
ANTAS CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the organisation is The Association of North Thames Amenity Societies (ANTAS).

2. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all Civic Societies and similar organisations within Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and adjoining areas. A member society is an organisation that has paid the appropriate subscription to ANTAS and is not currently in arrears.

3. OBJECTIVES

To promote the exchange of information, ideas and best practice between member societies and to further the aims of such societies in whatever way is appropriate.

4. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A Management Committee (the Committee) of up to eight members will be appointed at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) and will serve until the following AGM. In the event of the number of candidates being nominated exceeding the maximum number of places on the Committee, a vote will be taken to elect the appropriate number of members.

Further that the role of Patron and that of two Vice Patrons be offered by the Management Committee to those members of ANTAS who have previously been involved in the management of or had been influential in assistance to the Association. These posts would be in addition to the Management Committee.

The elected members of the Committee will then appoint from their own number a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

In the event of fewer than the maximum number of Committee members being appointed, the Committee may co-opt additional members provided that the maximum number is not exceeded.

Meetings of the Committee will be called by the Secretary as required giving not less than seven days notice. The presence of four committee members is required for a quorum. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman will have a second or casting vote.

5. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

An independent examiner shall be appointed at each AGM, and will serve until the following AGM.

6. MEETINGS

Meetings of the Association will be held at least twice-yearly, including one during the autumn which will serve as the AGM. At least 28 days notice of all meeting will be given by the Secretary. In the case of the AGM, the Chairman and Treasurer will report on the business of the previous year.

The Secretary will make a timely request to member societies to host and organise each twice-yearly meeting at a suitable location. The costs agreed in advance of venue hire and guest speaker expenses will be met from ANTAS funds.

Member societies may send one or more representatives to the meetings. In the event of a vote being taken, each member society will have just one vote each, while if a vote is tied, the Chairman of the meeting will have a second or casting vote.

A quorum for such a meeting is for at least one-third of member societies to be represented

Other organisations and visitors may be invited to attend the meetings and take part in discussion but will not be entitled to vote.

Minutes of the meetings will be kept, and issued by the Secretary to all member societies.

7. FINANCE

The level of annual subscriptions to be paid by each member society will be determined at each AGM for the following financial year.

The Association's financial year shall run from 1st September.

Accounts of the finances of the Association shall be kept by the Treasurer and scrutinised by the Independent Examiner for presentation to the AGM following the end of each financial year.

8. NOTICES

Notices shall be deemed to be served if sent by mail or electronic mail to the Chairman or Secretary of each member society at the address last notified.

9. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

These rules may be amended by a two-thirds majority of member societies represented at a meeting provided that not less than 28 days' notice of the proposed amendment is given to all member societies.

10. WINDING UP

The Association may be wound up by majority vote at an AGM or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. In the event of a resolution to wind up the Association being passed, the Committee will remain in office with powers to implement such a decision. The assets after payment of all expenses and other legitimate claims shall be distributed at the discretion of the Committee to successor or other organisations with aims generally similar to those of the member societies, or else returned in equal shares to the member societies. On completion of winding up, a closing financial report will be sent to all member societies.