opt on to the committee from time to time up to three members of the Society for specific purposes, such co-option to last no longer than until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society.
- (h) To appoint a committee clerk upon such terms and remuneration as the committee may from time to time determine, to carry out the duties of a clerk to the committee.

ORDINARY AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

5. (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held every year upon such date and at such hour and place as shall be appointed from time to time by the Committee.
- (b) A Special General Meeting of the Society shall be called by the Secretary on the written requisition of the President or any three members (none of them being partners together) stating the purpose of the proposed Meeting.
- (c) Seven clear days notice at least of every General Meeting and its object shall be given by the Secretary to each member of the Society by circular. The business of Special General Meetings shall be confined to the objects expressed in the notice.
- (d) Except for special purposes as provided by these Rules, ten members shall be a quorum at any General Meeting.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS

6. Candidates for election to the Society must be proposed by one and seconded by another member of the Society. Election shall be by the Society in General Meeting or by the Committee. A rejected Candidate shall not, without the consent of the Committee, be again eligible for election until after one year from the meeting at which he was last proposed.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEMBERS

7. The President of the Society shall take the chair at all General Meetings but in his absence the Vice-President shall take the chair of if both the President and Vice-President are absent the meeting shall elect a Chairman. All proceedings shall be brought forward by way of motion and amendment duly made and seconded and put from the Chair and shall be brought forward by way of motion and amendment duly made and seconded and put from the Chair, and shall be determined by the votes of a majority of the members then present and voting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Subject to the provisions of Rule 3(d) every question shall be decided by a show of hands and or in such other manner as the Chairman of the Meeting shall determine.

EXPULSION

8. Not less than three-fourths of the members personally present and voting at any General or Special Meeting (such meeting to consist of not less than one-third of the total number of members of the Society personally present) shall be competent to expel any member of the Society for a breach or non observance of the Rules, or for any dishonourable, unprofessional or improper conduct; the member whose conduct is complained of shall have seven clear days' previous notice in writing from the Secretary sent him by registered post addressed to his last known place or abode or business in England, that a motion is intended to be proposed against him and such note shall state generally the nature and grounds for complaint.

RESIGNATION, ETC.

9. Upon the death, resignation, expulsion, bankruptcy or insolvency of any member, he shall *ipso facto* cease to be a member of the Society, and his interest in the property of the Society shall be absolutely forfeited for the benefit of the Society, but the Committee shall have power to reinstate a bankrupt or insolvent member without entrance fee if a majority of three-fourths of the whole Committee be of opinion that his professional character is not affected by such bankruptcy or insolvency.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

10. Every member shall on election pay a sum equivalent to the current subscription or such lower sum as the Committee shall decide bearing in mind the time of election of such member and thereafter every member shall pay such subscription as shall be agreed by a simple majority of member present and voting at a duly convened meeting of member of the Society
11. If any member suffers his subscription to become more than one year in arrear, he shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Society and his interest in the property of the Society shall be absolutely forfeited for the benefit of the Society. A member wishing to retire from the Society must before 1st January give written notice to the Secretary of his intention so to do, or he will remain liable for the subscription for the following year.
12. No person elected as a member of the Society shall be an actual member thereof until such person shall have paid the entrance fee (if any) and subscription.

All members shall be bound by all Rules and Regulations of the Society for the time being in force.

ACCOUNTS

13. The Honorary Treasurer's Accounts shall be made up to the 30th day of September in every year and laid before the Annual General Meeting of the Society having previously audited by two members of the Society who shall be appointed for the ensuing year at the Annual General Meeting.

ALTERATIONS OF RULES

14. It shall be competent for three-fourths of the members present personally and voting at any General or Special Meeting of the Society, of which seven clear days' previous notice shall have been given, and at which not less than one-fifth of the members of the Society shall be personally present, from time to time to alter or rescind any of the Rules and Regulations, and to make new or addition Rules or Regulations provided that the such new Rules and Regulations or alterations shall have been given by the person intending to propose the same to the Secretary twelve clear days previous to such meeting, and shall appear upon the agenda of the notice calling the same.

DISSOLUTION OF SOCIETY

15. Upon a resolution to that effect, passed at a Special General Meeting to be holden for the purpose by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members personally present and voting the Society shall be dissolved; but a majority of the members so present shall have the power of disposition of the property of the Society.

