

# **Martock Local History Group**

## **Constitution**

### **1. Title:**

The name of the Group shall be “The Martock Local History Group”.

### **2. Aims:**

The group exists for the benefit of all people interested in the history and development of Martock and the surrounding area comprising the ancient tithings of Ash, Bower Hinton, Coat, Hurst, Long Load, Milton, Newton, Stapleton, Witcombe and the out-parish of Westcombland, together with, when appropriate, the contiguous parishes of Mulchelney, Long Sutton, Ilchester, Tintinhull, Stoke-sub-Hamden, Norton-sub-Hamden, South Petherton, and Kingsbury Episcopi.

### **3. Management:**

The management of the Group shall be in the hands of a committee consisting of a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and no fewer than three and no more than six members of the Group.

The Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and nominations for all members of the Committee shall be made to the Secretary by any two members (proposer and seconder) in advance of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of more nominations than required being received, a ballot shall be taken.

A meeting of the Committee shall be held at least twice a year and whenever necessary. Four shall be a quorum.

The Committee may co-opt additional members during the year.

### **4. Membership:**

Membership shall be open to any persons interested in the history of the ancient hundred of Martock.

Annual subscription to the Group was introduced at the 2016 AGM at £10 per annum. This would be payable at the September meeting. Visitors are welcome to any normal group meeting on payment of £3.

### **5. Meetings:**

Meetings shall, for the time being, be held each month at the school during the winter. Additional meetings, together with educational visits and/or courses, will be held in the summer. All at the discretion of the Committee.

The meeting in April shall be deemed to be the annual general meeting. The business of the annual general meeting shall include the presentation of the minutes of the previous annual general meeting, reception of the report for the previous year, which shall include a report from the treasurer of the group and, when appropriate, a report of the audited accounts of the group; agreeing the membership subscription; election of officers; the appointment of the honorary auditor; and any other business.

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called at any time at the request either of the committee or of any five members of the Group. At least one month's notice of such meeting shall be given to members.

## 6. Alterations to the Constitution:

Any proposed alterations to this constitution must appear on the agenda of the Annual General Meeting.

Unless such a proposal is sponsored by the committee, a copy of the resolution must be sent to the Secretary at least one month before the date of the Annual General Meeting. A two-thirds majority of members present and voting is required for the passing of such a resolution.

## 7. Finance:

The Treasurer shall keep a full record of the income and expenditure of the Group. The accounts shall be audited annually and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

A Bank Account shall be opened for the Group. Income from Membership fees shall be paid into the Account, as shall any other income, such as donations and grants, etc. Outgoing cheques shall require the signatures of at least two of the three Executive Members, i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary.

The income and property of the Group, wherever from, shall be applied solely towards promoting the aims of the Group as described in the Constitution and no portion of it shall be transferred to any member or members of the Group except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the group.

In the event of the dissolution of the group, any remaining assets, after all liabilities have been discharged, shall not be paid or transferred to any member or members of the group but shall be passed to any such body having broadly similar aims as may be selected by a majority of members present and voting at a meeting of the Group convened for that purpose.

## 8. Adoption of the Constitution:

The Management Committee shall formally 'adopt' the Constitution and, in doing so, must all agree that the Constitution shall hereafter comprise the rules of the Group.

## 9. Signed and Dated by:

**Fergus Dowding, Chairman.**  
**Secretary**

**Sue Bramble, Treasurer.**

**Will Aslett,**