

Council for British Archaeology – Wessex Region
– WESSEX – CONSTITUTION

Registered Charity in England & Wales 291902

1. NAME

The name of the Charity is Council for British Archaeology – Wessex Region (trading as CBA Wessex for banking purposes, and (hereinafter called "The Group").

2. STATUS

(1) The Group shall be an independent body pursuing its aims by charitable means for charitable purposes.

(2) The Group shall be governed by the terms of this Constitution.

3. OBJECTS

The Group is established to pursue the following objects in the counties of Berkshire, Dorset, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Wiltshire and the Channel Islands:

- (1) to advance the study and practice of archaeology;
- (2) to promote the interest and education of the public in such archaeology;
- (3) to conduct and / or communicate the results of relevant research;
- (4) to advance public understanding and care of the historic environment.

4. RELATIONSHIP WITH COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY ("CBA")

The Group ~~is supported by the CBA and works in liaison with the Council for British Archaeology (registered charity 287815)~~ on a local and regional level to further the common aims of the CBA and the Group. ~~The CBA is a registered charity in England & Wales (Number 287815) and a company limited by guarantee (Number 1760254) with a registered address at St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York, YO30 7BZ.~~

5. ADMINISTRATION

The general management and control of the Group and its assets shall be vested in the Group's Committee of Trustees ('the Committee'), as defined in Clause 7 below.

6. MEMBERSHIP

(1) Membership of the Group shall be open to:

- (i) individuals who are interested in furthering the work of the Group and who have paid an annual subscription at a rate determined by the Annual General Meeting. Payment of the subscription shall either be directly made to the Group, or via the individual member's membership of the CBA. :-

~~(a) to the CBA at a rate laid down annually by the CBA Council, the member being allocated to the Group as part of CBA membership; or~~

~~(b) to the Group at a rate laid down from time to time by the members in~~

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~~general meeting~~

- (ii) institutional or affiliate members, being any body corporate or unincorporated association or other organisation active in archaeology or related fields (~~“member organisation”~~), who have paid any annual subscription as aforesaid.
- (2) Honorary members may be appointed at the discretion of the Committee.
- (3) The Committee shall have the right to put in place procedures for the approval of membership applications.
- (4) The Committee shall have the right to reject applications for membership if, acting reasonably and properly, it considers it to be in the best interests of the charity to refuse the application. In doing so the Committee must:
- (i) inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal within ~~twenty-one~~ ~~twenty-one~~ days of the decision;
 - (ii) must consider any written representations the applicant may make about the decision;
- The Committee’s decision following any written representations must be notified to the applicant in writing, but shall be final.
- (5) A member shall cease to be a member if:
- (i) the member dies, or, if it is an organisation, ceases to exist;
 - (ii) the member resigns by written notice to the Group;
 - (iii) any sum due from the member to the Group is not paid in full within six months of it falling due;
 - (iv) for good and sufficient reason the member (individual or organisation) is removed from membership by a resolution of the Committee that it is in the best interests of the Charity that the membership is terminated, provided that:
 - (a) the member has been given at least twenty-one days’ notice in writing of the meeting of ~~T~~rustees at which the resolution will be proposed and the reasons why it is to be proposed; and
 - (b) the member or up to two representatives concerned shall have the right to appeal to the Committee before a final decision is made.

7. THE COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES

- (1) The Group and its property shall be managed and administered by a Committee (“the Committee”) comprising the Officers below and other members elected in accordance with this Constitution. The Officers and other members of the Committee shall be the Trustees of the Group.
- (2) At the ~~A~~annual ~~G~~general ~~M~~meeting of the Group the members shall elect from among themselves the members of the committee amongst whom will be a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such other Honorary Officers, who must be members of the Group, as the Group shall from

time to time decide.

