**WARWICK HORTICULTURE AND ALLOTMENT SOCIETY**

**CONSTITUTION**

1. **Name**

The title of the **Society** shall be **Warwick Horticultural and** **Allotment Society** hereafter referred to as the **Society**.

1. **Objectives**

The objective of the **Society** shall be to encourage interest in and knowledge of horticulture.

1. **Membership**

Membership shall be made up of **Ordinary Members**, **Senior Members, over 60, and Junior Members, under 16 on**

**1st of January.**

Subscriptions shall become payable on each **1st January** for the ensuing year. Annual subscriptions shall be agreed at each **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** to take effect on the following 1st January.

**Life members**, being persons who have given notable service as members of the **Society**, shall be nominated by the **Committee** for election at an **AGM**. Having been elected they shall remain non – subscribing members for life.

1. **Committee and Officers**

The Officers of the **Society** shall be **Chairman, Vice Chairman**, **Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer** and **Honorary Trading** **Secretary,** They, together with up to ten elected members, will form the **Society’s Committee**. The Officers and **Committee** members shall be elected (or may be re-elected), at each **AGM** except for a **Chairman** who has held office for five consecutive years who may not be nominated for a further term until after one year.

The **Committee** shall meet at least monthly unless previously agreed at a **Committee** meeting. Five Members, including two Officers, shall constitute a quorum. **Committee Members** who fail to attend six meetings in a year may be asked to stand down.

The **Hon Secretary** will convene all **Committee** meetings, send out agendas and ensure all **Committee** and **General Meetings** are correctly minuted.

The **Hon Treasurer** will keep accounts of all financial transactions of the **Society**, provide financial status information for each **Committee** meeting and provide the **Chairman**, or a nominated representative from the **Committee,** access to the **Society’s** current bank statements at any time. The **Hon Treasurer** shall also prepare an annual statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December and ensure that they are inspected by a competent person, independent of the **Committee**. This person shall have been nominated and approved at the previous **AGM**.

The **Committee** may recognise exceptional service to the **Society** by nominating a person for the position of **Vice President** for one year.

The proposal shall be put forward for election at the **AGM.**

1. **General Meetings**

The **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** shall be held before the end of March. The quorum shall be **15** members. Any member wishing to make a proposal at the meeting shall submit it in writing together with the name of the seconder, to the **Hon Secretary** at least 28 days before the **AGM**. The **Hon Secretary** shall send a copy of the agenda and details of any proposals to each member no later than 14 days before the **AGM.** Nomination forms for **Officers** and **Committee members** will be sent out with the agendas and should be returned to the **Hon Secretary** before the **AGM.**

The **Constitution** may be **amended** only by the decision of the **AGM** or an **Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)**. An **EGM** may be convened by a written application signed by not less than fifteen members or by the **Committee** of the **Society.** The quorum shall be **15 Members**.

1. **Events**

The **Committee** will organise a programme of speakers and other events for monthly Membership Meetings.

**A Flower and Vegetable Show** shall be held **annually** at **Warwick** on **Sunday** and **Monday** of the Late Summer **Bank Holiday**. The Organisation, Rules and Schedule of classes shall be the responsibility of the **Committee** or such **Sub Committee** as they may appoint. A copy of the Schedule and an entry form shall be sent to each member and to others who are known to be likely to exhibit and shall be available to those who apply.

1. **Dissolution**

In the event of the **Society** ceasing to function, three Trustees shall be appointed who will meet annually to safeguard the assets of the **Society**. If after four years the **Society** has not been regenerated, assets will be distributed to a local Charity or Charities.

Agreed by **Warwick Horticultural** and **Allotment Society Committee** **– Tuesday 22nd March 2016**. **AGM**