

# **HADAS - HADDINGTON AND DISTRICT AMENITY SOCIETY**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **Name**

The name of the Society shall be "Haddington and District Amenity Society" (HADAS).

### **Aims**

The purpose of the Society shall be to promote and encourage the following objectives by charitable means, but not otherwise:

1. To stimulate public interest in, and care of, the beauty, history and character of the area of the Royal Burgh and surrounding settlements;
2. To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public, environmental, amenity or historic interest;
3. To encourage high standards of architecture and town and country planning in Haddington and surrounding settlements, and to comment on development proposals, taking account of the importance of their setting within an area of attractive farmed landscape;
4. To promote or undertake projects, where circumstances require or justify such action, involving the repair, restoration or replacement of features and artefacts considered to be important in the pursuit of the above aims, and to seek funding to be applied in such undertakings.
5. To pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions, lectures, publications, conferences, publicity, and representations/observations and the promotion of schemes of a charitable nature, as seems appropriate.

### **Membership**

Membership shall be open to all who are interested in the aims of the Society. Life Membership shall be secured upon payment of a fee of £70. Annual Membership from 1 October each year shall commence or be renewed on payment of an agreed fee, relating to the classes of annual membership set out below, and subscription shall be at the levels determined from time to time by the Executive Committee:

- Ordinary joint/family
- Ordinary single
- Life joint/family
- Life single
- Corporate Membership

Membership shall lapse if the annual subscription for renewal of membership is unpaid by 31 March, after written notification by post allowing four weeks notice.

### **Meetings**

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about October of each year to receive the Executive Committee's report and audited accounts, and to elect the Chairman and members of the Committee. Special General meetings of the Society shall be held at the request of 20 or more members and one fifth of the total membership shall constitute a quorum on such occasions.

The Executive Committee shall decide when ordinary meetings of the Society shall be held, and shall inform all members; at the discretion of the Executive Committee, meetings may be open to the public.

### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than ten Members, nominated seconded and elected at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for the election of Chairman, at the same time, shall be made at or before the Annual General Meeting; such nominations shall be in writing, supported by a seconder, and the consent of the proposed nominees must first have been obtained. Other Officers of the Executive Committee shall be Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and they shall be elected by the Executive Committee, following the Annual General Meeting. No person shall fill the position of a particular office for more than three consecutive years.

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of five of its Members. The Executive Committee shall have power to co-opt further Members who shall attend in an advisory and non-voting capacity. When decisions are made by voting, each member of the Executive Committee present shall exercise one vote. The Chairman may, if necessary, exercise a casting vote.

### **Sub-Committees**

The Executive Committee shall have power to set up Sub-Committees when deemed necessary, and to allocate to these Sub-Committees such powers as may be appropriate.

### **Declaration of Interest**

It shall be the duty of every Officer or Member of the Executive Committee or Sub-Committee who is in any way directly or indirectly interested financially or professionally in any item discussed at any Committee meeting at which he or she is present to declare such interest and he/she shall not discuss such item except by invitation of the Chairman or vote thereon.

### **Appeals**

The Executive Committee shall have the power to make appeals, solicit donations and canvas monies for the carrying out of the aims of the Society.

### **Management of Grants and Special Funding**

The Executive Committee shall apply any funds received in grant aid towards specific projects entirely in accordance with the stated aims of such projects, and with any conditions stipulated by the grant-giving agencies involved. HADAS shall not distribute profits. None of the Society's funds may be distributed or otherwise applied (on being wound up or at any other time) except to further its charitable purposes.

### **Expenses of Administration**

The Executive Committee shall, out of the monies received by the Society, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit for or towards the aims of the Society.

### **Investment**

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not required for immediate application to its aims may be invested by the Executive Committee upon such investments, securities or property as it may think prudent and reasonable.

### **Amendments**

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that 10 days notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members and provided that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment permitting the expenditure of funds of the Society on any aim which is not charitable.

### **Winding up**

In the event of the winding up of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such one or more charitable bodies having aims similar to those hereinbefore declared as may be chosen by the Executive Committee.

*Revised Constitution, October 2009*