



## **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DEVON GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS AND DYERS**

### **1. NAME**

The Devon Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers.

There shall be no unauthorized use of the name of the Guild.

### **2. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Guild are to encourage and promote the work of weavers, spinners and dyers; to raise the standards of workmanship and design; and to promote the public interest by:

- a. Arranging meetings for lectures and discussions.
- b. Holding periodic exhibitions.
- c. Organizing residential courses and working groups.
- d. Supporting events organized by the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers and allied organisations to further these objectives.
- e. Furthering the interchange of ideas with neighbouring Guilds.

### **3. COMMITTEE & OFFICERS**

The affairs of the Guild shall be managed by a Committee not exceeding eight in number, exclusive of officers and of members co-opted for any specific purpose. Only Full Members are eligible to serve as officers and committee members. The officers shall be Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of such other committees as may be formed within the Guild.

- a. The Chairman shall be elected as required by an AGM. There is no minimum or maximum term of service and each position is reviewed and voted on annually, at the AGM.
- b. The Secretary and Treasurer shall each be appointed by the Committee as required, confirmed in office at the next AGM. There is no minimum or maximum term of service and each position is reviewed and voted on annually, at the AGM.
- c. One of the Committee members shall be appointed by the Committee, as required, to act as Vice-Chairman during his/her Committee service.
- d. Nominations for vacancies shall be called for two meetings prior to the AGM and completed nominations, with the nominees' agreements, handed to the Secretary at the meeting prior to the AGM.
- e. The Committee is empowered to co-opt members until the time of the next AGM to make up the number of the Committee; also to co-opt other members for a limited period for specific purposes.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

Full Membership shall be open to all genuinely interested in the Guild crafts, whether practising or not.

- a. Full membership shall include entitlement to vote at General Meetings, to exhibit with the Guild, to receive emailed news and updates and to have full access to all information promulgated via the DGWSD website.
- b. Honorary Membership, awarded at the discretion of the Chairman and approved by the Committee and a majority of two thirds of the voting membership, shall give entitlement to all rights and privileges enjoyed by Full Members without an annual Membership Fee being levied.
- c. The Committee is empowered to suspend admissions from time to time until not later than the next AGM. That AGM shall determine whether applicants still so excluded shall now be admitted and whether any current suspension shall remain in force.

#### **5. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- a. The amount of the Annual Subscription shall be determined from time to time at a General Meeting. Subscriptions for the following year become due at each AGM. Members joining after 31<sup>st</sup> May shall pay half the current annual subscription.
- b. A member whose subscription for the new year has not been paid by the close of the January meeting shall be sent a reminder. If the subscription remains unpaid by the close of the February meeting, membership will be deemed to have lapsed. Such termination of membership may, in extenuating circumstances, be delayed at the discretion of the Chairman.

#### **6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

There shall be an AGM at which every member shall be entitled to speak and vote. The AGM shall:

- a. Receive the reports of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
- b. Elect Chairman and Committee members as required.
- c. Appoint an auditor.
- d. Consider and vote on any motion proposed by Guild members.
- e. Consider any other business.

Notices convening and the agenda for the AGM or Extraordinary GM shall be posted or otherwise distributed to reach members two weeks before the meeting.

#### **7. ACCOUNTS**

Special funds may be maintained as expedient.

#### **8. EXPENDITURE**

At the discretion of the Committee, the Guild may:

- a. Reimburse officers and members of the Committee for reasonable expenses incurred in pursuance of duties for the Guild.
- b. Rent, hire or buy accommodation and materials for the Guild's use.
- c. Make ex gratia payments
- d. Make affiliation with other organizations.

## **9. ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution shall not be altered except at a General Meeting of the Guild and by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

## **10. DISSOLUTION**

In the event of the Guild being dissolved, such dissolution must be decided by not less than two-thirds of votes at a general Meeting specifically called for the purpose. The Committee shall be empowered to dispose of any surplus funds subject to the approval of the said General Meeting.