

## THE UPWEY SOCIETY

### CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. **NAME:** The name of the Society shall be The Upwey Society
2. **OBJECTS:** The objects of the Society shall be:
  - (i) To maintain and improve the amenity and special character of the Village of Upwey and its surroundings
  - (ii) In furtherance of (i), to liaise and consult with local and national government authorities and other relevant bodies
  - (iii) To maintain liaison with the Weymouth Civic Society, the Council to Protect Rural England and other local bodies with similar aims
  - (iv) To arrange informative meetings and events of interest to Members and the Village as a whole
  - (v) To engage in fund-raising activities at such times and for such purposes as the Committee may decide
3. **DEFINITION OF "VILLAGE":** For the purposes of the Society's Constitution and Rules, the boundaries of the village of Upwey shall be taken as being to the North, the South Dorset Ridgeway; to the East, the railway line; to the South, Littlemore Road and Mill Lane and to the West, the Weymouth & Portland Borough boundary.
4. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership of the Society shall be open to all households in the Village and to other persons who support the objects of the Society. The number of non-resident members shall not exceed 30% of the total membership.
5. **SUBSCRIPTIONS:** The subscription to the Society shall be £3.00 per annum for locally based members and £5 for those requiring a hard copy newsletter by post, or such other sum as may be decided upon at the Annual General Meeting for each household. Payment of this subscription shall entitle to membership all permanent residents of that household aged 18 years or over, but each household shall have not more than two votes at General Meetings of the Society. Subscriptions for the ensuing twelve months shall be due and payable on the 31 March in each year. Membership may, at the Committee's discretion, be terminated if any subscription is more than six months in arrears.
6. **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE:** The Officers of the Society shall be the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Committee shall consist of the Officers and no more than thirteen Committee Members and will normally meet at intervals of about two months.
7. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE:** The Officers (excepting the President) and the Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for one year and then be eligible for re-election. Elections shall, if necessary, be by secret paper ballot and the President, or in his or her absence, a member not seeking election shall conduct the elections. In addition the society members shall have the power at an Annual or Special General Meeting to appoint a President of the Society who shall hold office until resignation or the appointment by the members of a successor. The President may attend ex-officio at meetings of the Committee, but shall not be entitled to vote.
8. **POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE:** The Committee shall be responsible for:
  - (i) Carrying out such duties as may be assigned to them by the membership at the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting of the Society.

- (ii) Appointing members of the committee to liaise with and consult with the local planning authorities and other relevant bodies.
- (iii) Seeking assistance from the general membership in the formation of working parties.
- (iv) Editing and circulating newsletters to all members.
- (v) Administering the Society's website.
- (vi) Publicising forthcoming meetings and events.
- (vii) Organising events and activities consistent with the Objects of the Society.
- (viii) The Committee shall have authority to co-opt additional members if required.

9. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The Annual General Meeting shall be held in March of each year and three weeks' notice of the holding of the meeting must be given to all members of the Society. The following items must be included in the agenda:

- (i) Chairman's Report
- (ii) Secretary's Report
- (iii) Treasurer's Report
- (iv) Membership Secretary's Report
- (v) Election of Officers and Committee
- (vi) Election of Accounts 'Examiner'
- (vii) Any other relevant business

A statement of the accounts of the Society will be available for the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year must be given to the Secretary not later than one week before the meeting. They must be in writing, with signed acceptance by the candidate proposed, and by a proposer and seconder.

10. **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS:** A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman upon the receipt by the Secretary of a written request signed by not less than ten members. The request must state the business to be discussed and must then be circulated by notice calling the meeting. This will be the only business to be discussed at that Special General Meeting.
11. **MODIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES:** Any proposed alteration or addition to the Constitution and Rules shall be discussed and voted upon only at an Annual General Meeting. Notice of each such alteration or addition shall be given in writing to the Secretary not later than the end of January in any year for inclusion in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting for that year. Any such proposed alteration or addition shall be approved if carried by a two thirds majority of the members present.
12. **QUORUM:** Fifteen members personally present shall constitute a quorum at any General Meeting of the Society and seven members a quorum at any Committee Meeting. The Chairman of any Meeting shall have a casting vote.