BROCKHAM CHORAL

Reg. Charity 284300

Constitution

1. TITLE

   The name of the Society shall be Brockham Choral Society, hereinafter referred to as The Society.

2. OBJECTS

   The objects of the Society shall be primarily the enjoyment of music and also the promotion and development of musical knowledge and competence through the presentation of concerts and in other ways determined from time to time by the Society.

3. MEMBERSHIP

   a) The members of the Society shall be those who pay the annual subscription at the appropriate rate.

   b) The subscription shall be fixed for the following year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

   c) Prospective members shall apply to the Membership Secretary and may, at the discretion of the Musical Director, be required to take a voice test.

4. OFFICERS, COMMITTEE AND TRUSTEES

   a) The Society and its property shall be managed and administered by a Committee comprising the officers plus no fewer than four and no more than seven other members elected in accordance with this constitution. The officers shall be trustees of the Society; further trustees may be appointed from the other committee members. Committee membership may include people who do not act as trustees and who are able to discuss but not vote on certain matters including finance.

   b) The Society shall have at least the following officers: Chairperson, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer; more officer roles may be appointed if deemed necessary by the trustees.

   c) The Chairperson and Committee members shall be elected by and from the Society's membership at the AGM for the following year and be eligible for re-election annually.

   d) The Committee is authorised to appoint the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and Representative of the NFMS from among its elected members.

   e) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt two to its number: the person may be co-opted to act as a trustee, but does not have to be so appointed.

   f) The Musical Director shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee but shall not be a trustee, and may attend committee meetings by invitation.

   g) Committee meetings may be held in person and/or by suitable electronic means in which each participant may communicate with all other participants. Any participant taking part in a meeting by use of suitable electronic means by which they may communicate with all other participants shall qualify as being present at the meeting. A minimum of four members of the Committee, including three trustees, must be present to constitute a valid meeting.

   h) Other than the Musical Director, Committee members including trustees must be members of the Society.

   i) Trustees and committee members may be paid legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society. Any other trustee payments, or payments to connected persons of trustees must be with prior approval under applicable Charity legislation.

   j) No one may be appointed a trustee, and a trustee shall immediately cease to hold office, if they are or become disqualified from acting under applicable Charity legislation.

5. MANAGEMENT

   All arrangements for concerts and other events and the control of the Society's finances shall be the responsibility of the Committee.

6. FINANCE

   a) The financial year shall end on June 30th.
   b) Bank and/or building society accounts shall be opened in the name of the Society. Signatory authority will be determined from time to time by the Committee.
   c) The Society may receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees, and tickets for any of its concerts and other events may be offered for sale to the public.
   d) The income and property of the Society whensoever derived shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of the Society as set out in Paragraph 2, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred either directly or indirectly to any member except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.
   e) The financial accounts shall be examined by an independent examiner and submitted to members at the Annual General Meeting.

7. DISSOLUTION

   In the event of the Society being wound up, any assets remaining after the payment of proper debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a charitable institution or institutions having similar objects to those of the Society and whose rules preclude the distribution of income and assets among its members.

8. GENERAL MEETINGS

   a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held prior to or at the start of the choir rehearsal period.
   b) Members shall be given at least fourteen days' notice in writing or by email of the AGM or a Special General Meeting.
   c) A Special General Meeting will be convened on receipt by the committee of a request signed by a minimum of eight members.
   d) A General Meeting may be held by suitable electronic means in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants. Each participant in such a meeting shall qualify as being present at the meeting.
   e) A minimum of twenty members must be present to constitute a valid meeting.

9. FREQUENCY OF REHEARSALS

   The Society shall normally meet once a week from September to June, except for a recess during the Christmas/New Year period.

10. ATTENDANCE AT REHEARSALS

    Members shall endeavour to attend all rehearsals in any one season and in particular the three rehearsals immediately prior to a concert. Where this is not possible, apologies for non-attendance should be made to the Part Representative, who will ensure an attendance register is kept. The Musical Director's decision regarding individual participation in any concert performance shall be final.

11. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

    All members of the Society shall have access to Committee Meeting minutes on request to the Honorary Secretary.

12. CONSTITUTION

    All members will be provided with a copy of this Constitution.

13. AMENDMENTS

    The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that the rule concerning fourteen days' notice in writing of the proposed amendment(s) has been adhered to and provided that nothing therein contained shall authorise any amendment which shall have the effect of the Society ceasing to be a charity.

November 2026