

HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND  
CHESHIRE

Founded 20 June 1848

LAWS

1. The Society shall be called the HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE; and its objects shall be the collection, arrangement, preservation and publication of information relating to the general history of the two counties.

2. The Society shall consist of Honorary Members, Ordinary Members, Student Members, Libraries and any other Institutions which the Council shall recommend as appropriate. The annual subscription, due in advance on 1 January, shall be for Ordinary Members £2 0s. 0d., Student Members 5/0d. and Institutions £2 0s. 0d. When two Ordinary Members belong to the same family, the second may be termed a Family Member, pay 10/6d. annually, and not be entitled to receive the volume of Transactions. Honorary Members shall be eminent persons and shall be limited to ten. Honorary and Student Members and Institutions shall not be entitled to vote, or to take part in the management of the Society. Honorary and Student Members shall not receive the Society's Transactions except by special resolution of the Council.

3. Every candidate for admission as a Member of the Society shall be recommended by at least two Members, according to a prescribed form, which shall be read at a Meeting of the Society. The Members present shall thereupon proceed to vote, and the candidate shall be deemed elected unless one-fourth or more of the Members present vote against him.

4. No Member whose subscription is more than one year in arrears shall be entitled to receive the Society's publications; and if it is unpaid for two years he shall cease to be a Member of the Society.

5. Any Member whose payments are not in arrears may withdraw from the Society on conveying to the Secretary a written intimation to that effect on or before the first day of January in any year.

6. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a Council consisting of a President, Vice-Presidents, and Honorary Treasurer(s), Honorary Editor(s), Honorary Librarian(s), Honorary Secretary/ies and twelve Members.

7. The Council shall meet at the discretion of the President or Secretary, or on the requisition of three of its Members.

8. The Council shall have power to make Bye-Laws, not inconsistent with the Laws of the Society.

9. Four of the elected Members of the Council, not being Officers, shall retire each year by seniority of election, and shall be eligible for re-election.

10. The Officers of the Society shall be elected and the vacancies on the Council shall be filled at the Annual General Meeting. The Council may fill any vacancies occurring during the year among its Officers or other Members.

11. A notice shall be sent to each member seven clear days before the Annual General Meeting, which notice shall contain:—

- i. The names of the Members of Council retiring by rotation.
- ii. The names of the Officers and Members of the Council proposed by the existing Council.
- iii. The names of any other candidates for the Council proposed and seconded by two Members of the Society, which proposals must be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary before 1 January.
- iv. Any other purposes of the Meeting.

Should more candidates than are required be proposed a ballot of those Ordinary Members present at the Annual General Meeting shall take place.

12. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in January or February each year. At this meeting the Report of the retiring Council and the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts shall be read, and the Officers, Council and two Auditors elected.

13. The Honorary Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting at the requisition in writing of the President, any three Members of the Council, or any ten Members of the Society. Seven clear days' notice shall be given of such a Meeting, which shall be held within one month after the date of requisition, and the notice shall state the purpose for which the Meeting is required, and no business shall be entered upon at that Meeting or any adjournment thereof, of which such notice has not been given.

14. Every change in the Laws of the Society shall be made at an Annual or Special General Meeting. Members who wish to propose changes in the Laws at the Annual General Meeting must inform the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days before the December Council Meeting.

15. No proposition which has been rejected at an Annual General or Special General Meeting shall be brought forward again in the Society during the same year.

16. The Council shall print annually a volume of Transactions, one copy of which shall be sent to every authorised Member. The volume shall contain such matter as the Council shall select for publication.

17. The author of any paper which is printed, either entire or by abstract, in the Society's Annual Volume, shall be entitled to twenty-five copies of such paper or abstract, to be printed at the expense of the Society.

18. The Chairman of every Meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his ordinary vote.

19. The Library shall be available for the use of Members, in accordance with the Bye-Laws.

20. All property of the Society shall be vested in the Council for the time being, on behalf of the Subscribing Members, and every Member who shall withdraw from the Society, or shall from any cause whatever cease to be a Member thereof shall thereupon absolutely forfeit all interest in the property of the Society.

21. The dissolution of the Society may be effected at any time by the following procedure:—

- (a) A resolution to that effect by the Council.
- (b) Confirmation of this resolution at a Special General Meeting by a majority of votes cast, either in person by Members present or sent to the Honorary Secretary before that Meeting by post.

Upon such dissolution all the property of the Society, shall, subject to the discharge of all outstanding liabilities, be presented to some Public Institution or Institutions in either or both of the two counties of Lancaster and Chester, as the Council shall decide.

22. The Public shall be invited to attend at least one Meeting every Session.