

Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire

Rules

1. The Society shall be called “The Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire”.
2. The objects of the Society shall be to encourage an interest in Natural History and to facilitate its conservation and study (1) by lectures; (2) by excursions to places of interest; (3) by general and specialized field work, conservation field work and the recording of the natural history facts of the county and district; (4) by the maintenance of a library; (5) by publications (6) by educational initiatives and (7) by consultancy.
3. At the discretion of the Committee all members of the Society and others may be paid honoraria for services in pursuit of the above objects.
4. The above work may be facilitated by convening special interest groups, and including their Chairs within the Committee by co-option if necessary. These Chairs will then stand for election at the next AGM.
5. Application for membership may be made at any Meeting of the Society, including those of special interest groups, or by post to the Membership Secretary. All members of special interest groups shall be members of the Society. A list of special interest groups in the Society should be made available to new members and the formation of new groups should be publicized through the usual announcement facilities of the Society including the normal mailing. The Committee reserves the right to refuse or revoke the membership of any person acting in a manner contrary to the Society's interests. New members shall receive a copy of the Rules on joining. Types of paying membership shall be Ordinary, Family, Student, Junior and Corporate. Subscriptions shall be due on joining and on January 1st in each year. Members joining after October 1st shall pay a normal subscription which will entitle them to membership until the end of the next year. Any member whose subscription is six months in arrears will cease to belong to the Society.
6. The honorary officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Membership Secretary, a Field Secretary, a Librarian and an Editor, together with the Chair(s) of any special interest groups of the Society who with two other members shall form the Committee. Members of the Committee, other than the Vice-President shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee may appoint an Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer and Publicity Officer if required. The President may serve for a maximum of three successive years, after which he or she will not be eligible for immediate re-election. The outgoing President shall be Vice-President during the term of office of his/her successor. The other officers shall be eligible for re-election every year. Two members of the Committee other than the officers shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting for a period of three years, at the expiration of which they shall not be eligible for re-election in this capacity until one year has elapsed. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members. Seven shall form a quorum.
7. There shall be an Annual General Meeting in March, at which the Treasurer's audited accounts and those of the special interest groups shall be submitted for approval of the Meeting. All accounts will be audited. Subscriptions for the various types of membership will be determined, the officers and Committee elected, an honorary auditor appointed, and any other business connected with the Society transacted. Members shall be given at least two

weeks' notice of the Annual General Meeting.

8. The General Meetings of the Society shall normally be held fortnightly in the evening during the University of Oxford term and the proceedings shall normally be as follows: (1) Society business; (2) brief reports from members on current matters of local natural history; (3) lectures or films. Field meetings will also be arranged. Records of these meetings will be maintained when possible.
- 9.. There shall be a joint meeting of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire and the Oxford Ornithological Society each year, to be called the Bernard Tucker Memorial Lecture. The President of the Oxford Ornithological Society shall take the chair. There shall also be a joint meeting of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire and the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust each year, to be called the Warburg Memorial Lecture. The President of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire and the Chair of the Trust shall take the chair in alternate years. The subject of the lecture shall be in the field of taxonomy or conservation. Other joint meetings may be instituted from time to time. No Society business shall be transacted at these meetings.
10. Notice of General Meetings, Field Meetings, events and courses shall be sent to all members and posted on the website. Visitors may attend the General and Field Meetings of the Society on payment of a small fee for each meeting, the fee to be determined or waived by the Committee.
11. The Librarian shall be empowered to purchase such publications as are thought fit. These shall be deposited in the library of the Society. The Committee shall be empowered to dispose of any publications no longer required.
12. The Committee may confer Honorary Membership on members for special distinction in science or for special services.
13. No alteration to these rules shall be made except at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting and the Secretary shall send any proposed alteration to members before the meeting. The Committee shall have power to call an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time and shall give members at least two weeks' notice and state the Agenda for such a meeting.
14. If the Society shall, by general consent of its members, cease to exist, all residual assets shall pass to an appropriate charity.

Alison W. McDonald.

1 March 2007