

After Amendments agreed at the Annual General Meeting of 21st. June, 2001

CONSTITUTION OF THE BEWICK SOCIETY

Name:

The name of the Association shall be THE BEWICK SOCIETY. It is hereinafter referred to as 'The Society'.

Aim and Powers:

The aim of The Society shall be to promote an interest in the life and work of Thomas Bewick and related subjects.

In the furtherance of its aim, The Society shall have power to:

1. Engage in, support and coordinate research, publishing, education, advertising and other work for the furtherance of the above stated aim;
2. Engage in any other lawful activities to promote the said aim;
3. Appoint delegates and representatives to any other bodies with whom The Society may be connected;
4. Foster cordial relationships with any other body with an interest in The Society's stated aim;
5. Promote contemporary printmaking;
6. Maintain an interest in the Thomas Bewick Birthplace Museum, Cherryburn.

Membership:

There shall be three classes of membership;

- (a) Individual
- (b) Joint
- (c) Student.

Committee – Power and Membership:

1. The Committee shall have the general management and direction of the funds and affairs of The Society.
2. (i) The Committee shall consist of the following Officers and other Members:
 - (a) President
 - (b) Chair
 - (c) Secretary
 - (d) Membership Secretary
 - (e) Treasurer
 - (f) Editor of the Newsletter
 - (g) Representative of The National Trust
 - (h) a maximum of six Ordinary Members
- (ii) The election procedure shall be:

Ordinary Members – members shall serve for three years and may be re-elected for a second term of three years, and shall then be eligible for re-election after one year.

Officers – officers shall be elected for a maximum of five years, and shall be eligible for re-election after one year, except in the case of the Editor, who may be re-elected without interval.
3. Every member of the Committee must be a member of The Society.
4. The Committee shall have power to co-opt up to two additional voting persons.
5. All members of the Committee shall have one vote. In the event of a tie, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

Subscriptions:

1. The rate of the annual subscription for the different classes of membership of The Society shall be such sums as may be set by vote at the Annual General Meeting.
2. Annual subscriptions shall become due on the first day of April each year. Members whose subscriptions are twelve months in arrears shall be automatically excluded from membership.

Finance:

1. All funds and assets in the possession of The Society shall be held, paid for and applied as the Committee may direct in the furtherance of the objects of the Society. Pending such direction all funds shall be held in a separate bank account (or accounts) in the

name of The Society with such bankers as the Committee may from time to time direct.

2. All cheques drawn on such bankers shall be signed by any two of the Chair, Secretary or Treasurer. All documents requiring endorsement shall be sufficiently endorsed if signed by any one of them.
3. The Committee shall have power to invest such funds as are not required to be immediately available for meeting The Society's liabilities. Such investments may be on deposit with a bank or building society or as decided by the Committee.
4. Two auditors, who need not be members of The Society, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Meetings:

1. Annual General Meeting:

- (a) The AGM of The Society, of which not less than thirty day's notice shall be given to all members, by the Secretary, shall be held during the month of June each year.
- (b) The business of the AGM shall be:
 - (i) to receive reports from the Chair and Offices;
 - (ii) to receive and approve the annual accounts and to appoint the auditors;
 - (iii) to elect the Officers and Ordinary Members of the Committee;
 - (iv) to consider any matter or proposal submitted in writing by any member of The Society not less than fourteen days in advance of the AGM

2. Other General Meetings:

The Committee may, at any time, and shall within twenty-eight days of receiving a request in writing from any ten members, convene a Special General Meeting. Not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given by the Secretary to each member, specifying the business to be transacted.

3. Committee Meetings:

Committee Meetings shall be held not less frequently than once in every quarter.

4. Quorum:

A quorum shall consist:

- (i) at a Committee Meeting, four members of the Committee;
- (ii) at a General Meeting, twelve members of The Society. In the absence of the Chair, those attending shall elect a Chair for the meeting from among their number.

5. Notice of Meetings:

Notice to Members shall be deemed sufficiently served if sent ordinary pre-paid post, or any other verifiable means of written and printed communication, or otherwise delivered to the address of the member registered in the records of The Society.

Winding Up:

On the winding up of The Society, the Committee shall pay the surplus of funds of The Society to such other institution or institutions as the Committee shall determine.

Amendments:

No alteration may be made to this Constitution except by, and with the authority of a resolution of the members in a General Meeting. Any proposal for an amendment must be made in writing to the Secretary in sufficient time to allow details of the proposal to be circulated to the members with notice of the meeting, and must be so circulated.

This Constitution incorporates Amendments made and agreed at the Annual General Meetings of 4th June, 1998, 24th June, 1999, and 21st June, 2001.