

Constitution of the Friends of Kelsey Park
November 1997 (amended at the 2002, 2004 and 2009 AGMs)

Article I

Name: The society shall be known as: “The Friends of Kelsey Park”.

Article II

The objectives of the Friends shall be for the public benefit as below:

- To secure the conservation, protection and improvement of Kelsey Park as a place of historic and ecological interest and natural beauty.
- To promote the conservation of the natural flora and fauna of the Park, and its retention.
- To encourage the quiet informal enjoyment of features and facilities of the Park.
- To provide an educational experience for the public in the history, natural history and other aspects of the Park.
- To aim to provide amenities which would not normally be seen to be the responsibility of the Council of the London Borough of Bromley, but which have received approval from the Council.
- To invite subscriptions and other moneys to forward such other activities as may further the above objectives.

Article III

Membership:

- The membership shall consist of Ordinary and Honorary Members.
- Honorary Membership may be conferred at the discretion of the Committee Management.

Article IV

Governance of the Society:

- The Committee of Management shall be responsible for the conduct of the Society’s affairs in accordance with its legal objectives.

General Meetings:

- The business of the Society shall be approved at the Annual General Meeting which shall be held in the month of November each year.
- The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be published giving at least 21 days notice.
- A Special General Meeting may be called by the Chairman, at his discretion, within 21 days of receiving a written request so to do, signed by not fewer than 20 members giving full reasons for the request.
- Decisions requiring a vote shall be decided by simple majority of those Members present and eligible to vote; the Chairman having a second and casting vote in the event of a tie.

Article V

The Committee of Management:

- The Committee shall consist of: the Chairman, the Vice Chairman (*note 1*) the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Editor and up to six (*note 1*) other members.
- Members of the Committee shall normally be Ordinary Members of the Society.
- A quorum shall be four Members of the Society present.
- The Committee shall have the power to co-opt.
- The Committee shall normally meet at least three times per year.
- Voting rights shall be restricted to Members of the Society.
- If voting is required the vote shall be decided by simple majority, the Chairman having a second and casting vote in the event of a tie.

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Article VI

Election of the Committee:

- Committee membership shall normally be for three years.
- Members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- Each year there shall be four Committee places offered for election.
- Nominations for Committee Members shall be received by the secretary 14 days (note 2) prior to the published date of the next Annual General Meeting.
- Nominations shall be supported by two Ordinary Members and signed by the nominee indicating agreement to serve.
- In the absence of nominations the Committee may make nominations.
- If voting is required the vote shall be decided by simple majority of those Members present and eligible to vote, the Chairman having a second and casting vote in the event of a tie.

Article VII

Election of Members:

- Applicants for Ordinary membership shall normally become members upon submission of their application form and payment of the annual subscription.
- At its discretion the Committee may refuse to admit an applicant and no reason need be given.
- Nomination for Honorary membership may be made by four Ordinary Members, submitted to the Committee for approval and confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting.

Article VIII

Subscriptions:

- The subscription shall be for one year or until the next following 1st January.
- There shall normally be one level of subscription: known as 'Household'. This subscription shall entitle each individual or household to Ordinary Membership.
- The annual subscriptions shall be determined and/or varied by the Committee.
- Any Member whose subscription is in arrears for one complete year, after a second warning shall be deemed to have forfeited membership.
- Honorary Members shall pay no subscription.

Article IX

Accounts:

- The Financial Year of the Society shall run from 1st October to the following 30th September.
- The accounts shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting by the Honorary Treasurer having been previously approved by the Committee and audited by the Honorary Auditor elected from the Ordinary Members at the Annual General Meeting.

Article X

Amendments:

- Amendments to the Constitution can be made only at a General Meeting.
- Proposed amendments must be circulated to Members by the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days before the General Meeting at which they are to be considered and must be approved by a three quarters majority of those Members present and eligible to vote.

Note 1 Post of Vice Chairman added and "seven" changed to "up to six" at the November 2009 AGM.

Note 2 Changed from 28 days to 14 days at the November 2002 AGM.

Updated version November 2009