- (3) The Committee shall consist of no fewer than 10 members and no more than ~~21~~ 17 members being:
 - (i) the Honorary Officers specified above;
 - (ii) no fewer than 7 and no more than ~~18~~ 14 members elected at the ~~A~~annual ~~G~~general ~~M~~meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting; ("ordinary members").
- (4) The Committee may in addition appoint up to 5 co-opted members PROVIDED THAT the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one third of the total membership of the Committee. Such co-opted members shall serve until the next ~~A~~annual ~~G~~general ~~M~~meeting.
- ~~(5) Election to the Committee shall be for three years. Members of the Committee shall be eligible to stand for one further term of three years after the first term of office, but on completion of the second term would not normally be eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed.~~
- ~~(56)~~ The Honorary Officers of the Group shall hold office until the conclusion of the ~~A~~annual ~~G~~general ~~M~~meeting next after their election, but shall be eligible for re-election PROVIDED THAT no Honorary Officer shall hold office for more than 6 consecutive years. On the expiration of such a period, one further year must elapse before any former Honorary Officer shall be eligible for re-election. (In this and the preceding clause "a year" is defined as the period between one AGM and the next rather than a precise calendar year.)
- ~~(67)~~ The proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number or by any failure to appoint or any defect in the appointment or qualification of a member.
- ~~(78)~~ Nobody shall be elected or appointed as a member of the Committee who is aged less than 18 years. However, members of the Group who are aged less than 18 years may attend and contribute to Committee meetings at the invitation of the Chair.
- ~~(89)~~ The CBA may nominate one of its ~~T~~rustees to have liaison responsibilities with the Group who shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Group and the Committee in a non-voting capacity.
- ~~(940)~~ The Group shall appoint an independent examiner of its finances who is not a member of the ~~Group Executive Committee~~ and shall determine his or her remuneration (if any).
- ~~(1044)~~ Any casual vacancy in the Committee may be filled by the Committee and any person appointed to fill such a casual vacancy shall hold office until the conclusion of the next ~~A~~annual ~~G~~general ~~M~~meeting and shall be

eligible for election at that meeting.

(1142) If vacancies occur amongst the Honorary Officers of the Group, the Committee shall have the power to fill these from amongst its members, until the next ~~A~~annual ~~G~~general ~~M~~meeting.

8. POWERS

(1) The Committee must manage the business of the Group and have the following powers in order to further the Objects (but not for any other purpose):

(a) raise funds and invite and receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Committee shall not undertake permanent trading activities and must comply with any relevant statutory regulations;

(b) co-operate with the Council for British Archaeology (see above), other charities, voluntary bodies, statutory authorities and other organisations operating in furtherance of the objects or of similar charitable purposes and to exchange information and advice with them;

(c) arrange and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures, classes, seminars, training courses and other such events;

(d) collect and disseminate information on all matters affecting the ~~O~~bjects within the region and exchange such information with the CBA, individuals or other bodies having similar ~~O~~bjects subject to the discretion of the Group and subject to requirements of the Data Protection Act or Acts;

(e) cause to be written and printed or otherwise reproduced and circulated, gratuitously or otherwise, such papers, books, periodicals, pamphlets or other media of communication as shall further the ~~O~~bjects;

(f) appoint and constitute such advisory committees as the Committee may think fit;

(g) establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for any of the charitable purposes included in the Objects;

(h) acquire, merge with or enter into any partnership or joint venture arrangement with any other charity formed for any of the Objects;

(i) set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with an agreed written policy about reserves.

(j) obtain and pay for such goods and services as are necessary for carrying out the work of the Group;

(k) purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and any rights and privileges necessary for the achievement of the Objects and maintain and equip it for use;

(l) dispose of all or any part of the property of the Group subject to any consents required by law;

(m) open and operate such bank accounts as the Trustees consider necessary and to invest funds and to delegate the management of funds in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the Trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trust Act 2000 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision);

(n) borrow money and charge all or any part of the property of the Group with repayment of the money so borrowed subject to any consents required by law;

(o) employ such staff as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the Objects;

(p) do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objects.

- (2) No alteration of this constitution or any special resolution shall have retrospective effect to invalidate any prior act of the Committee.
- (3) Any meeting of Trustees at which a quorum is present at the time the relevant decision is made, may exercise all the powers exercisable by the Committee.

9. DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF TRUSTEES

A member of the Committee shall cease to hold office as Trustee if he or she:

- (1) is disqualified from acting as a member of the Committee by virtue of section 72 of the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision);
- (2) ceases to be a member of the Group;
- (3) becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering his or her own affairs;
- (4) is absent without the permission of the Committee from all their meetings held within a period of twelve consecutive months and the Committee resolve that his or her office be vacated, or;
- (5) notifies to the Committee a wish to resign (but only if at least two members of the Committee will remain in office when the notice of

resignation is to take effect).

10. MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

- (1) The Committee may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit, subject to the provisions of this constitution.
- (2) The Secretary must call a meeting of the Committee if requested to do so by two Trustees.
- (3) The Committee shall hold at least two ordinary meetings each year. A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chair or by any two members of the Committee upon not less than 4 working days' notice being given to the other members of the Committee of the matters to be discussed.
- (4) The Chair of the Committee shall chair meetings of the Committee. If the Chair is absent from any meeting, the members of the Committee present shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting before any other business is transacted.
- (5) There shall be a quorum when at least one third of the number of members of the Committee for the time being ~~and/or two members of the Committee, whichever is the greater,~~ are present at a meeting, PROVIDED THAT at least one Officer is present. No business shall be transacted unless a quorum is present.
- (6) A Trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which that Trustee is not entitled to vote.
- (7) Every matter shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members of the Committee present and voting on the question but in the case of equality of votes the chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
- (8) A resolution in writing signed by all Trustees entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Trustees or of a committee of Trustees and to vote upon the resolution shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Trustees or (as the case may be) a committee of Trustees duly convened and held.
- (9) The Secretary or other person specially appointed by the Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings at every Committee and sub-committee meeting of the Group.
- (10) The Committee may from time to time make and alter rules for the conduct of their business, the summoning, quorum and conduct of their meetings and the custody of documents. No rule may be made which is inconsistent with this constitution.

11. DELEGATION

- (1) The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees for the purpose of making an inquiry or supervising or performing any function or duty which, in the opinion of the Committee, would be more conveniently undertaken or carried out by a sub-committee: provided that all acts and proceedings of any such sub-committees shall be fully and promptly reported to the Committee. The members of a sub-committee should include at least two Committee members.
- (2) The Committee may impose conditions when delegating, including the conditions that:
 - the relevant powers are to be exercised exclusively by the sub-committee to whom they delegate;
 - no expenditure may be incurred on behalf of the Group ~~unless except in accordance with a budget~~ previously agreed with the Trustees or unless approved by purchase order signed by one Trustee for sums up to and including £200, and by two Trustees for any higher sum up to and including £2,500.
- (3) The Committee may revoke or alter a delegation.

12. IRREGULARITIES IN PROCEEDINGS

- (1) Subject to sub-clause (2) of this clause, all acts done by a meeting of Trustees, or of a sub-committee of Trustees, shall be valid notwithstanding the participation in any vote of a Trustee:
 - who was disqualified from holding office
 - who had previously retired or who had been obliged by the constitution to vacate office
 - who was not entitled to vote on the matter, whether by reason of a conflict of interest or otherwise.if, without:
 - the vote of that Trustee; and
 - that Trustee being counted in the quorum,the decision had been made by the majority of the Trustees at a quorate meeting.
- (2) Sub-clause (1) of this clause does not permit a Trustee to keep any benefit that may be conferred upon him or her by a resolution of the Trustees or of a sub-committee of Trustees if the resolution would otherwise have been void.
- (3) No resolution or act of
 - (i) the Trustees
 - (ii) any sub-committee of the Trustees

(iii) the Group in general meeting shall be invalidated by reason of the failure to give notice to any Trustee or member or by reason of any procedural defect in the meeting unless it is shown that the failure or defect has materially prejudiced a member or the beneficiaries of the Group.

13. MINUTES

The Committee must keep minutes of all:

- (1) appointments of Honorary Officers and Trustees made by the Group
- (2) proceedings at meetings of the Group
- (3) meetings of the Trustees and sub-committees of Trustees including:
 - (a) the names of the Trustees present at the meetings;
 - (b) the decisions made at the meetings; and
 - (c) where appropriate the reasons for the decisions

14. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

- (1) The funds of the Group, including all donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into an account operated by the Committee in the name of the Group at such bank as the Committee shall from time to time decide. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by at least two of the Honorary Officers members of the Committee.
- (2) The funds belonging to the Group shall be applied only in furthering the objects.
- (3) A Trustee may pay out of, or be reimbursed from, the funds of the Group reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the Group.
- (4) None of the income or property of the Group may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profit to any member of the Group. This does not prevent:
 - (a) a member who is not also a Trustee from receiving reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the Group or being reimbursed for reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the Group;
 - (b) a Trustee from:
 - (i) buying goods or services from the Group upon the same terms as other members or members of the public;
 - (ii) receiving a benefit from the Group in the capacity of a beneficiary and upon the same terms as other members;
 - (c) the purchase of indemnity insurance for the Trustees against any liability that by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to a Trustee or other officer in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust of which he or she may be guilty in relation to the Group but excluding:

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- (i) fines;
 - (ii) costs of unsuccessfully defending criminal prosecutions for offences arising out of the fraud, dishonesty or wilful or reckless misconduct of the Trustee ~~or other officer~~;
 - (iii) liabilities to the Group that result from conduct that the Trustee ~~or Officers~~ knew or ought to have known was not in the best interests of the Group or in respect of which the person concerned did not care whether that conduct was in the best interests of the Group or not.
- (5) No Trustee may be paid or receive any other benefit for being a Trustee.

15. ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

- (1) The Committee shall comply with their obligations under the current Charities Act ~~1993~~ (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to:
- (a) the keeping of accounting records for the Group;
 - (b) the preparation of annual statements of account for the Group;
 - (c) the independent examination of the statements of account for the Group, if required;
 - (d) the preparation of an annual report of the Group's activities;
 - (e) transmission of the statements of account and the annual report of the Group to the Charity Commission of England & Wales, if required; and
 - (f) preparation of an annual return and its transmission to the Charity Commission.

16. REGISTERED PARTICULARS

- (1) The Committee must notify the Commission promptly of any changes to the Group's entry on the Central Register of Charities.

17. GENERAL MEETINGS

- (1) There shall be an Annual General mmeeting of the Group. Not more than fifteen months may elapse between successive Annual annual General Mmeetings.
- (2) Every Annual General Mmeeting shall be called by the Committee. The secretary shall give at least 14 clear day's notice of the Annual General mMeeting to all members of the Group. Notice to members may be either in writing or given by electronic communication and must specify the date, time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

- (3) All the members of the Group shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meetingmeeting. Members are entitled to one vote each.
- (4) The Committee shall present to each Aannual Ggeneral Mmeeting the report and accounts of the Group for the preceding year.
- (5) All general meetings other than the Aannual Ggeneral Mmeeting shall be called Sspecial Ggeneral Mmeetings.
- (6) The Committee may call a Sspecial Ggeneral Mmeeting of the Group at any time. If at least ten members request such a meeting in writing stating the business to be considered the Secretary shall call such a meeting. At least 14 days notice must be given. The notice must state the business to be discussed.
- (7) The Secretary or other person specially appointed by the Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings at every general meeting of the Group.
- (8) No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as herein otherwise provided, ten members exclusive of the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and other Honorary Officers personally present shall be a quorum.
- (9) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the holding of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place, or at such other time or place as the Trustees may determine, and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for holding the meeting the members present shall be a quorum.
- (10) Every individual member over the age of 16 years shall have one vote. Members under the age of 16 years are eligible to attend Group meetings, but are not eligible to vote.
- (11) (i) Each member organisation shall have one vote.

(ii) Each member organisation shall appoint an individual to represent it and to vote on its behalf at general meetings of the Group

18. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this clause, the Constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting. The notice of the general meeting must include notice of the resolution, setting out the terms of the alteration proposed.

- (2) No amendment may be made to clause 1- (the name of the charity), clause ~~32-~~ (the ~~O~~bjects), clause 19- (~~e~~Dissolution) or this clause without the prior consent in writing of the Charity Commission of England and Wales.
- (3) No amendment may be made which would have the effect of making the Group cease to be a charity at law.
- (4) The Committee should promptly send to the Charity Commission a copy of any amendments made under this clause.

19. DISSOLUTION

- (1) If the Committee decides that it is necessary to dissolve the Group it shall call a meeting of all the members of the Group, of which not less than 21 days' notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed) shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two thirds majority of those present and voting, the Committee shall have power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Group.
- (2) Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to the CBA or to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Group as the members of the Group may determine or failing that shall be applied for some other charitable purpose approved in advance by the Charity Commission. A copy of the statement of accounts, or account and statement, for the final accounting period of the Group must be sent to the Commission.
- (3) If the members resolve to dissolve the Group the Committee will remain in office as Trustees and be responsible for winding up the affairs of the Group in accordance with this clause.

20. INSURANCE

The Committee must insure suitably in terms of public liability and other necessary areas of cover.

21. ADOPTION

This constitution was adopted at the Annual General Meeting held on ~~7th November 2015~~ ~~3rd May 2008~~. It replaced the previous constitution for the Group adopted on ~~3rd May 2008~~ ~~25 February 1995~~.

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