

Hessett Church Preservation Society

Deleted: The Friends of St. Ethelbert's

The Constitution of the Society

Deleted: Hessett
Suffolk

September 2006

Updated May 2018, to reflect amendments agreed at 2010 and 2012 and 2014 AGMs

Deleted: August 2014

Constitution

Name

- 1 The name of the association shall be 'Hessett Church Preservation Society' hereinafter called '**the Society**'.

Deleted: The Friends of

Definitions

2 'the Society' shall mean ~~Hessett Church Preservation Society (HCPS)~~

Deleted: The Friends of

Deleted: FOHC

'the Church' shall mean the united Parish of Beyton & Hessett in the villages of Beyton & Hessett in the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

"inaugural meeting" shall mean the meeting referred to in Clause 5.

"the Committee" shall mean the Committee of the Society the composition of which is set out in Clause 13.

Objects and Powers

3 The objectives of the Society are to preserve and assist in the maintenance of the fabric of the Church and protect it as a village resource including as a place of Christian Worship.

Deleted: beautify

Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.63 cm + Indent at: 1.27 cm

4 In furtherance of the said objects but not otherwise the Society may: -

Deleted: ¶

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 14 pt

Deleted: and to preserve

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 14 pt

Deleted: may:-

- (a) Arrange and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures and classes;
- (b) Collect and disseminate information on all matters affecting the objectives;
- (c) Cause to be written and printed or otherwise reproduced and circulated, gratuitously or otherwise, such papers, books, periodicals, pamphlets or other documents or films or recorded tapes (whether audio or visual or both) as shall further the objects;
- (d) Support the use of the church for the wider community
- (e) Raise funds by any lawful means and through any lawful activity and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscriptions and otherwise provided that the Society shall not undertake permanent trading activities in raising funds for the objects;
- (f) Make grants of money and gifts of other property to the clergy, churchwardens and Parochial Church Council of the afore: said parish of Beyton and Hessett and generally assist those responsible for the care and maintenance of the Church;
- (g) Invest the monies of the Society not immediately required for the said objects in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be

thought fit, subject to such conditions (if any) as may for the time being be imposed or required by law; and

- (h) Do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects;
- (i) Vote by a simple majority, in committee, any disbursements.

Deleted: for the

Membership

- 5 The member of the Society shall be those persons who were present at the inaugural meeting of the Society at Hessett Village Hall on 26th April, 2006 and whose names are set out in the Schedule to the Memorandum of Agreement of that date and such other persons who become members in accordance with Clause 6.
- 6 Membership of the Society shall be open to all who are interested in furthering the achievement of its objects subject to the right of the Committee, if it sees fit, to refuse any application for membership. Application for membership shall be made to the Honorary Secretary and election shall be by the Committee, who shall consider the application as soon as convenient. Its decision shall be conveyed to the applicant by the Honorary Secretary.
- 7 The committee shall have the right, as it sees fit, to suspend or terminate the membership of any person, provided that the member concerned shall have the right first to be heard by the Committee.
- 8 Honorary members may be appointed at the discretion of the Committee but such members shall not be entitled to vote.

Subscriptions

- 9 The subscription for membership of the Society shall be £10 per annum or other such amount as the Committee may from time to time decide. Payment shall be made to the Honorary Treasurer by the seventh day of January each year without the need for prior demand. Payment may alternatively be made by banker's order. A new member who is notified after on or after 1st October in any year that his or her application has been accepted under Clause 6 shall be excused payment for that year but otherwise shall pay the full amount of the annual subscription for that year within one month of being so notified. No subscription or any part thereof shall be reimbursable and no adjustment of subscription shall be made retrospectively. No subscription shall be due from Honorary or ex officio members.

Officers

- 10 The officers of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer. Of these, only the last two may be one and the same person. Only members of the Society may be officers of the Committee.
- 11 The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer shall each be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Society to hold office for a period up to the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting but two, save that the first such officers shall be elected at the inaugural meeting and that the first Chairman and the first Honorary Secretary shall hold office for a period up to the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting but one.

Committee

- 12 The Committee of the Society shall comprise the officers, one or two members of the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Beyton and Hesselsett appointed from time to time by the said Council and not more than eight elected members.
- 13 The Committee shall, subject to the control of Annual and Special General Meetings of the Society, administer the funds of the Society, all of which shall be devoted to the furtherance of its objects, and conduct and manage all its affairs. The Committee shall meet no less than three times each year.
- 14 The first elected members of the Committee shall be elected at the inaugural meeting. At the second Annual General Meeting of the Society and at each successive such meeting thereafter the two elected members who at the time of the meeting have the longest continuous service on the Committee as elected members shall resign from the Committee and new members shall be elected to serve for a period up to the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting but two. Provided that an elected member shall not be required so to resign where the total number of elected members is less than five and the period for which that member was elected extends beyond the Annual General Meeting in question.
Such new members may include resigning members. The resignations among the members elected at the inaugural meeting or as between members having equal length of service shall be by agreement or, failing agreement, by lot.

- 15 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members of the Society to the Committee. The total number of co-opted members shall not exceed three at any time. They shall be eligible to vote on any matter in the Committee and their appointments shall lapse at the conclusion of each Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall also have the power to fill any vacancies that may arise among its members, including officers, prior to the first Annual General Meeting and thereafter between successive Annual General Meetings. When such vacancy arises, it shall be subject for election at the next Annual General Meeting of the Society.
- 16 The Committee shall have the power to make standing orders and rules for the proper running of the Society but such orders and rules shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution and shall be subject to review at any Annual or Special General Meeting.
- 17 The proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated by any failure to elect or any defect in the election, appointment, co-option or qualification of any member.
- 18 The Committee may appoint such special or standing committees as it may consider necessary and shall determine their terms of reference, powers, duration and composition. Such committees shall have no power to bind the Society in any way.

Deleted: arises

Meetings

- 19 An Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in Hesselst in October or November each year at a time and place determined by the Committee for purposes of electing officers and members of the Committee, deciding upon the appointment of an auditor for the forthcoming year, discussing and dealing with any matter duly submitted to the meeting and receiving the Annual Report of the Committee and the Statement of Accounts.
- 20 A Special General Meeting of the Society shall be held in Hesselst at any time if required by the Committee or upon written application to the Honorary Secretary by any 15 members of the Society.
- 21 Notice of any Annual or Special General Meeting of the Society shall be sent to all members not less than one week before the date of the meeting and shall state the agenda thereof.
- 22 Candidates for election as officers of the Society and as other members of the Committee shall each be nominated by two members of the Society. For the first Committee, all such nominations shall be made orally at the inaugural meeting. Except as stated herein, the procedure for elections shall be determined by the Honorary Secretary.
- 23 The chairman of any Annual or Special General Meeting of the Society shall be the Chairman of the Committee for the time being, or failing him (or her) the Vice-Chairman. All questions and issues at such meetings of