



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
FLOWER ARRANGERS' ASSOCIATION
Amended 17 September 2021

1. The name of the Association shall be the CHURCH OF ENGLAND FLOWER ARRANGERS' ASSOCIATION (hereinafter called "the association")
2. The objects of the association shall be:
 - (a) To promote and encourage interest and participation in flower arranging and displays for the ornamentation of any religious meeting or church services in furthering the worship of Almighty God and generally to protect preserve and cultivate flora in any manner which now is or hereafter be deemed by law to be charitable for the purposes of such arranging and displays as aforesaid.
 - (b) To hold meetings discussions and lectures for all persons interested in these objects
 - (c) To do all such lawful acts or things as are incidental to the attainment of the objects of the association and so far, as may be necessary or desirable to do such acts or things in collaboration with any person body institution authority or otherwise.
 - (d) To apply any surplus of funds so raised in pursuit of the aforesaid objects to the furtherance of ecclesiastical purposes in the Church of England.
3.
 - (a) Membership of the association shall be open to any individual of any Christian denomination sharing an interest in flower arranging.
 - (b) That there be a National President appointed who shall be an ex officio member of the Association without payment of subscription.
 - (c) That there be a National Chairman appointed who must be a subscribing member and further, that the Association may have the power similarly to appoint a Vice Chairman.
 - (d) That the Association have power at any future period to appoint a Patron who shall be a baptised Christian and an ex officio member of the Association without payment of subscription.
 - (e) That the Association have power to confer the title Life Vice President on a member, considered by Council, to have served the Association in an exemplary manner or to confer Life Membership without payment of subscription on any member who have given long and meritorious service to the association.

4. The annual subscription shall be as determined by the Council from time to time. The association shall have power to accept donations for any purpose not inconsistent with its objects and may make special appeals for funds to be used in connection with any such purposes.
5. Any member may determine his or her membership at any time by notice in writing to the honorary secretary.
6. The Council may on a resolution passed by three-quarters of the members thereof discontinue the membership of any member of the association whose subscription shall be six months in arrears or for any other reason at the absolute discretion of the Council.
7. The management of the association shall be vested in a Council consisting of the chairman, the vice chairman, the honorary treasurer, the honorary secretary, one member from each Branch elected in accordance with 9 (b) and not more than four other members - PROVIDED that the Council may co-opt additional members to the committee in an advisory capacity. **Five** members of the Council shall constitute a quorum. The Council shall be responsible to general meetings of the association and shall meet at least once in every year.
8. The association shall elect a chairman, vice chairman, honorary treasurer, and honorary secretary who, together with the Branch representatives and up to four other elected members, shall constitute the National Council for the ensuing year. The members of the Council shall take office at the end of the meeting at which they are elected and shall hold that office for a period of 3 years. All members of the Council may be re-elected at a general meeting for a further term or further terms of office. No term of office shall exceed three years without re-election.
9. The membership in the country may be divided into such Branches/Groups as the Council shall from time to time determine.
 - (a) Branches/Groups are required to meet at least once annually to discuss matters of policy referred to them by the Council and other matters on which recommendations may be made to the Council and Annual General Meeting.
 - (b) Every 3 years the Branch/Group shall nominate a representative to serve on the Council in such manner as may be approved by the Council.
10. (a) Subject to annual review by the Council each Branch/Group may appoint a Committee consisting of: -

- (i) A leader/facilitator responsible for chairing meetings of the branch and its day to day organisation.
 - (ii) The Council representative elected for the Branch/Group and an Honorary Treasurer if the power granted in clause 10b is taken [to maintain the finances of the branch and to prepare annual accounts], and one additional officer.
 - (iii) The Branch/Group may elect any such other officers as the they may from time to time determine to be elected.
 - (iii) Such number of members of the association in the area of the Branch/Group as the Branch/Group shall from time to time determine. This number shall be elected from among and by those members at the Branch/Group Annual Meeting.
 - (b) The Branch/Group Committee shall have power to receive donations, legacies, deeds of covenant, loans and other sources.
 - (c) The income and property of the Branch/Group Committee, ~~whencesoever~~ however, derived, shall be applied solely towards the purposes of the Branch/Group as set forth in this Constitution and for no other purposes. An audited or independently examined statement of accounts shall be submitted annually to the Council.
 - (d) Each Branch/Group annual meeting shall receive the Branch report, annual statement of accounts, and the resignations of Branch/Group officers and committee members. It shall elect the Branch/Group officers and auditors for the ensuing year.
11. (a) The honorary treasurer shall keep accounts of all monies received and expended on account of the association and shall present such accounts at the annual general meeting of the association. A banking account shall be opened on behalf of the association and all cheques drawn upon the said account shall require the signature of at least two members of the Council.
- (b) All monies raised by or on behalf of the association shall be applied to further the objects of the association and for no other purpose.
12. The Council may from time to time appoint such sub-committees as may be deemed necessary and may determine their terms of reference, powers, duration and composition, provided that no sub-committee may be given power to co-opt more than one-fourth of its total membership provided such committees shall make full and proper reports back to the main body.
13. The financial year of the association shall end on the 31st March in each year and a general meeting of members shall be convened by the honorary secretary as soon thereafter as possible, and in any case within three months for the purpose of receiving the annual report and balance sheet, for electing the officers and

Council for the ensuing year and to consider any other business as may be necessary. Fourteen days' notice of such meeting shall be sent to all members. Fifteen members present in person shall constitute a quorum at the annual general meeting. In the event of a quorum not being present the meeting shall be adjourned to such place date and time within the ensuing fourteen days as the chairman shall decide and the members present at such adjourned meeting shall constitute a quorum. The President of the Association or a member nominated by him shall be the chairman of the Annual General Meeting but if he shall not be present at the meeting or fail to nominate a chairman the meeting may choose a chairman from the members attending.

14. An extraordinary general meeting may be convened at any time by a resolution of the Council or on the requisition of at least ten members of the association. A meeting held on such requisition shall be held within twenty-one days of the receipt of such requisition by the honorary secretary and the honorary secretary shall give to the other members of the association fourteen days' notice of such meeting. A quorum shall be the same as a quorum at the annual general meeting.
15. The Council shall have power to adopt and issue Standing Orders for conducting the business of the association such Standing Orders shall come into operation immediately provided always that they shall be subject to review by a general meeting and shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of the constitution.
16. The Council may appoint and may determine the appointment of a custodian trustee or a trust corporation or not less than three persons to act as trustees for the purpose of holding any moneys and property belonging to the association.
17. All matters hereinbefore provided for and not involving an amendment to this constitution may be dealt with by the Council.
18. The association in general meeting by a resolution passed by not less than three-quarters of those present and voting may amend this constitution provided no amendment shall be made which would cause the association to cease to be a charity at law.
19. The Interpretation Act 1889 shall apply for the interpretation of this Constitution as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

20. The Association may at any time be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a general meeting of the Association of which at least twenty-eight days' notice shall be sent to all members of the Association. Such resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by or in the name of the Association provided that if any property remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, such property shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association but shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having purposes similar to some or all of the purposes of the Association as the Association may, with the approval of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales or other authority having charitable jurisdiction, determine.

This constitution was adopted as the Constitution of the Association at the Annual General Meeting held on the 17 September 2021, at Birmingham Cathedral, Colmore Row, Birmingham.

Hillary Brian	President
Averill Lovatt	Chairman
Laurie Little	Secretary