TIVERTON ART SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. **Name.** The Society shall be called the Tiverton Art Society.

2. **Objects.** The objects of the Society are to foster an interest in and encourage the practice of the fine arts.

3. **Membership.** Membership of the Society shall be open to any individual who is interested in the Objects of the Society, on payment of the annual subscription. Categories of membership and the amount of the annual subscription shall be decided by the Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions shall be payable on the 1st January each year, although subscriptions of new members paid after the 1st September in any year shall be accepted as the subscription for the following year. Any member whose subscription is 6 months in arrears after proper notification of arrears shall automatically cease to be a member of the Society.

4. **Appointments.** The Society shall at an Annual General Meeting appoint a President who shall be appointed for up to 5 years and be eligible for reappointment.

5. **Executive.** A Chief Co-ordinator, a Minuting Secretary, a Treasurer and a Membership Secretary shall be appointed, each of whom shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting to serve for up to 3 years and be eligible for reappointment.

6. **Management of the Society.** The affairs of the Society shall be managed in accordance with the Constitution by an Executive consisting of the above and advisors who are experienced members temporarily appointed by the Executive. The Executive shall be responsible for all business transactions and the admission of new members. The Executive shall have the power until the next Annual General Meeting to fill any vacancy occurring. The Executive shall approve any activities undertaken and organised by volunteers from within the Society.

7. **Annual General Meeting.** The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in November or as soon thereafter as possible, to receive the statement of accounts, to make appointments and elect the Executive as appropriate, to receive a report on the previous year's activities and to transact general business.
   At least one month's notice shall be given of the date of the Annual General Meeting and at least seven days before the meeting the Executive shall send to each member of the Society notice of the meeting which shall include particulars of all resolutions to be brought forward.
   Notice of items for discussion and nominations for vacant positions with the consent of the nominee and seconded by a member of the Society must be received by the Executive in writing at least three weeks before the time of the Annual General Meeting.
   The Voting on all resolutions at the Annual General Meeting shall be by a show of hands. Twenty members shall form a quorum. If voting is even the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his or her own vote. The Annual General Meeting only shall have the power by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting to alter or add to the existing Constitution of the Society.

8. **Special General Meeting.** The Executive may call a Special General Meeting of the Society at any time. If at least ten members request such a meeting in writing stating the business to be considered the Executive shall call such a meeting. At least twenty-one days notice shall be given, stating the business to be discussed. Requirements for a quorum and voting procedure shall be as for the Annual General Meeting.

9. **Finance.** The financial transactions of the Society shall be recorded in a proper manner. Bank or building society accounts of the Society shall be operated by the Executive. The Treasurer and one other designated signatory from within the membership shall be authorised to sign cheques and each cheque shall bear two signatures. All monies received by or on behalf of the Executive shall be paid into the Society's bank or building society account.The accounts shall be made up to October each year and audited by the Society's auditor. A copy of the audited accounts shall be open for inspection to every member of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.

10. **Notices.** Every notice to a member shall be considered as duly delivered when posted to or delivered by hand at the member's address as last notified or delivered by hand at a meeting.

11. **Dissolution.** In the event of the Society being wound up, any assets remaining after satisfaction of all debts shall be distributed in accordance with the wishes of the majority of those attending the Dissolution meeting which shall be open to all members.

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RULES

1. Rules or amendments to Rules shall be proposed by the Executive and approved at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Society by a simple majority of those present and voting, but no Rule shall be approved that would be in violation of the Constitution.

2. Categories of Membership and subscriptions shall be:

a) Adult Membership (over 25) - £20 per annum

b) Young Adult Membership (18-25) - £10 per annum

c) Junior Membership (16 - 17) - £2 per annum (MUST be accompanied by an adult to ALL events)

c) Honorary life members – no subscription. These shall be existing members who have given long and distinguished service to the Society and have been proposed after appropriate consultation and appointed at an AGM by a simple majority of those present and voting. They shall have the same rights as paying members.

d) Honorary associate members – no subscription. These shall be non-members who have given sustained voluntary assistance to the Society (e.g. the auditor) and have been proposed by the majority of those present and voting at the AGM. They shall not have the exhibition or voting rights of other members.

3. The functions of the President shall be to uphold the values of the Society, support the Chief Co-ordinator and Executive, provide a source of advice as appropriate and promote the interests of the Society in the wider artistic community.

4. The President shall also chair the AGM, or if he or she is unavailable the Chief Co-ordinator or any other member of the Executive in that order of preference.

5. Exhibitions: If exhibitions are mounted awards of merit shall be made only by persons who are not members of the Society.