

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. The name of the society shall be FRIENDS OF ASHTEAD RYE MEADOWS WETLANDS

2. PRELIMINARY

In these rules:-

- 1) the expression "the Society" means the society constituted by these rules;
- 2) the expression "Executive Committee" means the executive committee for the time being of the Society as thereafter constituted;
- 3) the expressions "this Constitution" and "these Rules" include any amendment thereof for the time being in force;
- 4) "Ashtead Rye Meadows Wetlands" shall refer to the Conservation Areas, Woodlands, Nature Reserves, Wetlands, Hedgerows and Land situated adjacent to the Rye Brook in Ashtead as delineated in the attached plan.

3. OBJECTIVES

- 1) To assist, as volunteers, the landowners to maintain and develop Ashtead Rye Meadows Wetlands as a valuable community amenity which has been placed under Fields in Trust in perpetuity.
- 2) To promote Ashtead Rye Meadows Wetlands for the observation and study of flora and fauna in their natural habitat and the conservation and development thereof.
- 3) To work in partnership with external bodies such as The Environment Agency, The Woodland Trust, Mole Valley District Council et al. and to involve local residents, local groups and conservation organisations in the management of Ashtead Rye Meadows Wetlands.
- 4) To remain a Not-for-Profit organisation.

4. AIMS

- 1) To help create a mosaic of habitats in order to improve the biodiversity value of the site.
- 2) To help improve the Rye Brook in line with the Water Framework Directive.
- 3) To maintain the Centenary Field as a site for local people to enjoy while protecting valuable habitats.
- 4) To publicise and promote the work.

5. POWERS

To further these objectives the Society may:-

- 1) arrange meetings, exhibitions talks and educational courses
- 2) assist with a programme of practical environmental projects
- 3) raise funds and receive contributions where appropriate to finance the work
- 4) set up bank accounts
- 5) disseminate and exchange relevant information

- 6) commission and/or undertake research or surveys which directly or indirectly promote the Aims and Objectives of the Society
- 7) document and publicise the Society's activities through social media, leaflets, posters, newsletters, articles, photographs, videos, emails and the like
- 8) buy hire or legitimately borrow any equipment, tools or other property required to fulfil the Society's Aims and Objectives
- 9) sell or dispose of any equipment no longer of use to the Society and to account therefore to the members of the society
- 10) take out such insurances as are deemed necessary in furtherance of the Aims and Objectives of the Society.

6. MEMBERSHIP

- 1) Membership shall be open to anyone who supports the Aims and Objectives of the Society
- 2) The Executive Committee shall retain the right for adequate reasons to refuse or terminate membership of any individual after allowing the individual concerned the right to be heard in person by the Executive Committee. Refusal may not be as a result of discrimination on the basis of age, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender or nationality.
- 3) The Executive Committee has the right to propose an annual or other subscription and any changes in the rates thereof but must receive approval for such proposal in General Meeting before implementation. Should a subscription scheme be in operation, any member who has not paid by a date reasonably determined by the Executive committee shall be deemed to have resigned. Such subscriptions may be waived or abated at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

7. MEETINGS

- 1) There shall be an Annual General Meeting of Members held as soon as reasonably practical after the end of each financial year. The time between each Annual General Meetings shall not exceed 15 months other than in exceptional circumstances. All members shall be entitled to receive notice of and attend such meetings. The business of the meeting shall include:-
 - a. the election of a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom shall be members of the Executive Committee.
 - b. the election of further members to the Executive Committee and/or to ratify members co-opted by the Executive Committee since the last Annual General Meeting.
 - c. the receipt of the annual report of the Executive Committee.
 - d. the election of an Hon. Examiner. e. receipt of the audited annual accounts
 - f. any other business previously notified in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days before the Meeting.
- 2) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called:-
 - a. by the Executive Committee giving at least 14 days' notice
 - b. on receipt of a written demand from at least a quarter of the total membership. Such Meeting must be held within 30 days of receipt of the demand. No business other than that specified in the notice or demand shall be conducted at the Meeting.

8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the general administration, management and control of the affairs and property of the Society.
- 2) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt any member of the society to be a member of the Committee and to fill any casual vacancy.
- 3) The Executive Committee may exercise any Powers Set out in Clause 5.
- 4) The Executive Committee shall have a minimum of three members, being the office bearers referred to in clause 7 a. and a maximum of a further four members appointed in accordance with clause 7. b. and 8.2. Three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- 5) All cheques and withdrawals from the Society's bank accounts shall require the signature of two of the designated signatories.
- 6) The Executive Committee shall endeavour to meet at least four times a year.

9. AMENDMENTS

Alterations to the Constitution and Rules shall be made only on the recommendation of the Executive Committee and shall require the approval of not less than two thirds of the voting members attending a General Meeting of the Society.

10. DISSOLUTION

- 1) The Society may be dissolved only in a General Meeting of the Membership called following a recommendation by the Executive Committee. The agreement of not less than two thirds of the voting members attending is required.
- 2) In the event of dissolution of the Society, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to a reputable charitable body or organisation which has objectives similar to those of the society.

11. ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION AND RULES

The above Constitution and Rules were adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society by the following members of the Society and of the Executive Committee.

	Chairperson	Date..... 3 / 1 / 23
	Secretary	Date..... 3 / 1 / 23
	Treasurer	Date..... 3 / 1 / 23

THE ABOVE VERSION IS PROPOSED BY THE EC FOR ADOPTION AT AN EGM ON JANUARY 3, 2023

ASSTEAD RYE MEADOWS WETLAND



- A Jubilee Wood
- B Ponds and Scrapes
- C Deflectors and Berms

- D Wooden walkway
- E New bridges
- F New hedges and fences

Rye Meadows can be accessed via two footpaths. FP596 is from Bushey Shaw to Asstead Woods Road and FP24 is from Preston Grove to Asstead Woods Road. You can at present walk through from both footpaths through Fraudings and Jack Adams fields. Centenary Field is open to the public all year. There is on street parking in Links Road, Fairholme Crescent and Bushey Shaw, but please park considerately. We don't like to upset our neighbours. Other fields are locked at the moment, but will be opened on Heritage Days in September