

2019

AMKKM



**ASSOCIATION OF MEN OF KENT AND KENTISH MEN
THE KENT COUNTY SOCIETY
CONSTITUTION AND RULES – 2019**

ASSOCIATION OF MEN OF KENT AND KENTISH MEN
CONSTITUTION AND RULES – 2019

(including Local Branch Rules)

1. NAME

The Association shall be called:

“The Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men”
(“The Kent County Society”)

2. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

To encourage good fellowship and citizenship and a sense of pride in the historic County of Kent.

To protect the magnificent heritage of our towns and villages and the beauty of the countryside.

To encourage and recognise educational activities in the youth of the County.

To maintain access to a library of County literature and works by Kent authors.

To administer a Benevolent Charity and an Educational Charity.

To promote interaction between members at branch level through social and sporting activities.

3. APPOINTMENT OF PATRON AND PRESIDENT

The Association is honoured that HRH The Duke of Kent has consented to be Patron.

On the recommendation of the Management Committee, the Association shall appoint a President, to be elected from time to time at the Annual General Meeting.

4. COMPOSITION

The Association shall be composed of Honorary Life Members, Life Members, Members and Young Members.

5. QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

(a) Any lady or gentleman connected with the County of Kent by birth, marriage to a member, or direct descent, or who has taken up residence in the County, or whose services within and to the County or Association shall be decided by the Management Committee to be worthy of such recognition shall be eligible for membership.

(b) Young persons up to the date of their eighteenth birthday may become Young Members provided that the applicant qualifies under these rules.

(c) Any firm, business, or company, which has its principal place of business in the County of Kent, or whose services within and to the County or Association shall be decided by the Association to be worthy of such recognition shall be eligible for membership.

Applications for Corporate membership, duly proposed and seconded, shall be submitted for consideration by the Management Committee. Where Corporate membership is granted, then the body admitted to membership shall count as one member.

(d) The County of Kent is defined as at the formation of the Association on 16 December 1897 and the County boundaries at that date.

6. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Honorary Life membership can only be conferred for distinguished services within or to the County, upon the recommendation of the Management Committee by two-thirds of the members present at a general meeting.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) The subscriptions shall be fixed from time to time by the Management Committee. Branches will retain 50% for their own funds.

(b) Subscriptions of members shall be due for payment in advance on 1st January each year.

New members' subscriptions become payable immediately upon joining, up to 1st January following, but new members joining after 1st July will only be required to pay half the subscription for the remaining part year.

8. OFFICERS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

The Management Committee, which shall have full powers to run the Association, shall comprise:

President

Chairman

Deputy Chairman

Treasurer

Secretary

Vice-Presidents (*ex officio*)

Plus one delegate from each Branch (preferably a Branch officer) from whom nominated individuals shall be responsible *inter alia* for:

Association Website

'Kent' Magazine Production

Corporate Membership

Association Database

Events Co-ordinator

Lottery

The Management Committee may co-opt additional (non-voting) members at any time for specific purposes.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- (a) All Officers, with the exception of Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Branch representatives shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a term of three years, after which they may seek re-election.
- (b) The Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be elected annually by the Management Committee at their last meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Vice-Presidents may only be nominated by the Management Committee and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) An Honorary Legal Advisor and an Honorary Chaplain shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

10. MEETINGS

The Management Committee will meet at least quarterly; five members to form a quorum.

Management Committee members shall be notified of the dates of the meetings and be sent copies of the Agenda and Minutes.

A meeting of the Management Committee shall be called at any time by order of the Chairman, or by any four of its members, subject to at least seven days notice in writing from the Secretary.

In the event of an equal vote, the Chairman of the meeting will have a casting vote.

11. ACCOUNTS & ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The Accounts of the Association shall be examined annually by qualified Accountants to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Accountants will be instructed to make such inspections, checks and enquiries, as they consider necessary in order to satisfy themselves that the Accounts represent an accurate record of the Association's finances.

A statement of the Association's Accounts for the year up to

31st December preceding and duly certified by the Association's Accountants, shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting. A summary of the main provisions of the accounts will be published in "KENT".

12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the 30th June in each year, the time and place to be notified to all members at least twenty-eight days previously. Notices of items for inclusion in the Agenda must be given to the Secretary at least twenty one days prior to the meeting, together with the names of the proposer and seconder.

13. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Subject to the provisions of Rule 14, a Special General Meeting can be requisitioned by 50 members of the Association upon giving to the Secretary 28 days notice in writing, stating the object, and the Secretary shall give 14 days notice of same to each member of the Management Committee and to the Branch Secretaries.

