Wigan Local History & Heritage Society

Wigan Local History and Heritage Society Constitution 2022-2023

Title

1.1 The Society shall be called the "Wigan Local History and Heritage Society"

Aims

2.1 The aims of the Society are:

- To promote and maintain interest in the local history, and distinct heritage of Wigan and district, and historical matters in general.
- To initiate and encourage research into the history, and heritage of Wigan and district and to publish results as and when necessary.
- To arrange a regular programme of speaker meetings and visits to places of historical interest.
- To promote an interest in local history elsewhere where appropriate, especially through Local Archives and the Museum.
- To facilitate outreach to similar organisations, locally and regionally.
- To raise awareness, and campaign on issues where heritage is at risk.

Membership

3.1 Membership of the Society shall normally be open to any applicant, whether resident in Wigan or not, with an interest in local history.

3.2 Membership of the Society shall be dependent upon payment of the appropriate subscription, at a rate to be determined by the Society's members and ratified at an Annual General Meeting.

3.3 An annual membership subscription of £10.00 shall normally be due on the 1st of October each year, but may also be taken out if joining at a different time during the year.

3.4 Subscriptions taken out after March will be charged at £5:00, a rate reduced by 50%.

3.5 If any member's subscription should be in arrears for three months then his/her membership shall be deemed to have lapsed.

3.6 Associate Membership, charged at £5:00, a rate reduced by 50% shall be offered to members of Wigan Archaeological Society, and any other similar societies with a reciprocal agreement for WLHHS members. Associate Members shall be entitled to full membership facilities, however they shall not be entitled to stand as officers of the Society, nor to vote on business matters at Members' Meetings.

Facilities

4.1 Society Presentation Meetings shall normally be open to both members and to visitors.

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4.2 Society trips and visits shall normally be open to both members and invited guests on payment of the appropriate fee where necessary; however, in the event of a visit being over-subscribed, priority will be given to members of the Society.

Officers

5.1 The Society shall have an Honorary Life President selected for outstanding service to the Society.

5.2 The elected officers will be:

- A Chairperson
- A Vice-Chairperson
- A Secretary
- A Treasurer

5.3 Any member of the Society will be eligible for election to serve as an officer. Nominations should be made with the knowledge of the nominee and must be proposed and seconded either at the AGM or in writing beforehand.

Government

6.1 The Society will hold an Annual General Meeting - this will normally be the September Members' Meeting each year. Only members of the Society will have voting rights in business matters.

6.2 The election of the officers for the ensuing year will take place at the AGM**,** but in the event of an unfilled post, this will be a continuing agenda item until it is filled accordingly.

6.3 Meetings shall be arranged by the Secretary, but under the control of the Chairman. Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened at any time at the written request of six members, specifying the reasons and business.

6.4 The Secretary shall give each member notification at least seven days in advance of any AGM or EGM.

Property

7.1 In the event of the closing of the Society, the Society's assets shall be disposed of by existing officers such that:

- The Society's funds be granted to similar history groups for their own use.
- Any books and other publications be offered to Wigan Local Studies.
- Any photographic and similar materials be offered to Archives. Wigan and Leigh.
- Any equipment, such as the projector, screen and other IT resources shall be offered to similar history groups for their own use.

Review

8. This constitution shall be reviewed annually at the next AGM in September 2023.

Dated: September 2022.