

Constitution of Ampt Hill & District Camera Club

Introduction

The club was founded in 1986 and welcomes anyone with an interest in photography, whatever their level of ability, skill or experience. The club is wholly committed to the principle of equality of access and opportunity for all people. The club is affiliated to the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies.

1. Name

1.1. The name of the club shall be **Ampt Hill & District Camera Club** ("The Club")

2. Governance

- 2.1. The Club shall be governed by this Constitution and a set of rules ("The Rules") determined and administered by The Committee
- 2.2. The definitions in this Constitution shall have the same meaning as the definitions as in The Rules and vice versa
- 2.3. A copy of The Rules shall be provided to each Member upon joining The Club and following any change or amendment
- 2.4. The Committee shall have the power to change or amend The Rules at any time by a simple majority vote at any properly convened meeting of the Committee (See Rule 10.)
- 2.5. Any change or amendment to The Rules shall be notified to each member within two weeks of such change or amendment being agreed by The Committee

3. Aims

- 3.1. To foster interest, talent and enjoyment in photography by providing opportunity for people in the community to participate actively and share their experience, enthusiasm and knowledge.
- 3.2. To encourage high standards by providing opportunity for members to see and discuss the work of highest quality in all areas of the medium.
- 3.3. To enhance technical skills, artistic expression and individual aspirations by providing opportunity for analysis and criticism, in competitive situations, by qualified judges.
- 3.4. To enrich other community activities by offering photographic support and providing opportunity for exhibition and celebration of different achievement.

4. Annual Programme

- 4.1. The Club Year will be 1 January to 31 December
- 4.2. The Club shall normally meet on Thursday evenings from 8-10pm, from January to July and September to December, excluding Easter and Bank holidays. An annual programme shall be planned and published by The Committee by September each year.

5. Competitions

5.1. Internal

- a. A set of competition rules shall be published by The Committee.
- b. Only Full Members with paid up Annual Membership Fees are eligible to enter The Club competitions.
- c. The competition rules should be consulted for full details.

5.2. External

- a. The Committee will, at its discretion, select and appoint four Full Members to determine the criteria and select entries to each external competition

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6. Equal Opportunities & Safeguarding

- 6.1. The Club will not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexuality, disability, religious or political belief, marital status or age.
- 6.2. The Club shall have a written policy setting out the broad principles as to how it makes provisions for safeguarding the interests of children (under the age of 18 years) and vulnerable adults.

7. Membership

- 7.1. The Club shall have two classes of membership: Full Membership and Associate Membership
- 7.2. Full membership and Associate membership of The Club shall be available to persons of the age of 18 and over. Subject to parental permission and approval of The Committee, persons under the age of 18 can be considered for membership.

8. Subscriptions & Fees

- 8.1. Subscriptions and Fees are reviewed each year at the Annual General meeting
- 8.2. An Annual Membership Fee, covering The Club Year, is payable by both Full and Associate Members
- 8.3. A Weekly Attendance Subscription is payable by each class of membership
- 8.4. Concessionary rates shall be available to those who receive benefit and those under 18

9. Complaints

- 9.1. The Club shall have a formal Complaints procedure set out in The Rules.

10. The Committee and Election

- 10.1. The business of The Club will be carried out by The Committee
- 10.2. The Committee shall operate and conduct its business as set out in Rule 6
- 10.3. Only Full Members who are not in arrears with their Annual Membership Fee are eligible to serve in any capacity.
- 10.4. The Executive Officers (see Rule 6.11) shall be elected annually at The Club's Annual General Meeting ("AGM")

11. President

- 11.1. The Club may in any year at the AGM elect a President who shall serve in a non-executive capacity.
- 11.2. Nominations to the post of Presidency shall be based upon outstanding contribution and service to The Club.

12. Meetings

12.1. **Annual General Meeting**

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will normally be held in February

12.2. **Extraordinary General Meetings**

The Secretary will call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) at the request of the majority of The Committee or at least eight members giving a written request to the Chairman or Secretary stating the reason for their request.

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12.3. Eligibility and Quorum

- a. Only Full Members and Associate Members with paid up Annual Membership Fees shall be eligible to propose, second or vote on resolutions and/or make nominations for Executive or Club Officer roles.
- b. The quorum for the AGM and EGM will be 40% (rounded up) of the paid up Full Members and Associate Members or 15 Full and Associate Members, whichever is the greater number.

12.4. Winding Up Meeting

- a. In the event that The Committee considers that closure of The Club may be necessary a Winding Up Meeting shall be convened at fourteen days notice to all Full Members and Associate Members.
- b. The sole business of this meeting will be to dissolve The Club
- c. Those members who attend shall be deemed the quorum.
- d. If, by simple majority, the Winding Up Meeting decides and resolves that it is necessary to close down The Club then assets shall be disposed of by The Committee as follows:
 - i. All equipment owned by The Club shall be sold, at a reasonable market value as determined by The Committee.
 - ii. All outstanding financial liabilities shall be met.
 - iii. A final balance sheet shall be drawn up and made available to members.
 - iv. Any surplus funds which result from the sale of assets and settlement of liabilities shall be donated to The East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies for the promotion of amateur photography in the region.

13. Amendments to the Constitution

- 13.1. Amendments to the constitution may only be made at the AGM or an EGM
- 13.2. Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Secretary in writing (which shall include email). The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting.
- 13.3. Any such proposal to amend the constitution will require a two thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote.

This Constitution supersedes all previously published Governing Documents and/or Constitutions and was agreed at the Annual General Meeting of Ampthill & District Camera Club on:-

Date **23 February 2017**

Name and position in club

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Paul Wilson (Chairman)

David Hallworth (Treasurer)

Signed

Signed