



CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The association shall be called Friends of Rheinbach.

2. PURPOSE

Its purpose shall be to promote friendship between Sevenoaks and the surrounding area and Rheinbach and the surrounding area.

To that end it will encourage and assist contact by individuals, families, clubs, associations, societies, businesses and interest groups of all kinds. It will organise, or assist in organising, visits and hospitality in either direction. It will make any local arrangement which will serve to promote public awareness of, and personal, practical or financial support for, Friends of Rheinbach.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership of Friends of Rheinbach shall be open to anyone resident in or around Sevenoaks who completes the membership application form and pays the membership subscription currently in force, subject to the approval of the Committee.
- b) The amount of the membership subscription shall be decided annually by the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Committee.
- c) The Membership year shall begin on 1 January each year, and subscriptions shall be paid by 31 March.
- d) Student Membership shall be open to students in full-time education wishing to use the services of Friends of Rheinbach in furthering their education by visiting Rheinbach. The amount of the student membership subscription shall be determined as in para.3b, but para.3c shall not apply.
- e) Membership may be terminated by resignation or non-payment of the subscription, or by a decision of the Committee (in which case the membership subscription shall be returned).
- f) Membership shall be confirmed by the issue of a membership card.

4. COMMITTEE

- a) The day-to-day business of Friends of Rheinbach shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and up to four members, all of whom shall be elected annually at an Annual General Meeting to be held in November each year. Additionally, the Sevenoaks Town Council may appoint one of its members to sit on the Committee.
-

- b) The Committee shall have power to co-opt members to fill vacancies occurring during the year, such co-option having effect until the next Annual General Meeting, and such co-opted members having the same powers as elected members.
- c) The Committee shall have power to co-opt additional members for particular purposes or for a limited period, but the number of such members shall not equal or exceed the number of members elected or co-opted under the preceding provision. Such co-opted members shall have the same powers as elected or appointed members.
- d) The Committee may appoint sub-Committees if it deems that necessary. The provisions of para.4c shall, in turn, apply to the constitution of sub-Committees. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of Friends of Rheinbach shall be ex-officio members of any sub-Committee.
- e) The Committee shall report annually to the Annual General Meeting.

5. FINANCE

The funds of Friends of Rheinbach shall be held in an account approved by the Annual General Meeting. Any transaction shall require the signature of two of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall maintain accounts and submit them to an Auditor appointed by the Annual General Meeting. Audited accounts to 31 October shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The business of the AGM shall be determined by a simple majority of those members present and voting EXCEPT that amendments to the Constitution, which shall only be considered at the AGM, shall be determined by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

7. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of Friends of Rheinbach, any remaining funds shall be given to such charity or charities as the Committee, in its absolute discretion, decides.

Note: This re-drafted Constitution was adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Friends of Rheinbach on Tuesday, 23 November, 1999.