

CONSTITUTION OF THE DEDHAM VALE SOCIETY

(Adopted at the Annual General Meeting of 23rd January, 1959 and amended at Annual General Meetings of 3rd March, 1960, 26th April, 1962, 26th June 1969 and 4th June, 1974. Paragraph 8 added by committee 23rd February, 1976 for later ratification at Annual General Meeting. Further revised (point 4) at the committee meeting on 4th February, 2011.)

1. The name of the Society (founded in 1938) shall be the DEDHAM VALE SOCIETY. Its officers shall consist of a President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer.
2. The aims of the Society shall be the maintenance, protection and, if possible, the enhancement of the natural and architectural beauties and amenities of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty known as the Dedham Vale and to stimulate public consciousness to these ends.
3. Membership is open to all who are interested in the aims of the Society. The minimum subscription shall be as determined from time to time by the Committee and approved at an Annual General Meeting.
4. The executive body of the Society shall be the Committee. The membership of this Committee shall be of a size sufficient to meet the demands of the efficient running of the Society.
5. Two members with the longest service on the committee shall relinquish their appointments each year and shall be eligible for re-election. Service shall count from the date when last elected or re-elected.
6. Nominations to fill vacancies created by retiring members or otherwise must be forwarded to reach the Honorary Secretary not less than one week before the Annual General Meeting. They must be in writing and supported by two members of the Society. The consent of the nominee must first be obtained. Election will then be by ballot at the Annual General Meeting.
7. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held on such a date as the committee may determine. The main business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to receive the committee's report and audited accounts and to consider any points which members may desire to raise.
8. Closure: in the event of the Society being wound up by consent of the members at a General Meeting, the Treasurer for the time being shall be empowered to hand over the remaining funds and property to the Treasurer of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, whose receipt shall be adequate discharge.
9. Any of these provisions may be rescinded, supplemented or altered at any Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society. Twenty eight days' notice of proposals to this end shall be given in writing to the Secretary.