



# City of Portsmouth & District

## Organists' Association

**Patron:**  
**The Right Worshipful**  
**The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth**

**CONSTITUTION**  
(as amended May 2007)

Registered Charity №: 280146

## **CONSTITUTION of the CITY OF PORTSMOUTH & DISTRICT ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION**

1. The name of the Association shall be The City of Portsmouth and District Organists' Association.
2. The objects of the Association shall be to advance the education of the public in the study of the art of music with special reference to liturgical and organ music. To facilitate the achievement of such objects, the Association may arrange and present:
  - i. Public lectures, discussions and debates on this subject
  - ii. Public demonstration of instruments
  - iii. Public demonstration of music for organ and voices
  - iv. Open competitions for playing, singing and composition of liturgical and organ music
  - v. Public meetings to facilitate the exchange of information and views with other organisations and persons concerned with the composition, interpretation, presentation, teaching or publication of liturgical or organ music
  - vi. Advice to performers, teachers, students, churchmen or other members of the public on any matter concerned with the improvement of standards of composition or performance of liturgical or organ music

The Association may also do such other lawful things as are necessary or desirable for the attainment of the objects.

3. Membership of the Association shall be open without restriction to any member of the public who is interested in organ, choral or any other kind of music. Membership shall become effective on payment of the first year's annual subscription. (See 4.)
4. Each member shall pay a minimum annual subscription to such an amount as shall from time to time be determined at a General Meeting of the Association. This subscription shall fall due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January. Subscriptions commencing during September, October, November and December will pay the full subscription rate but membership will extend to the 31<sup>st</sup> December the following year.
5. Any member whose subscription has not been paid within three months of the date on which it fell due shall cease to be a member of the Association. Upon payment of all arrears, any such member may be re-instated at the discretion of the Committee.
6. Persons who are under the age of 18 or who are full-time students may be admitted to membership of the Association on payment of such a reduced rate as the Association may determine. Any member so accepted shall pay the full annual subscription for the year after which he or she attains the age of 18 or ceases to be a full-time student.

- 7.
- i. The business of the Association shall be managed by a Committee of four ‘Honorary Officials’ (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) and four ‘Ordinary Members’
  - ii. At any meeting of the Committee, four in attendance shall form a quorum;
  - iii. Any vacancy on the Committee – other than that of President – occurring between Annual General Meetings of the Association Members may be filled by the Committee electing another Member of the Association to complete the remaining term only and functions of the vacated position;
  - iv. In the event of the office of President becoming vacant for any cause, the Vice President shall assume that office immediately. If this should be for a period of three months or more before the next Annual General Meeting of the Association, an Extra Ordinary General Meeting shall be summoned with not less than 14 days notice to all Members of the Association to elect a Member as Vice President for the vacated remaining term of office.
  - v. If the office of President becomes vacant less than three months before the next Annual General Meeting of the Association, the office of Vice-President will remain vacant until the said Meeting.
  - vi. The committee may authorise from among its own members a Grants Secretary to assist the Treasurer in the researching of and applications for monetary grants for the mounting of events.
  - vii. The Committee is also empowered to elect Honorary Life Members of the Association who have rendered distinguished service to the Arts.
  - viii. Distinguished persons in the public domain may be invited by the Committee to become Patrons of the Association either in their own right or in their official capacity during their term of office (e.g. Lord Mayor of Portsmouth or Bishop of Portsmouth).
8. A General Meeting of the Association shall take place in May of each year after not less than 14 days notice to Members of the Association. At the Annual General Meeting Members shall make the following elections as required:

Honorary Officials of the Committee:

- i. Vice-President for a year from the date of the Meeting or the period of time between that year’s AGM and the following year’s AGM. At the end of that year’s Vice-Presidency, he or she will assume the position of President for the following two years, after which he or she will, as immediate past-President, act as Vice- President for a further year. (See 7.iv)
- ii. ‘Other’ Honorary Officials for one year from the date of the Meeting or the period of time between that year’s AGM and the following year’s AGM: Hon. Secretary; Hon. Treasurer.  
All ‘Other’ Honorary Officials may be re-elected to the Committee at subsequent Annual General Meetings.
- iii. Four ‘Ordinary Committee Members’ of whom two, by rotation, will retire each AGM.
- iv. Two Honorary Independent Examiners.

These elections will be the confirmation of a postal ballot of all Members. Nomination forms will have been sent out in February to be returned by the end of that month. Nomination papers must contain the names and signatures of the proposer, seconder and nominee. Ballot papers will be sent out one month before the Annual General Meeting, to be returned one week before the Meeting.

9. The income or property of the Association shall be applied solely to the promotion of the objects in Paragraph 2 and no payment or transfer of any such income or property shall be made to or for the benefit of any member of the Association. Provided that nothing shall prohibit any payment in good faith by the Association of reasonable and proper remuneration of any member of the Association not being a member of the Committee for any services rendered to the Association, or to any of its Officers of out-of-pocket expenses.
10. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to nor distributed amongst the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution having objects similar to the objects of the Association.
11. These rules shall not be altered nor added to except by Resolution at a General Meeting of which 14 days notice shall be given to the members, and no alteration shall be made which would cause the Association to cease to be a charity at law.
12. Any member of the Association is entitled to demand and receive a copy of these rules.

Notes: "Association" taken in text is to be read as "The City of Portsmouth & District Organists' Association" The City of Portsmouth & District Organists' Association is a registered charity – Number 280146.

NOVEMBER 1999  
and amended May 2007