



Constitution & Rules

(as amended on 10th May 2004)

Name and Character

The Club shall be known as the "Bread Street Ward Club" and be non-political, undenominational and non-sectarian.

Objects

The objects of the Club shall be:

- to encourage members to take an active interest in Civic affairs; and
- to organise social functions and to arrange lectures and visits of general interest.

Qualifications for membership

Membership of the Club is open to any person who is or has been an elector residing or working within the boundaries of the Ward of Bread Street, is or has been employed within such boundaries or is interested in the history and affairs of the said Ward of Bread Street or of the City of London generally.

In addition the Committee may recommend to the membership the election as Honorary Life Members of the Club those who in their opinion have rendered outstanding service to the City of London, the Ward of Bread Street or the Bread Street Ward Club.

Applications for Membership

Applications must be proposed and seconded by members of the Club and shall be considered by the Committee, whose decision on such application shall be final.

President and Honorary Life Vice Presidents

The Committee of Management for the time being shall nominate a fit and proper person to be President of the Bread Street Ward Club and such nomination shall be put to the membership at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be called following the said nomination. The person so appointed shall be an ex officio member of the Committee.

The Committee of Management may from time to time nominate a person or persons as Honorary Life Vice President(s) of the Bread Street Ward Club such nomination being a mark of esteem to those who have given the Club and/or Bread Street Ward and/or the City of London long and meritorious service. All such nominations shall be put to the Membership at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting as appropriate.

Persons so appointed shall not be ex officio members of the Committee.

Chairman

At the Annual General Meeting each year the members shall elect a Chairman for the ensuing year whose duties shall be:

to preside at all functions and meetings of the Club or of the Committee of which he is a member ex officio;
to make decisions on all matters of minor importance affecting the administration of the Club which cannot, on account of urgency, be brought before the Committee;
to foster the organisation of social functions, visits and other activities of the Club during his period of office.

Officers

At the Annual General Meeting each year the members shall elect for the ensuing year the following Officers who shall be ex officio members of the Committee:

An Honorary Secretary or two Joint Honorary Secretaries;
An Honorary Treasurer.

Committee

The Committee shall comprise the Officers, the immediate past Chairman and not more than six elected members. In addition the Committee shall have the power as its members see fit to invite one or both of the Councilmen for the Ward of Bread Street for the time being to be a member of the Committee for the year ensuing, such appointment to be by majority vote. The Committee shall also have power to co-opt further members should it be considered necessary or desirable.

At its first Meeting after each Annual General Meeting the Committee shall elect (from amongst its members) a Deputy Chairman to act for the ensuing year in the absence of the Chairman.

In every year immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting one third of the elected Committee Members for the time being or, if the total number of elected Committee Members is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one third, shall retire in rotation. As between those Committee Members appointed on the same day those to retire shall be determined by lot.

At the Annual General Meeting each year the members of the Club shall elect sufficient of their number as is necessary to fill all available Committee places or such lesser number as is possible according to the number of candidates offering for election. Nothing in these Rules shall be construed as preventing retiring Committee Members offering themselves for re-election for a consecutive term.

Honorary Auditor

At the Annual General Meeting there shall be elected an Honorary Auditor for the ensuing year.

Duties of the Committee

The duties of the Committee shall be as follows:

to make decisions on matters of policy affecting the Club;
to appoint any sub-committees with power to act on its behalf and to co-opt other members on to such committees;
to deal with applications for membership (*see* paragraph 4).

Annual subscription

The Annual Subscription shall be fixed by the Club in General Meeting, and shall be due and payable on 1st January. In the case of any individual whose subscription has not been paid by the following 30th September membership shall be considered to have lapsed. The subscription for the year of joining shall become due and payable on election to membership, but no subscription shall be charged for a year in which a member joins after 30th September.

Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting shall be held once in each calendar year and not later than fifteen months after the previous Annual General Meeting. At this Meeting the Income and Expenditure Account of the Club, duly audited, shall be submitted in respect of the year ended 31st March immediately preceding the date of the Meeting. At least fourteen days notice of the time and date and place fixed for the Meeting shall be given by the Honorary Secretary.

Extraordinary General Meeting

The Committee may, whenever it is thought fit, and shall on the written request of at least ten members, convene an Extraordinary General Meeting provided fourteen days notice (in writing) of the time, date and place is given by the Honorary Secretary, together with an indication of the business to be transacted.

Quorum

For General Meetings of the Club six persons shall form a quorum. For meetings of the Committee three persons shall form a quorum.

Voting

All propositions after being seconded shall be determined by the majority of the members present and voting on the question, and the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote. No other member shall be entitled to more than one vote.

Conduct of Members

If, in the opinion of the Committee, any member is guilty of conduct likely to be injurious to the Club, the Committee may require the member to give an explanation, either verbally or in writing. If the explanation is not considered satisfactory by a two thirds majority of the Committee, then the Committee shall request such member to resign and, failing a satisfactory response, vote on the member's expulsion, when a two-thirds majority of the Committee must vote in favour of the resolution.

Interpretation

Any questions raised by members of the Club concerning the interpretation of these Rules shall be referred to the Committee for final decision.

Alteration of the Rules of the Club

The rules of the Club shall not be altered except by the Club in General Meeting.