

RULES OF THE FRIENDS OF DUDLEY CASTLE

(As proposed for amendment at AGM on 25th April 2019)

The organisation shall be known as "The Friends of Dudley Castle" and in these rules shall be referred to as "the Friends".

The address of "the Friends" shall be c/o Dudley Zoological Society Offices, Castle Hill, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 4QF.

Our Mission Statement is "to support and promote Dudley Castle in every way possible locally, nationally and internationally as a major treasure of British Heritage".

All monies received on account of subscriptions, donations, levies, fines or sales shall be applied to carrying out the objectives of "the Friends", as defined in our Mission Statement above.

"The Friends" shall have the following Officers (with at least two years' membership of "the Friends");

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Membership Secretary

Speaker Secretary

Outings Organiser

~~'Ramparts' Editor,~~

plus, up to ~~4~~ 5 additional Committee members ~~and up to two co-opted members~~ who shall together form the Management Committee.

GENERAL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the month of April in the Chapel Undercroft, Dudley Castle, at which the members of the Management Committee shall be elected for the ensuing year.

A special General Meeting may be held whenever the Management Committee decides.

Management Committee Meetings will be held monthly (or as deemed appropriate) and with five members to be present for a binding decision.

At all General Meetings the Chairman (or Vice Chairman in his absence) will preside, and every member present will have one vote. The quorum for the General Meeting shall be ~~4~~ 10. The Secretary shall be responsible for notifying the members of meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

All applications for membership will need the approval of the Membership Secretary (on behalf of the Management Committee whose decision will be final). ~~Honorary Memberships may be granted by the Management Committee.~~

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

On expiry of annual membership (31st August each year), members will be allowed until 30th September to renew membership. Any membership not renewed by payment of subscription by that date will be deemed to have lapsed.

~~EVIDENCE OF MEMBERSHIP~~

~~Membership will be evidenced by the issue of a receipt for the membership fees paid for the current year.~~

DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP

The Management Committee will have the authority to disqualify any members for a breach of these rules or conduct likely to bring "the Friends" into disrepute.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions shall be paid annually and will be fixed at the Annual General Meeting.

ACCOUNTS

The accounts shall be audited annually by one person who is not a member of the Management Committee or a relative of the members of the Management Committee. All cheques issued on behalf of "the Friends" must bear at least two authorised signatures. Those authorised shall be the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Outings Organiser and Treasurer.

DISPUTES

The Management Committee will have the authority to appoint "an arbitrator" for the Committee to investigate any complaints or disputes from "Friends". The Committee will decide upon receipt of the arbitrator's findings.

AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

These rules may only be amended or altered at a General Meeting.