

Constitution of DEVON FOLK (as amended April 2005)

DEFINITIONS

1. "The County" shall mean the geographical County of Devon.
2. "The Society" shall mean The English Folk Dance and Song Society.
3. "The Committee" shall be the committee elected in accordance with Clauses 8 and 19.
4. "Folk activity" shall mean the performance study and teaching of traditional music, song and dance, folklore and customs and related arts.
5. (A) The following persons shall be entitled to membership of Devon Folk:-
 - i. All members of the Society registered with the Society as living in the County;
 - ii. All persons currently subscribing to What's Afoot or such other magazine as shall be published from time to time by Devon Folk;
 - iii. Such two members of any club affiliated to the Society and meeting in the County as shall be nominated from time to time by that club;
 - iv. Such two members of any other club participating in Folk activity in the County as shall be nominated from time to time by that club subject to payment by that club of the membership fee set by the Committee;
 - v. Any other person participating in Folk activity in the County who shall pay the membership fee set by the Committee.
- (B) Any person falling within more than one category of membership shall only be entitled to one vote at General meetings.
- (C) Where two or more persons jointly subscribe to the magazine referred to in Clause 5(A)(ii) only the first named person shall be entitled to vote at General meetings

OBJECTS

6. The objects of Devon Folk shall be:-
 - (a) to initiate support and encourage Folk activity in the County,
 - (b) to be a liaison point for Folk activity in the County,
 - (c) to publish a magazine for the promotion of Folk activity in the County,
 - (d) to do all or any lawful things which may be conducive or incidental to the attainment of these objects.

AFFILIATION

7. Devon Folk may be affiliated to the Society.

GENERAL MEETINGS

8. Once in every calendar year, and so that not more than fifteen months shall elapse between meetings, the Committee shall convene an Annual General Meeting of members to receive the Report and Accounts of the Committee, to elect the President, the Treasurer and other committee members and to transact such other business as shall be deemed appropriate.
9. The Committee may and if so requested in writing by at least twenty members shall within thirty days of receipt of such request convene an Extraordinary Meeting of members and shall specify the purpose of the meeting in the notice convening the same.
10. Six weeks' written notice of all general meetings shall be given to all members and to the Secretary of all clubs referred to in Clause 5(A)(iii) and (iv).

11. General meetings shall be chaired by the President or in his absence by the Chairman or such other officer as shall be nominated by the Committee.
12. No business shall be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of eight members of is personally present.

THE COMMITTEE

13. The Committee shall consist of the President and Treasurer (both elected annually) and eighteen other members (elected for three years, one third resigning every year but eligible for re-election).
14. Vice-Presidents may be appointed by the Committee and may attend and speak at Committee meetings but shall not vote.
15. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than four additional members.
16. The Committee shall appoint from amongst its members a Chairman and a Secretary and may appoint such other officers as it may deem necessary.
17. The Committee shall determine from time to time its own proceedings and frequency of meetings and shall have the power to appoint sub-committees.
18. The Committee shall cause proper records to be kept of meetings and shall maintain a register of members.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

19. Not less than six weeks before the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall give notice of the vacancies on the Committee in What's Afoot or such other magazine as shall be published from time to time by Devon Folk and to Secretaries of clubs referred to in Clauses 5(A)(iii) and (iv) and shall request nominations by a date deemed appropriate by the Secretary. No person shall be nominated unless he or she is a member of Devon Folk. If the nominations are not greater than the number of vacancies, those nominated shall be deemed elected. If the nominations exceed the number of vacancies a ballot shall take place at the meeting.

ACCOUNTS

20. The Committee shall cause proper records to be kept of all financial matters, maintain a bank account in the name of Devon Folk and make annual accounts up to December 31st in every year. The accounts shall be examined by a suitable person not being a member of the Committee.

DISSOLUTION

21. In the event that Devon Folk shall cease to exist and that the last General Meeting has not directed otherwise, any monies and assets belonging to Devon Folk at the date of its ceasing to exist shall be paid to the Society.

DETERMINATION

22. Any question on the definition of this Constitution shall be determined by the Committee, but such determination may be over-ruled by a subsequent General meeting.

END