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CONSTITUTION

- 1. The name of the Association shall be The Bolton and District Organists' Association.
- The objects of the Association shall be to advance the education of the public in the study of the art of music with special reference to liturgical and organ music. To facilitate the achievement of such objects, the Association may arrange and present:
 - i. Public lectures, discussions and debates on this subject
 - ii. Public demonstrations of instruments
 - iii. Public demonstrations of music for organ and voices
 - iv. Open competitions for playing, singing and composition of liturgical and organ music
 - v. Public meetings to facilitate the exchange of information and views with other organisations and persons concerned with the composition, interpretation, presentation, teaching or publication of liturgical or organ music
 - vi. Advice to performers, teachers, students, churchmen or other members of the public on any matter concerned with the improvement of standards of composition or performance of liturgical or organ music.

The Association may also do such other lawful things as are necessary or desirable for the attainment of the objects.

- Membership of the Association shall be open without restriction to any member of the public who is interested in organ, choral or any other kind of music. Membership shall become effective on payment of the first year's annual subscription.
- 4. The proceedings of the Association shall be open to members of the Public (not being members of the Association) on payment of such fee as the Association shall from time to time determine.
- 5. Each member shall pay a minimum annual subscription to such an amount as shall from time to time be determined at a General Meeting of the Association. This subscription shall fall due on the 1st April in each year; provided that any members joining after 1st January in any year shall pay a reduced subscription of such amount as the Association shall determine for the period up to 31st March following.

- 6. Any member whose subscription has not been paid within nine months of the date on which it fell due shall cease to be a member of the Association. Upon payment of all arrears, any such member may be re-instated at the discretion of the Committee.
- 7. Persons who are under the age of 18 or who are full-time students may be admitted to membership of the Association on payment of such a reduced rate as the Association may determine. Any member so accepted shall pay the full annual subscription for the year in which he or she attains the age of 18 or ceases to be a full-time student.
- 8. The business of the Association shall be managed by a Committee which shall consist of:
 - a) A President, the President-Elect, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer (all ex-officio).
 - b) Two ordinary members who shall be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting.
 - c) At any meeting of the Committee, four shall form a quorum.
 - d) Any vacancy on the Committee occurring during the year may be filled by the Committee electing another member of the Association to act until the next Annual General Meeting when that person can be endorsed by the membership to continue or another elected in their place.
 - e) The members of the Association shall at their Annual General Meeting elect one of their number to act as President for the ensuing year, and another to act as President-Elect and to follow the President in that office. The President shall retire at the end of the year on the election of his successor and shall not be eligible for re-election for the space of one year.
 - f) The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer who are both eligible for reelection as such shall be elected annually.
 - g) An Honorary Independent Examiner of the accounts shall also be elected annually.
- 9. The Annual election of officers shall take place at a General Meeting to be held in the Spring of each year, and convened after not less than 21 days' notice.
- 10. There shall be not less than one ordinary meeting of the Association during each quarter of the year.
- 11. The Committee is also empowered to elect Honorary Life Members who shall be eligible to serve on the Committee if invited by the existing Committee.

- 12. The income or property of the Association shall be applied solely to the promotion of the objects in paragraph 2 and no payment or transfer of any part of such income or property shall be made to or for the benefit of any member of the Association. Provided that nothing shall prohibit any payment in good faith by the Association of reasonable and proper remuneration of any member of the Association not being a member of the Committee for any services rendered to the Association, or to any of its Officers of out of pocket expenses.
- 13. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to nor distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution having objects similar to the objects of the Association.
- 14. This constitution shall not be altered nor added to except by Resolution at a General Meeting of which 21 days' notice shall be given to the members, and no alteration shall be made which would cause the Association to cease to be a charity at law.
- 15. This constitution was adopted by the members at an EGM held on November 11th 2019 and replaces all previous versions. Any member of the Association is entitled to demand and receive a copy of this document.