
THE GUERNSEY SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

RULES

Effective upon incorporation by order in Council
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1. Name and Objectives of the Society

(a) The Society shall be entitled "The Guernsey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals", its objectives being to prevent cruelty to all animals and birds; to rescue animals and birds in distress; to provide shelter for strays; to foster and encourage by propaganda and educational means kindness and consideration in the treatment of all animals and birds whether domestic or wild. In pursuance of these aims the Society shall employ all moral and legal means to denounce acts of neglect and cruelty.

(b) The Society shall remain at all times an independent Society not dependent in whole or in part, nor under the control of, the States of Guernsey or any other Society. Nothing in the Rules shall prohibit the acceptance by the Society of any contribution whether financial or otherwise from any person or body.

2. Membership and Subscriptions

(a) All persons shall be eligible for membership, it being well understood that admission shall be at the discretion of the General Committee.

(b) The annual subscription shall be determined from time to time at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. All annual subscriptions shall be payable on the 1st day of January in each year.

(c) Any member whose subscription remains outstanding by 1st April in any year shall cease to be a member of the Society.

(d) Membership entitles the members the right to vote at General Meetings and to receive information and publications that may be circulated from time to time.

(e) Members who have performed exceptional services on behalf of the Society may be appointed to Honourary Life Membership, by members attending Annual General Meeting and shall enjoy all the benefit and privileges attaching to the membership.

(f) Any person ceasing to be a member of the Society shall relinquish any office held in the Society and all benefit and privileges attaching to membership.

3. Constitution of the Society

(a) The governing body of the Society shall consist of a President, not more than two

Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and a General Committee composed of not more than eight members one of whom shall be appointed as Secretary to the Committee.

(b) The President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the General Committee.

(c) At meetings of the General Committee five members shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of the President or a Vice-President, the senior member shall act as chairman and in the event it shall not be possible to determine the seniority of the committee members, the members present shall choose between them by ballot a chairman for the meeting.

(d) General Committee Meetings shall take place at regular intervals with the exception of normal holiday periods. The Shelter Manager shall attend these meetings.

(e) The President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer shall be elected at an Annual General meeting for a period of three years after which they may be re-elected if desired on both sides for a further term. Should a change of President, Vice-presidents or Treasurer be desired by the Committee, nominations should be sought at the next Annual General Meeting. Should such officer vacate the office during the year the General Committee shall appoint an acting President, Vice-President or Treasurer as the case may be, to serve the remaining portion of the year. The said acting President, Vice-President or Treasurer amongst other nominees proposed, shall be eligible for election at the next Annual General Meeting.

(f) The members of the General Committee shall be elected for a period of three years upon the expiration of which they shall be eligible for re-election. Prospective committee members must have been a Society member for at least one calendar year.

4 Powers of the General Committee

To manage and administer the affairs of the Society, and in particular, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing:

(a) To appoint a Shelter Manager.

(b) To authorise the maintenance of, and extensions and modifications to, any Real Property owned by the Society, and to erect such other buildings as may become necessary or desirable to improve the Shelter's facilities.

(c) To implement resolutions passed at a General Meeting, and to appoint sub committees from the General Committee and to entrust to such committees such powers and duties as the Committee thinks fit.

(d) To appoint a member to fill any vacancy on the General Committee until the next Annual General Meeting. Any member so appointed shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for election as a member of the General Committee at such a meeting.

(e) To expel or suspend any member who shall offend against the Rules of the Society or whose conduct shall in the opinion of a two thirds majority of the members of the General Committee render him/her unfit for membership of the Society. PROVIDED that no member shall be expelled without being given seven days' notice to attend a meeting of the General Committee and having an opportunity to be heard.

(f) At the discretion of the General Committee to pay a contribution or otherwise to assist any employee, officer or committee member of the Society who is sued in respect of any matter relating to the affairs of the Society whether in respect of legal fees, damages or recoverable costs.

(g) To summon an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society when necessary or expedient or if so requested by at least eight members of the Society.

(h) To determine and to review as necessary from time to time all or any of the following:-

- I) Staff remuneration and conditions.
- II) Licence fee of the Shelter bungalow.
- III) All chargeable Shelter services.

5 Management of the Shelter

Duties of the Shelter Manager are as detailed under the terms set out in the Managers Contract of Employment. The Manager shall have responsibility for the conduct and the day to day operations of the Shelter. The Manager shall take all measures necessary for the welfare and safety of the animals and birds in residence and in care. The Manager is authorised to engage and dismiss staff. The Manager shall keep records as approved and required by the General Committee.

6 Functions of the Treasurer

(a) The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping all the essential records, income and expenditure to enable the preparation of the annual audit.

(b) The funds at the Treasurer's disposal consist of those derived from the normal income of the Society, including subscriptions, monies arising from fund raising events, income from legacies, gifts and bank deposits and such other enterprises that the General Committee shall approve.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the General Committee informed of the financial situation of the Society, the receipt of any legacies, bequests or gifts and in particular to advise the General Committee of the rate of expenditure against income.

(d) The Treasurer shall receive reimbursement for the expenses incurred in the execution of these duties, at rate to be decided by the General Committee.

7 General Meetings of the Society

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held each year as soon as possible after the accounts for the preceding year have been audited. At this meeting the election of the Officers and General Committee Members (as provided in Rule 3) to replace those retiring by rotation shall take place.
- (b) The President shall present a general statement of the affairs of the Society and the Treasurer will submit and report on the audited accounts.
- (c) The meeting shall appoint or authorise the Committee to appoint an Auditor or Auditors for the ensuing year.
- (d) Extraordinary General Meetings may be held as circumstances require.
- (e) Notice of all General Meetings, stating the purpose of such Meetings, shall be given by advertisement in the local Press not less than seven days before the date fixed for the Meeting.
- (f) All nominations for officers and committee members for election at an Annual General Meeting to be received in writing at the address of the Society no later than forty eight hours before a General Meeting.
- (g) At all General Meetings ten members shall form a quorum. Only members who have paid the current year's subscription shall be entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting.

8 Winding Up

- (a) The affairs of the Society may be wound up only by a Resolution of the Society in General Meeting. Such General Meeting to be called specifically for the purpose of winding up the Society and passed by a two-thirds majority of the votes at the Meeting.
- (b) The General Committee shall thereupon, or at such future date as shall specified in such Resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Society and, after the discharge of all liabilities, shall transfer the same to such charity or charities for the protection and benefit of animals and birds in the Bailiwick of Guernsey as the General Committee in its absolute discretion think fit and deserving. Should not such a charity be in existence at the date of winding up of the Society then the General Committee shall have absolute discretion to apply the net assets of the Society for such charitable purposes as it shall think fit.

9 No alteration or addition to these rules shall be made except by a Resolution carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present at a General Meeting of the Society, the notice of which shall have contained particulars of the proposed alteration or addition.