

ABINGDON AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

1. This Society shall be known as the **Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society**.
2. The aims of the Society shall be: to foster interest in the past and of this area in particular; to carry out excavations, surveys and fieldwork; and to hold outings to places of interest. Any work carried out on behalf of the Society should be followed by presentation of a full written report to the Committee and subsequent publication of the findings. Copies of reports and publications shall be lodged in the Society's archives.
3. The affairs of the Society shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and six other members. Nominations (proposer and seconder) in writing (or email) for vacant offices and seats on the Committee will be accepted by the Secretary before the Annual General Meeting which will be held in September each year. Nominations, with a proposer and seconder, may also be accepted from the floor during the Annual General Meeting. Committee members shall serve for a term of three years but be eligible if they so wish for re-election for a second term. They will not be eligible for re-election after two such terms until after an interval of one year. A quorum of the Committee shall consist of five members. The Committee shall have power to co-opt members at their discretion.
4. The financial affairs of the Society shall be in the hands of the Treasurer, who will submit reports to the Society from time to time and present accounts at the Annual General Meeting. The accounts shall be audited by a suitably qualified independent assessor approved by the Committee. Cheques are required to be signed by any two officers of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
5. Subscriptions to the Society will take four forms: individual adult membership; family/ household membership; concessionary membership to cover students, senior citizens and the unwaged; and distant membership. Changes in the subscription rate for the time being in force to be approved by a majority of the membership at the Annual General Meeting (or at an Extraordinary General Meeting) and to run from the Annual General Meeting in September.
6. Any excavation undertaken shall be placed in charge of a suitably qualified director approved by the Committee and, where appropriate, by the relevant local or national authority. All persons on the site shall come under the control of the director.
7. Any alteration to the rules shall be made at an Annual General Meeting by a majority of members present. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held if requested by one tenth of the members of the Society in writing to the Secretary. Any proposed alteration to the rules must be notified to the Secretary at least three weeks before the Annual General Meeting and circulated to members with the agenda in writing (or email) at least ten days before the Annual General Meeting.
8. All members in good standing shall be allowed to vote at the Annual General Meeting. Visitors will be welcome to occasional meetings, but regular visitors will be expected to join the Society.
9. The Committee shall have the power to exclude from membership if thought advisable.
10. The income and assets of the Society may be used only for the furtherance of the Society's

aims as described in these rules, and no part of the Society's income or assets shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly to the members of the Society.

11. The Society may be dissolved if two-thirds of those voting at a General Meeting vote in favour of dissolution. In the event of dissolution, the Society's remaining assets and property (after all debts and liabilities have been settled) shall be transferred to another local organisation with similar aims, and which has a similar provision for what should happen to its assets and property in the event of that organisation itself being dissolved.