THE BARNET SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The Society shall be called “The Barnet Society”.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. To encourage and stimulate in citizens of Chipping Barnet and Environs a lively interest in their town and neighbourhood.

2.2. To observe and monitor on a regular basis activities in the London Metropolitan Green Belt and other designated open lands. To draw attention to activities or proposals which it feels may cause change or harm to them (either directly or indirectly) and to take those actions which it feels necessary to protect and strengthen them.

2.3. To call attention where desirable to any activities or proposals of Public Authorities, Utilities and Transport, or other Bodies, affecting the interests of citizens, and to provide opportunities for the expression of public opinion thereon.

2.4. To initiate proposals for the preservation and improvement of the amenities of the district and the welfare of the inhabitants, and in particular to concern itself with matters affecting Town Planning, Housing, Community Health and the wider environment.

2.5. To encourage local cultural interest and to collaborate with other organisations as desirable.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1. Membership of the Society shall be open to all residents and former residents of Chipping Barnet and Environs upon payment of the annual subscription.

3.2. At the discretion of the Committee, individual Members who have given exceptional service to the Society may be proposed for Life Membership and elected at the Annual General Meeting.

3.3. Any local organisation resident in Chipping Barnet can also become a member of the Society.

4. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

4.1. The Annual Subscription shall be due in May when a Notice shall be sent out to all ordinary Members with the Annual Report.

4.2. The amount of the Annual Subscription shall be set at the discretion of the Committee and shall be subject to review from time to time. Any proposed changes to the subscription shall be presented to the AGM (or EGM) and for ratification by the membership.

4.3. There shall be three classes of subscription, one for individuals, one for family membership and one for organisations. Life Members and the Presidency are exempt.

4.4. If a Member’s subscription remains unpaid, reminder notices may be sent in the following October. If the subscription is still not paid a final notice shall be sent in the following with the current notice. It shall say that unless both subscriptions are paid within one calendar month, membership shall cease.

5. GENERAL MEETINGS

5.1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about the month of June in each year. At least fourteen days’ notice shall be given to Members.

5.2. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called upon a written request to the Honorary Secretary, signed by not fewer than twenty Members, with at least fourteen days' notice.

6. COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

6.1. There shall be a Committee formed to carry out the business of the Society. It shall consist of at least ten members. If the total number of Committee members shall fall below ten, others may be co-opted to serve up to the following AGM. At the discretion of the Committee a maximum of two other non-voting members may be co-opted in order to carry out a specific task. It shall meet regularly as and when agreed.

6.2. The Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer (the 'officers'), Membership Secretary, Minutes Secretary and at least four other Members.

6.3. Meetings of the Committee shall require at least five members including two Officers.

6.4. There shall also be the following Sub-Committees:

Executive

Membership and Activities

Planning and Environment

News and Publicity

7. SUB-COMMITTEES

7.1. The Executive shall consist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and one other Committee member from time to time by invitation. It shall act as a Standing Committee in between meetings of the full Committee, when its actions shall be subject to ratification.

7.2. The other Sub-Committees will normally consist of about five persons including Society Members drawn from outside the Committee in order to widen available expertise. Each Committee member should participate in Sub-Committee activities.

7.3. The Membership and Activities Sub-Committee will seek both to ensure the Society's healthy membership and a programme of Society events. The Planning and environmental Sub-Committee will be primarily concerned with Objectives 2.2 to 2.4. The News and Publicity Sub-Committee will lead the production and distribution of the Newsletter as well as promoting the Society.

8. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

8.1 There shall be an Honorary Independent Examiner who shall scrutinise the books of the Society annually.

9. PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS

There shall be a President and (at the discretion of the Committee) up to six Vice Presidents. Their roles shall be non-executive except that:

9.1. The President shall be invited to chair the Annual General Meeting and any other meetings at the discretion of the Committee. He or she may also be invited to become publicly involved in any issue of the day.

9.2. The Vice Presidents may by agreement with the Committee become involved in any issue of the day, but normally without publicity.

9.3. The Committee should feel able to draw upon the experience and expertise of the President or Vice Presidents as desirable.

10. ELECTIONS

10.1. The President, Vice Presidents and Honorary Independent Examiner shall be proposed by the Committee and elected at the AGM.

10.2. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be proposed by the Committee and elected at the AGM and shall normally serve for no longer than three consecutive years.

10.3. All other members of the Committee shall be proposed either by the Committee or by any Society Member and elected at the AGM. Such members of the Committee shall be elected for a period of three years and then stand down for a period of one year. The Committee may propose for co-option of any Committee member whose term has been completed.

10.4. Officers and committee members shall be elected by a show of hands and the result decided by a majority of those present and voting.

11. NEWSLETTER AND THE PRESS

11.1. Arrangements shall be made by the Committee to circulate and inform Members of the Society of the activities of the Society and of other matters reflecting the objectives listed above. This may be done by a Newsletter issued from time to time or by other means.

11.2. At the discretion of the Committee other individuals or bodies may be included in the circulation of the Newsletter.

11.3. At the discretion of the Committee, its members may communicate with the Press upon any topic consistent with the objectives listed above.

11.4. A copy of all written material passed to the Press MUST be lodged with the Honorary Secretary.

12. FUNDS

12.1. The Funds of the Society shall be applied solely to its stated objectives.

12.2. The Members of the Society shall receive no payment, direct or indirect, for their services, other than for legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society or for services necessary for the effective functioning of the Society. Payment for any such services is to be approved by a majority of the whole Committee.

12.3. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, the remaining funds shall be devoted to objectives similar to those of the Society.

JUNE 2017