

# Cheshire Guild of Woodturners

## Rules and Constitution

### **1 Name**

This Organisation shall be called the Cheshire Guild of Woodturners, hereinafter referred to as 'the Organisation'.

### **2 Relationships with other Bodies**

- (a) The Organisation shall be an independent body, but may be affiliated to or associated with any other organisation with similar aims. Such affiliation or association shall be undertaken only with the approval of a majority of the members.
- (b) The Organisation shall be affiliated to the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.

### **3 Purpose of the Organisation**

- (a) To promote the art of woodturning and allied crafts
- (b) To provide a forum to encourage communication and an exchange of ideas between members.
- (c) To promote individual membership of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.
- (d) To arrange meetings, lectures, demonstrations and exhibitions that encourage all the members of the Organisation to appreciate, aim for and produce high quality turnery and woodwork.

### **4 Membership**

- (a) Membership shall be open to all on payment of an annual subscription. Non members may attend up to three Ordinary Meetings of the Organisation without becoming a paid-up member. A fee may be charged for such preliminary visits.
- (b) Junior members aged 12 to 18 years inclusive shall be entitled to join on payment of half the annual subscription. They may attend up to three meetings free of charge before becoming a junior member.
- (c) All paid-up members shall have the opportunity of taking part in the activities of the Organisation, of attending general meetings, of voting on constitutional matters and serving on the Committee of the Organisation.
- (d) The Committee may recommend that a member of the Organisation become an Honorary Member, for example a long-standing member in recognition of outstanding service or inability to attend meetings because of illness. Any recommendation will be put to the Annual General Meeting for approval.
- (e) Members shall not be entitled to use the name or logo of the organisation for trade promotion except at the discretion of the Committee.

### **5 Management**

- (a) The affairs of the Organisation shall be managed by a Committee of at least six members elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional Members to fill vacancies or for other purposes.
- (b) Members to hold the Offices of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for the current year shall be selected by the Committee from among their number at their first meeting after the AGM.

- (c) The Committee shall meet at intervals determined by the business of the Organisation. Meetings shall be convened by the Secretary, although a meeting may be convened at any time on the demand of three or more of its members.
- (d) A quorum of the Committee shall be three members including at least one current Officer.
- (e) The Secretary shall keep Minutes of the discussions at each Committee Meeting.
- (f) Members who do not attend Committee Meetings on three consecutive occasions shall, at the discretion of the Committee, be deemed to have retired.
- (g) The Treasurer shall maintain a set of accounts which shall be monitored by the Committee.
- (h) Cheques of the Organisation's bank account shall be drawn only on a signature of the Treasurer and one of the two other nominated signatories.

## **6 Meetings of the Organisation**

- (a) Ordinary Meetings of the Organisation shall take place on a regular basis. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to arrange a date, time, a venue and a programme for each meeting.
- (b) An Annual General Meeting will be held immediately before the April meeting of the organisation.
- (c) The ordinary business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be:
  - (i) To receive, and adopt if considered appropriate, the Chairman's report on the previous year's activities.
  - (ii) To receive, and adopt if considered appropriate, the Honorary Treasurer's report and audited statement of accounts for the previous year.
  - (iii) To elect Officers and Ordinary Committee Members for the following year.
  - (iv) To approve the annual subscription for the following year.
  - (v) To consider any nominations for Honorary Membership from the Committee.
  - (vi) Any other business which the Committee may see fit to include.
- (d) Notice of place, date and time of the Annual General Meeting shall be announced not less than thirty days before the date of the meeting.
- (e) Motions for debate at the Annual General Meeting, including amendments to these Rules and this Constitution, must be submitted to the Honorary Secretary no later than the Ordinary Meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting.
- (f) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by a resolution of the Committee or the receipt of a written request of at least five paid-up members of the Organisation.

## **7 Dissolution of the Organisation**

- a) Dissolution of the Guild must be by resolution of the members at an Extraordinary General Meeting called as in 6(f) as above.
- b) The committee shall ensure that all debts, liabilities and dues are paid.
- c) The committee shall have absolute discretion to dispose of equipment belonging to the Guild by sale or donation, and to donate any remaining funds to one or more charities having similar objectives.