



Wicken Conservation Society Constitution

1- Name

The name of the society shall be the **WICKEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

2- Objects of the society

- I. To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting Wicken
- II. To inform the residents of the geography, history, natural history and architecture of Wicken
- III. To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic interest or public interest in Wicken and the natural environment of Wicken
- IV. To promote activities and events which help to maintain or enhance community spirit and social interaction of all the residents in Wicken.

3 - Permitted Activities

The Society is permitted to adopt any powers it sees fit in order to pursue the objects of the Society. These powers will be exercised by the Executive Committee subject to a simple majority of a member vote. In such circumstances, the quorum of members present for a valid vote to be taken should be 5.

The Society seeks:-

- 3.1 To promote research into subjects directly connected with the objects of the Society and to publish the results of any such research.
- 3.2 To act as a co-ordinating body and to co-operate with the local authorities, planning committees, and all other statutory authorities, voluntary organisations, charities and persons having aims similar to those of the Society.
- 3.3 To promote or assist in promoting activities of a charitable nature throughout Wicken.
- 3.4 To publish papers, reports and other literature.
- 3.5 To make surveys and prepare maps and plans and collect information in relation to any place, erection or building of historic or public interest within Wicken.
- 3.6 To hold meetings, lectures and exhibitions.
- 3.7 To consult and inform public opinion and to give advice and information on conservation issues.
- 2.8 To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation and otherwise provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its primary purpose.
- 3.9 To acquire, by purchase, gift or otherwise, property whether subject to any special trust or not.
- 3.10 To sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or funds of the Society as shall be necessary.
- 3.11 To borrow or raise money for the purpose of the Society on such terms and on such security as the Executive Committee shall think fit, but so that the liability of individual members of the Society shall in no case extend beyond the amount of their respective annual subscriptions.

4 - Membership

- A single membership covers all persons over 18 within a household
- Membership is confirmed by receipt of a copy of Wicken News following payment of the annual subscription
- Membership is open to all residents and past residents of the Parish of Wicken
- The eligibility to vote at meetings is restricted to members aged over 18 who are current residents of the parish of Wicken.
- Corporate members of the Society should appoint a representative to vote at meetings who will have a single vote
- The membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December

5 - Subscriptions

The amount of the subscription will be determined by the Executive Committee and endorsed at the Annual General Meeting

6 - Executive Committee

The committee will consist of a Chair, Vice Chair, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and up to eight other society members. The committee will be elected by the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting and hold the office for one year. There is no restriction on the number of years an individual can be re-selected to hold an executive position. Vacancies occurring during the course of the year may be filled by individuals nominated and agreed by the remaining members of the executive committee. Nominations will be accepted at the AGM.

7 - Meetings

- An Annual General Meeting must be held once each year at which a report of activities and the audited accounts must be presented.
- Dates of meetings should be published by appropriate means at least one calendar month before the designated date
- An agenda should be published at least 7 days before the meeting
- Any member is entitled to attend any meeting of the Society

8 - Amendments to the Constitution

The constitution must be ratified at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General meeting provided that :

- Members have been informed in writing at least 28 days in advance of any intended amendment
- The meeting at which the amendments are agreed is quorate in accordance with the permitted activities of the Society
- Only members present may vote

9 - Dissolution of the Society

The Society will be dissolved in the event that insufficient members are found to fill the Executive positions of the Society. The Society may also choose to dissolve itself subject to a simple majority vote at an Annual General or Extraordinary General meeting subject to all members being given 28 days notice of the intended dissolution and a simple majority vote of those members of the Society present at the meeting.

In the event of dissolution the remaining funds of the society will be donated to one or more similar societies as determined by at least 5 members of the Society at the time of dissolution.

7th October 2008.