



Bishopsgate Ward Club – Rules (2023)

As adopted by members 1989, with amendments 2001, 2009, 2013, 2017

1. The name of the Club shall be the “BISHOPSGATE WARD CLUB”.
2. Its objects shall be to encourage friendly interaction among those who work or live within the Bishopsgate Ward or the City of London; to stimulate interest in, and to provide opportunity for, the discussion and promotion of any matters appertaining to the Ward of Bishopsgate in particular, and the City of London in general; and to enjoy and uphold the values and traditions of the City of London.
3. The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the following Officers: President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Assistant Honorary Secretary (if one be appointed), together with up to eight other elected Members. Subscribing Past Presidents shall be ex officio Members of the Committee. Any five Members, being present, shall form a quorum for a Committee Meeting. Decisions shall be taken by consensus or, in its absence, by simple majority of those Members present. Decisions on urgent matters arising between Meetings may be taken by the President in consultation with the Vice President, Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and one other elected Member, and reported at the next Committee Meeting.
4. The Committee shall have the power to establish from time to time, and on such terms as it shall deem fit, Sub-Committees, which should include at least one elected Committee Member, who will be responsible for reporting the discussions to the Committee. Sub-Committees shall report regularly to the Committee.
5. The Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for the Committee shall be sent in writing to the Honorary Secretary not later than 28 February. Any member standing for election to the Committee shall have been an active Member of the Club for the whole of the three preceding years. Nominations for the Committee are to be supported by a Proposer and a Seconder, who are both current members of the Club. Notwithstanding this, any Member may be considered for election to the Committee if there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Committee). Nominations for the Committee are to be accompanied by an undertaking in writing by the Nominee stating that, if elected, he is willing to serve actively on the Committee. A Committee Member shall hold office for three years. Before being nominated for a further term, a Committee Member shall confirm to the President his readiness to become an Officer of the Club. If he is not willing or able to stand for election as an Officer of the Club then he can still stand for re-election as a Committee Member at the discretion of the Committee. A Committee Member who does not attend at least one Committee Meeting a year may be required to resign. The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt to fill any vacancy arising between one Annual General Meeting and another, and the co-opted Member may offer himself for election at the next Annual General Meeting.
6. The Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and shall hold office for the ensuing year. The President and Vice President shall normally be elected from among serving Committee Members. Nominations for Officers shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary not later than 28 February. At the AGM nominations for Officers shall be proposed by the President, and seconded by the Vice President, on behalf of the Committee, and following consideration in a Nominations Sub-Committee established in accordance with Rule 4.
7. A Member of the Club who is a professionally qualified accountant shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to hold office as Independent Examiner for the ensuing year. If no such Member is available, two or more Members shall be elected as Independent Examiners.
8. (a) The election of Members of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. Any person who works in or is resident within the Bishopsgate Ward or the City of London, or at some time has so worked or was resident, shall be eligible for election. The Committee may also elect other persons who have demonstrated an interest in the City of London.

(b) The Committee may consider applications for Corporate Membership. Anybody that applies for Corporate Membership will be required to pay such Entrance Fee and Annual Subscription as the Committee shall from time to time resolve. The Corporate Member will be required to nominate, in writing, for approval by the Committee, up to six nominee members of the Club who, whilst they are so nominated and approved by the Committee, shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of, and be subject to the same obligations as Members of the Club, other than voting. However, the Corporate Member shall designate, when the application for Membership is made, two out of its six Members and only those two shall have the right to vote upon resolutions put at the Annual General Meeting or at any Extraordinary General Meeting. No more than two Members of such Corporate Member shall be eligible to be a member of the Committee or to be an Officer of the Club.

(c) All candidates for membership, whether individual or Corporate, must be proposed and seconded by Members of the Club and the candidate and the Proposer and Seconder must sign the printed application form.
9. The Committee may resolve that an Entrance Fee be charged on election or re- Election.
10. The Financial Year shall be from 1 April to 31 March. The Committee shall from time to time decide the annual subscription which shall be payable in advance on 1 January each year. Newly elected Members shall pay the

subscription for the current Financial Year in which they are elected, unless their election takes place after 30 September, when their subscription shall cover the period to 31 December in the following year.

11. No Member will be allowed to be present at any Meeting or function of the Club until his subscription for the current year has been paid. Any Member whose subscription is not paid by 31 March, unless he has furnished in writing an explanation satisfactory to the Committee, may at the discretion of the Committee have his name erased from the list of Members and he shall forthwith cease to be a Member of the Club.

12. Any Member wishing to resign from the Club shall notify the Honorary Secretary in writing before 31 December and in default of such notification shall be deemed liable for the ensuing year's subscription.

13. The Committee may return a due proportion of, or refuse to accept, the subscription of any Member without assigning any reason and thereafter such person shall cease to be a Member of the Club.

14. The Committee shall be empowered to elect not more than five Honorary Members in any one year, whose eligibility need not conform to Rule 5, but whose election shall be subject to confirmation at each Annual General Meeting. An Honorary Member shall not be required to pay an Entrance Fee or subscription, but may do so if he wishes.

15. The Annual General Meeting, of which fourteen days clear notice shall be given to Members, shall be held within two months of the end of the Club's financial year for the transaction of the following business:

(a) Consideration of a Report by the Committee on the affairs of the Club.

(b) Consideration of and, if thought fit, adoption of a Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Financial Year ended on the previous 31 March, and a Balance Sheet as at the end of that same year, both of which shall be presented by the Honorary Treasurer and examined and signed by the Independent Examiner(s).

(c) The election of the President, Vice President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Assistant Honorary Secretary (if one is to be appointed) for the ensuing year.

(d) The election of Members of the Committee for a period of three years.

(e) The appointment of the Independent Examiner(s).

(f) The election of Honorary Members.

(g) Any other business proposed by the Committee, of which not less than seven days notice shall be given.

16. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time by the Committee, or shall be convened by the Honorary Secretary upon receiving a requisition signed by not less than ten Members. Fourteen days clear notice shall be given of such Meeting.

17. For any kind of General Meeting any ten Members, being present, shall form a quorum.

18. Cheques drawn on the Club's Banking Account, and any other documents requiring signature on behalf of the Club, shall be signed by two of the following: the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary and two other Committee Member duly authorised by the Committee. However, one of the cheque signatories must be either the Honorary Treasurer or the Honorary Secretary. Cheques for an amount of less than £50 may be signed by the Honorary Treasurer only.

19. These Rules cannot be altered except by a majority voting in favour of such alteration of not less than three-fourths of those Members present and voting at (i) an Annual General Meeting or (ii) an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for the purpose, upon Notice of Motion signed by any ten Members and given in writing to the Honorary Secretary, who shall call a Meeting within twenty-one days and shall give fourteen days clear notice of such Extraordinary General Meeting.

20. Committee shall have power to deal with any case not provided for by these Rules and the Committee's decision shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.

21. The liability of each Member is limited to the amount of his subscription.

22. If, upon the winding-up or dissolution of the Club, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid or distributed among the Members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other body or bodies having objects similar to the objects of the Club, such body or bodies to be determined by the Members of the Club in General Meeting prior to the dissolution and insofar as effect cannot be given to such provision, to a registered charity providing benefits within the City of London.

23. Words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine.