14. THREE YEAR LIMIT

Without the formal approval of the Management Committee (whose ruling shall be final) no Motion or Resolution to rescind, revoke or revise any Motion or Resolution carried at a General Meeting shall appear on the Agenda of any General Meeting within three years of the carrying of such Motion or Resolution and no Motion or Resolution of similar import shall reappear on the Agenda of any General Meeting within three years of the defeat of such a Motion or Resolution.

15. VOTING POWERS

All members, except Young Members and those whose subscriptions are 28 days in arrear, shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings.

16. ROLL OF MEMBERS

The Management Committee shall have the power at any time by resolution to determine the membership of any member:

(a) Whose subscription is in arrears, or

(b) Whose membership shall in their opinion be considered detrimental to the Association.

Should a subscription be more than one year in arrears, the membership shall be considered to have lapsed, but upon payment of all arrears the membership shall be reinstated if, in the opinion of the Management Committee, such course may seem desirable. Any member whose membership is determined under (b) above, shall have a right to attend before a meeting of the Management Committee to state his case why his membership shall not be so terminated.

17. CONTROL OF FUNDS

The Management Committee shall have full control of the funds of the Association. All invested funds of the Association shall be in the name of the Association.

18. ALTERATION OR ADDITION TO RULES

These Rules cannot be altered or added to except at the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called in accordance with the provisions of Rule 13 and must be supported by at least two thirds of the members attending.

Twenty eight days notice shall be given to the Secretary of the Association of any proposed alterations or additions together with the proposer's and seconder's names and the Secretary shall give fourteen days notice of same to each member of the Management Committee and to the Branch Secretaries.

LOCAL BRANCH RULES

1. The name of the Branch shall be "The Branch of The Association of the Men of Kent & Kentish Men".
2. The Rules of the County Association shall, as far as applicable, be read as the Rules of the Local Branch.
3. Membership of the Association shall be the qualification for membership of the Local Branch.
4. Members of the Local Branch shall elect at their AGM a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other members as they determine, to form the Executive Committee of the Local Branch. Members will also appoint a competent person (who shall not be an officer of the Branch) to certify the annual Branch accounts.
5. A Branch may appoint a President and Vice Presidents, such officers to be designated Branch President and Branch Vice Presidents respectively in order that they not be confused with the President and Vice Presidents of the Association.
6. The Branch will provide, at least annually, the Association with a list of all its members indicating whether they are Life, Junior or Full members.
7. The Local Branch shall be responsible for all its own financial liabilities.
8. The Local Branch shall assist the Association in meeting its objects and aims and to increase its membership,

The Secretary of each Branch will give its members and the Association at least fourteen days notice of the date of its AGM. An officer of the Association will attend the AGM of each Branch at least once in every three years.

EDUCATIONAL CHARITY RULES

1. NAME

That the Fund be called “The Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men Educational Charity” (hereinafter referred to as the “Educational Charity”).

2. ASSETS

The Investments and other assets of the Educational Charity as set out in the Balance Sheet certified as at 31 December 2016, together with any additions or accretions since that date shall be deemed to be the absolute property of the Educational Charity and such investments and assets shall not form any part of the assets of “The Association of the Men of Kent and Kentish Men” (hereinafter referred to as “The Association”).

3. OBJECTS

The objects or trusts charged upon the Educational Charity are that the trustees elected under Rule 4 may:

- (a) Provide competition prizes to any school children resident in Kent
- (b) Grant a bursary to any resident of Kent attending higher education

The county of Kent is defined as within those boundaries when the charity was established.

4. MANAGEMENT

- (a) The Management, disposition, control and superintendence of the affairs and property of the Educational Charity shall be controlled by up to nine trustees who shall be appointed by the Management Committee of the Association

(b)The trustees shall have full power to invest any part or parts of funds or property or to sell out, dispose of or change such investments as they shall deem appropriate.

5. PRIZES AND BURSARIES

As funds permit , prizes and bursaries may be granted as determined by the Trustees. The number of such prizes / bursaries shall be under the control of the Trustees.

6. AUDIT

(a)The expense of administration shall be charged to the Educational Fund

(b)An Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Educational Fund, duly examined, shall be submitted for approval at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

(c)The accounts of the Educational Fund shall be certified by a qualified Accountant to be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

7. BYE-LAWS

The trustees shall have the power to make bye-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and to alter or amend such bye-laws as they think fit.

