

Worthing Allotments and Gardens Association

Membership Rules

Last Approved at the AGM 20 Nov 2019

*Modifications to be ratified by the members at the next
AGM are shown in red.*

1 NAME

The name of the Association shall be Worthing Allotments and Gardens Association.

2 OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- a) To promote allotmenting and gardening and to instigate action on behalf of and for the benefit of members in that context;
- b) To represent the interests of allotment holders & other members, in particular to assist WAM and the Council in promoting the success and enjoyment of allotmenting, and to act as two thirds of the panel of appeal in tenant disputes
- c) To negotiate advantageous rates for members when purchasing horticultural materials, seeds and sundries which shall be sold through the Association stores;
- d) To arrange for instruction in horticulture; also lectures, exhibitions, competitions and social events and to organise the distribution of relevant literature;
- e) To maintain the publishing of Association news through the Newsletter and other formats.

3 MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall consist of allotment holders and gardeners.

Our organisation is committed to the inclusion and recognition of all members regardless of race, age, culture, ability, ethnicity or nationality, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, religious affiliation, and socioeconomic status.

4 SUBSCRIPTIONS

To join the Association an initial joining fee plus the annual subscription is to be paid. Thereafter every member shall pay the annual subscription as may be determined at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Subscriptions shall be paid in advance by the 30th April each year. Anyone joining the Association after January will be entitled to membership until April the following year. A Membership Card will be issued.

Membership of the Association is by household so long as the individuals in that household are over 18, but only the member listed on the card has a vote at the AGM and only one copy of Plot holder will be delivered to that household.

5 ARREARS

Any member who has not paid their Subscription by 31st December will be deemed to have ceased to be a member of the Association. For anyone renewing after this date a rejoining fee will be charged.

6 OFFICERS

The Officers of the Association shall be President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Show Secretary and Trading Secretary.

Whenever possible, either Chair or Secretary should not be a WAM committee member

7 COMMITTEE

The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a Committee of Management of not less than 8 members. The Committee and other Officers shall retire at the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election: Unless otherwise determined a quorum at Committee Meetings shall not be less than 5 members. Casual vacancies shall be filled by the Committee and members so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting following.

The Committee may also appoint distinguished individuals to the Honorary position of President, Non-Executive Vice-President or Honorary Member.

8 GENERAL MEETINGS

At the Annual General Meeting, to be held in November, the Audited Accounts and the Secretary's Report shall be presented and the Officers and Committee Members for the ensuing year elected. Appointment of an auditor who is not a member of the Committee, shall be made. Special General Meetings shall be called on the requisition in writing of at least 10 members. Notice of such meetings will be posted on the notice boards at each site as a minimum. In the case of equal voting the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

9 DISCUSSION AT MEETINGS

No party-political or sectarian discussions shall be raised or resolutions proposed, either at any Committee or General Meeting of the Association.

10 FUNDS

The Committee shall open a Banking Account(s) in the name of the Association with such Bank as the Committee may select and all monies from any source shall be paid into such account(s) by the Secretary or Treasurer, on behalf of the Association.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all the Association Funds, for keeping accounting records thereof and presenting the Accounts for the Audit at the end of the Financial Year. Cheques drawn on the Account of the Association will be signed by any two of four nominated Officers.

11 OFFENCES

The Committee may terminate the membership of a member whose conduct is proved to their satisfaction to be detrimental to other members. Any charge against such a member must be communicated in writing with proof of delivery. An appeal against a decision of the Committee may be made.

12 CONVERSION, DISSOLUTION, etc.

The Association may be converted into a registered Society, or may be dissolved or these Rules may be amended by two-thirds majority at a Special General Meeting, of which fourteen days' notice shall be given. The objects for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice convening the meeting.

13 MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Any matters not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with by the Committee at their discretion.
