

Edgworth and District Horticultural Society

CHAIRMAN
Barbara Kenny
"Moor Platt", 260 Blackburn Road
Edgworth
Bolton BL7 0PL
Telephone: 01204 852274
chairman@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk

TREASURER
Phil Broughton
30, Hillside Avenue
Bromley Cross
Bolton BL7 9NG
Telephone: 01204 300541
treasurer@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk

SECRETARY
John King
165 Greens Arms Road
Turton
Bolton BL7 0NA
Telephone: 01204 852024
secretary@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk

Amendments to the Society Constitution

Members of the Society will probably be aware that the Society occasionally applies to Blackburn with Darwen Council and other grant awarding bodies for support for the Society's activities. In the past, such support has enabled us, for example, to purchase capital items for use in the Annual Show.

Blackburn with Darwen Council, in common with other public bodies, requires organisations applying for grants to satisfy certain criteria through the inclusion of clauses in the constitution relating to membership, the management of society funds and the dissolution of the society. To that end, Edgworth and District Horticultural Society will need to amend the present constitution if we are to satisfy these criteria.

The full present constitution can be found on our web site (www.edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk). The relevant paragraphs to be amended are given below, with the amendments in bold italics. Your committee is recommending these amendments to the constitution, and will put them to a vote of members at the annual General Meeting on November 18th. Please read them through so that you are aware of the nature of the amendments.

Amendments to membership clauses

2. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Full membership of the Society shall be open to any person aged 18 years or over ***without regards to disability, political or religious affiliation, race, sex or sexual orientation***, on payment of an Annual Subscription, the amount of which shall be decided by and which may, from time to time, be varied by the Committee. Subscriptions to cover membership over a calendar year, shall be due on 1st January.
- (b) Junior Membership shall be open to those under 18 years of age ***without regards to disability, political or religious affiliation, race, sex or sexual orientation*** on payment of an Annual Subscription of a reduced amount of that determined under 2(a) above. They will enjoy full rights of membership equivalent to those of full members.

Amendment to accounting year

The following amendment changes the accounting year from “1st September to 31st August” to a more realistic date given the financial transactions necessary for the Annual Show.

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The accounting year of the Society shall be from **1st October to 30th September** and this shall be followed by an Annual General Meeting to be held in the following October or November, at a date to be announced 21 days in advance. All members fully paid up at the date of the Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to attend and vote. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to receive reports from its officers, to elect the Committee and to appropriate Officers and Auditor(s) for the ensuing year, and to transact such other business as the Committee and the Chairman may deem desirable.

Amendments to funds clauses

7. FUNDS AND PROPERTY

- (a) A Minute book and books of account shall be provided and kept by the Committee.
- (b) Funds shall be banked as decided by the Committee and balances drawn and handled by such person or persons as the Committee direct. ***The Committee shall authorize in writing to the Treasurer and three other members of the Committee to sign cheques on behalf of the Society. All cheques must be signed by not less than two of the authorized signatories.***
- (c) An annual audited Statement of Account shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) The property of all funds and articles, either of cups or trophies (which shall be insured against loss) and other kinds of materials shall vest in the Committee.
- (e) ***In the event of the termination of the Society any net balance of funds after disposal of property and payment of any debts due shall be paid and handed over to such Charitable Organisation or Organisations having objects similar to the Society as the Committee and its Officers shall determine, and if and in so far as effect cannot be given to this provision, then to some other charitable purpose.***

Addition of dissolution clause

9. DISSOLUTION

The Society may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two thirds majority of those present and voting at a special General Meeting convened for the purpose, of which 28 days notice shall be given.