8. ALTERATION OR ADDITION TO RULES

No alteration or addition shall in any circumstances be made which shall directly or indirectly permit funds being used for other than charitable purposes. No other alterations or additions to these Rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting of the Association or at a special General Meeting of the Association called in accordance with Rule 13 of the Association's Constitution.

BENEVOLENT CHARITY RULES

1.NAME

That the Charity be called “The Association of Men of Kent & Kentish Men Benevolent Charity” (hereinafter referred to as the “Benevolent Charity”).

2.ASSETS

The investments and other assets of The Benevolent Charity as set out in the Balance Sheet certified as at 31 December 1924 by Messrs. H. C. Richardson & Son, Chartered Accountants, together with any additions or accretions thereto since that date shall be deemed to be the absolute property of the Benevolent Charity and to be charged with the trusts imposed upon the Benevolent Charity and such investments and assets shall not form any part of the assets of “The Association of Men of Kent & Kentish Men” (hereinafter referred to as “The Association”).

3.OBJECTS

The objects or trusts charged upon the Benevolent Charity constituted as set out in Rule 2 are that the Almoners elected under Rule 4 (hereinafter referred to as the “Almoners”) may:-

(a) Grant annuities in accordance with Rule 5 as in each individual case the Almoners elected under Rule 4 may deem fit to (1) natives of the County of Kent, or (2) members or past members of the Association of at least 5 years standing, provided that in every case the Annuitant must be over the age of 60 years and must also be in necessitous circumstances.

(b) Befriend and temporarily relieve natives of or residents in Kent of their dependant relatives who are in distress through poverty,

(c) Subscribe to or assist other charitable institutions connected with Kent.

4. MANAGEMENT

(a) The Management, disposition, control and superintendence of the affairs and funded property of the Benevolent Charity shall be controlled by not less than 3 Almoners who shall be appointed by the Management Committee of the Association

(b) The Almoners, as Trustees, shall have full power to invest any part or parts of funds or property or to sell out, dispose of or change such investments as they shall think fit. All invested funds of the Benevolent Charity shall be in the name of the Benevolent Charity.

5. ANNUITIES, GRANTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) As funds permit, annuities may be granted on the security of invested funds determined by the Almoners. The number of such annuities shall be under the control of the Almoners who shall from time to time call for nominations to annuities available for allocation.

(b) Annuities, grants, donations or subscriptions under the heading of Rule 3 sub-clauses (a), (b) and (c) of these Rules may be awarded at any meeting of Almoners.

(c) Applications for grants and/or annuities must be submitted in writing to the Secretary on the prescribed form by two persons, at least one of whom should be a member of the Association.

Candidates for annuities must be approved by the Almoners who shall select the most deserving cases from all the applications submitted to the Secretary.

(d) Should an Annuitant by reason of improved circumstances or by reason of conduct which caused him or her to be convicted by a court having criminal jurisdiction (including a Court of Summary Jurisdiction) be guilty of conduct which is of such a nature as manifestly to demonstrate that such Annuitant does not require or is unworthy of support from the Benevolent Charity, the Almoners may, by a resolution of a meeting at which at least two thirds of the Almoners are personally present, terminate such annuity.

6.AUDIT

(a)The expense of administration shall be charged to the Benevolent Charity.

(b)An Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Benevolent Charity for each year ending 31 December, duly certified, shall be submitted for approval at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

(c)The Accounts of the Benevolent Charity shall be examined annually by a qualified Accountant to be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

7.BYE-LAWS

The Almoners shall have power to make bye-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and to alter or amend such bye-laws as they think fit with reference to the eligibility, admission and removal of candidates for annuities and as to the mode of payments and tenure of such annuities.

8.ALTERATION OR ADDITION TO RULES

No alteration or addition shall in any circumstances be made which shall directly or indirectly permit funds being used for other than charitable purposes. No other alterations or additions to these Rules shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting of The Association, or at a Special General Meeting of the Association called in accordance with Rule 13 of the Association's Constitution.

9.BRANCH ANNUITIES

The Almoners shall grant annuities from funds provided solely by any Branch of the Association to such Annuitants as shall be nominated by that Branch and such annuities shall be known as "Branch Nominated Annuities", in respect of which the following shall apply :-

(a)In the event of a Branch of the Association ceasing to exist any Branch Nominated Annuity provided by such Branch shall thereafter

cease to be a Branch Nominated Annuity and become an Ordinary Annuity under these Rules.

(b) The expense of administration of Branch Nominated Annuities shall be recouped by the Almoners from the Branch of the Association concerned.

