

# Chipping Norton and District Choral Society

## Constitution

1. The name of the Society shall be the CHIPPING NORTON AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY, hereinafter referred to as the Society. Members will be welcomed from Chipping Norton and from any of the surrounding villages and hamlets.
2. The object of the Society shall be to foster and promote the education of the general public in the appreciation of music in all its aspects, and to co-operate with local authorities, educational institutions and cultural societies relating to the practice, presentation and study of music, in order, *inter alia* to promote better and more widespread performances of instrumental work, choral work, ballet and opera.
3. Membership of the Society shall be obtained by the payment of a regular fee. The scale of fees shall be decided by the Committee.
4. The Society shall be controlled by a Committee consisting of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, an Honorary Subscriptions Secretary, an Honorary Librarian and five other members. The Conductor of the Society shall be invited to all Committee Meetings.
5. Each of the ten members of the Committee and the Conductor shall have power to vote in committee. The Chairman will only exercise a right to vote when there is an equal division of opinion.
6. Committee meetings shall have a quorum of five, comprising two officers and three members.
7. The Society shall have an account with a Chipping Norton branch of a bank and the Treasurer shall use this account for all purposes of the Society. Cheques will be signed by any two from the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Subscriptions Secretary, Treasurer and Secretary. The income and property of the Society whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of the Society and no portion thereof shall be paid to any members except in payment of reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.
8. The Society may receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees. Tickets for any or all of its concerts and other events shall be offered for sale to the public.
9. The Society shall have the services of an Independent Examiner who shall examine the books annually, immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting.
10. In each calendar year there shall be an Annual General Meeting, which shall be held towards the end of September.
11. At the Annual General Meeting, the Treasurer will present to members the Annual Balance Sheet, duly examined. Appointments of Officers and Committee Members shall be made at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting should that be necessary.
12. No member of the Committee shall serve thereon for more than three consecutive years. Two of the six non-officer members shall automatically resign each year. Officers can serve for more than three years providing the members desire continuation of their services.
13. The choice of a Conductor to the Society shall be made by the Committee.

14. Choir practices shall be held weekly on an evening determined by the Committee.
15. All the records of the Society shall be held by the Secretary so that they can be open to inspection by Authority at any time.
16. Life Membership may be granted to any member, who has given outstanding services to the Society, by a resolution of the Annual General Meeting following a recommendation of the Committee. A life member shall not be required to pay membership fees.
17. If it is decided to discontinue the work of the Society, any money or property belonging to the Society after payment of expenses and liabilities properly incurred, shall not be distributed to its members but shall be devoted to some other Charity or Charities having objectives similar to those of the Society or to some other Charity.
18. Any alteration, amendment or addition to the Constitution may from time to time be made at the Annual General Meeting of the Society by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting. Notice of any motion for such alteration, amendment or addition must be given in writing to the Secretary, 14 days before the meeting, but no alteration shall be made which shall cause the Society to cease to be a charity at law.
19. A copy of this Constitution shall be presented to all new members on their enrolment.

**Amended September 2004**