



BRITISH AGRICULTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Constitution

The Constitution of the British Agricultural History Society as approved at the First General Meeting of the Society, held at the University of Reading on Monday 13 April 1953, as amended in 1960, 1966, 1973, 1975, 1979, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2000 and 2015.

1. The Society shall be named the British Agricultural History Society.
2. The objects of the society shall be to promote, encourage, foster and coordinate the study and understanding of agricultural and rural history, with special reference to the British Isles.
3. In furtherance of the objects but not otherwise, the Executive Committee may exercise the following powers:
 - a. the publication of the Agricultural History Review together with supplements and other appropriate items including a regular members' newsletter
 - b. the operation of a website providing public access to back numbers of the Agricultural History Review and other sources and resources respecting the agricultural history and the history of the rural history and society
 - c. the holding of conferences in its own right and in conjunction with other organisations
 - d. the awarding of grants to individuals, institutions and other bodies in furtherance of the objects
 - e. the promotion of the conservation of historically significant landscapes and the rural environment
 - f. the promotion of the teaching of the history of agriculture, rural economy and society, and the environment, at all levels of education
 - g. the promotion of links with societies and institutions in Europe and world-wide which have similar aims and objects
 - h. the dissemination of information and advice to non-members, including media organisations, on matters related to agricultural and rural history
 - i. the raising of funds, in compliance with any relevant statutory regulation, and without undertaking any permanent trading activity
 - j. entering into contracts, and buying, taking on lease, or hiring such equipment as it needs for the furtherance of the Society's objects
 - k. setting aside income as a reserve against future expenditure, in accordance with a written reserves policy
 - l. the employment and remuneration of such individuals as are necessary for carrying out the work of the Society, including the employment of any Officer or member of the Executive, providing it is for work other than work done in their capacity as Officer/Executive member, and subject to the agreement of the Executive Committee.
4. Membership of the Society shall be open to all persons interested. Institutions and other bodies that subscribe to the journal are not considered members and do not hold voting rights.
5. There shall be an annual subscription due on 1 February. The amount of the subscription shall be determined by the Executive Committee, who may set a lower subscription for

those who are in full-time education and not in full-time employment, and those who are registered unemployed.

6. Members will receive the Society journal, newsletter and other occasional publications, voting rights at AGMs and EGMs, and invitations to attend conferences, workshops and seminars run by the Society.
7. The business of the Society shall be conducted by its Officers and by the Executive Committee, all of whom shall be unpaid, apart from as provided under paragraph 3 (1)
8. The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Chair of the Executive, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor(s). The President shall be elected for a three-year period at the Annual General Meeting. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Editor(s) shall retire at each Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election. The Chair of the Executive shall be elected by the Committee from among its members.
9. The Executive Committee shall consist of twelve members of the Society elected by the Annual General Meeting with the addition of the Officers. Five members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum. Ordinary members serve a four-year term and are eligible for re-election for a second four-year term. After eight successive years of office
10. Ordinary members will not be eligible for immediate re-election. They become eligible again after a break of one-year minimum. When the Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor(s) retire from their Officer position, they may serve the remainder of their ordinary term on the EC, based upon their last date of election.
11. Nominations, with the signed consent of the nominee, for the offices of President, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor(s) and for the vacancies on the Executive Committee must be received by the Secretary not less than ten days before the Annual General Meeting.
12. The Annual General Meeting shall be held as near as possible to 1 April, normally at the Spring Conference. At least twenty one days' notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to members of the Society.
13. The Executive Committee may call a Special General Meeting at any time, upon twenty one day's notice being sent to the members of the Society.
14. The Executive Committee shall appoint the Editor who shall have full discretion concerning the contents of the publications authorized by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee in consultation with the Editor may appoint an Editorial Board.
15. No amendments of this constitution shall be made except by an Annual General Meeting. All proposals for the amendment of the Constitution shall be submitted in the form of a written notice of motion in time to be circulated to the members with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. No amendment shall be made except by the Annual General Meeting and members unable to attend such a meeting may vote by proxy.
16. All profits derived from publications which the Society may issue and all interest arising from investments which the Society may make shall be devoted to the furtherance of the objects of the Society as set out in Paragraph 2. of this Constitution.
17. The Executive Committee may from time to time co-opt a regional conference secretary or secretaries. Such secretaries shall remain members of the Committee until the meeting following the conference which they were co-opted to organize.
18. In the event of solvent dissolution, any remaining assets are to be transferred to another charity with similar objects.