



Old Pocklingtonian (OP) Association

Pocklington School, West Green, Pocklington, York, YO42 2NJ
www.oldpocklingtonians.co.uk

THE OLD POCKLINGTONIAN ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Title

1. The Association shall be called the Old Pocklingtonian Association.

Objectives

2. The objectives of the Association are: -
 - To encourage and promote contact between members of the Association and the School.
 - To facilitate regular communication amongst members and to promote their welfare and interests.
 - To support and promote the interests and welfare of the School and members of the Association.

Relationships with Pocklington School

3. The School and the Association are separate but related entities. In this relationship it is expected that the Governors of the School and the Head will seek to support and promote the Association in its constitutional functions and will not unreasonably withhold authorisation for the Association to use names, crests and other areas of identification and characterisation related to Pocklington School, including the Old Pocklingtonian and related names.

Membership

4. (i) The Association shall have two types of membership: -
 - (a) Ordinary. Ordinary members are former pupils of the School, and present and former staff members provided that such persons accept membership and pay the Association subscription.
 - (b) Honorary. Any member may propose nominations for honorary membership. Honorary members should be persons who have given signal service to the Association or the School. The award of honorary membership shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Honorary members shall not be entitled to vote.
- (ii) Resignations



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- The resignation of any member shall become operative immediately after its receipt in writing by the Hon. Secretary of the Association.

(iii) Admission and Exclusion

- The Executive Committee shall determine all matters relating to membership and be empowered to terminate the membership of any member provided the member may appeal and attend a hearing before an Appeal Committee established for the purpose. Such Appeal Committee shall not include any person involved in the original decision. The decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final.

Association Colours

5. The Association Colours are light blue, dark blue and red or maroon. There are two Association ties, a striped one in the Association colours and a navy blue one with the School crest in yellow. The ties and other items, which identify membership of the Association, may be purchased by members or on behalf of members only.

Subscriptions

6. (i) Membership subscriptions shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
(ii) Arrangements may be made with the School for an Association subscription scheme for current pupils whereby subscriptions are paid during their time at the School. Such a voluntary scheme will entitle the pupil, on leaving the School, to membership of the Association for such period of time as may be agreed with the School from time to time.

Officers

7. (i) The Officers of the Association shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Auditor.
(ii) The Honorary Auditor shall be appointed by the Executive Committee on a voluntary basis for an open-ended term of office. If possible an Old Pocklingtonian should fill the position. Termination of the appointment shall be by mutual consent between the office holder and the Executive Committee. In the event of a dispute the Honorary Auditor may be removed from office by a majority vote at any meeting of the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee



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8. (i) The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Association, excluding the Hon. Auditor, together with the immediate Past President (ex-officio) and eight other members, two of whom shall be members of the School staff nominated by the Head, and up to six elected Ordinary members.
- (ii) Apart from the Hon. Auditor, the Immediate Past President (ex-officio), and the two members nominated by the Head, all other members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a three-year term of office. All shall be eligible for re-election except that the President may not serve as such for more than two terms without a break.
- (iii) Nominations for election as officers or Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee shall be invited during the Summer Term. Nominees, who have indicated their ability and willingness to attend Executive Committee meetings on a regular basis, must be proposed and seconded by two members of the Association. Their names must be notified to the Hon. Secretary before the end of September in the election year.
- (iv) Members of the Association shall be informed of the nominations during the Autumn Term, and the election shall be concluded by the end of the second week in December. A scrutineer, who is not a member of the Executive Committee, nominated by the Head shall oversee the electoral arrangements.
- (v) Officers and Committee Members may resign from the Executive Committee at any time by written notification to the Hon. Secretary. The resignation shall be effective from the date of notification.
- (vii) A casual vacancy arising from such resignation may be filled on an interim basis by an eligible person nominated by the Executive Committee, until the next elections take place.

Management of the Association

9. (i) The President shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee and he, or in his absence the Vice-President, or his nominee shall preside at any General Meetings of the Association.
- (ii) At any meeting of the Executive Committee or General Meeting of the Association if there is a tied vote, the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, or such other person who has been nominated as proxy for the President, shall have a casting vote.
- (iii) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once each year, preferably twice and preferably on the same days as the Winter and Summer gatherings at the School. At these meetings the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer shall present a report and a financial statement. The quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be not less than five members.



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(iv) The Executive Committee shall be empowered to co-opt further members and to appoint ad hoc sub-committees as necessary for particular purposes and to determine their membership. The term of office of a co-opted member shall not extend beyond three years unless renewed and shall cease if he is absent for three consecutive meetings.

(v) To permit the business of the Association to be carried out during the year, a Finance Sub-Committee comprising the President, or his nominee, the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Secretary and one of the School staff members of the Executive Committee shall meet as necessary and shall act on behalf of the Association in regard to the allocation of Association funds for appropriate requests within limits set by the Executive Committee. and other financial matters as authorised by the Executive Committee. A report of the Sub-Committee's proceedings shall be reported to the Executive at their next meeting.

(vi) Communication shall be maintained with members by means of mailings from the Hon. Secretary including timely notices of events and news and notices displayed on the Association's website.

(vii) The decision of the Executive Committee on all matters shall be final, subject only to appeal (proper notice having been given to the Hon. Secretary) to a General Meeting of the Association, and to the terms of Section 4(iii) above.

General Meetings of the Association

10. (i) A General Meeting shall be called by a request signed by twenty members of the Association stating the reason for the meeting or at any time by the Executive Committee. At least two months notice of the General Meeting shall be given by the Hon. Secretary and such notice shall be given within twenty-one days of a valid request.

(ii) Any resolution carried at a General Meeting that, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, may have a significant or adverse effect upon the well-being or management of the Association shall be submitted for approval or otherwise to the Members of the Association as a whole in a properly delivered postal and Internet vote.

Accounts

11. Accounts as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee shall be maintained by the Hon. Treasurer. The Hon. Treasurer may advise the Executive Committee about the creation of additional accounts and financial procedures for their consideration and approval. The accounts of the Association shall be audited once each year.



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Alterations to the Constitution

12. Any proposal to alter this Constitution must be reported to the members, together with the views of the Executive Committee thereon, prior to a properly organised postal, internet or other appropriate form of vote overseen by the nominated scrutineer. Any alteration must be approved by a majority of the members who vote, provided that the number of majority votes exceeds that of the minority by not less than ten per cent rounded up to the nearest whole number.

Dissolution of the Old Pocklingtonian Association

13. (i) The Association may be dissolved on the passing of a Resolution to that effect at an Extraordinary General Meeting of members specifically called for this purpose. To be successful such a Resolution shall require the support of not less than two thirds of those voting either in person or by properly delivered postal and Internet vote organised by the Executive Committee. Such a vote shall also be overseen by the Head acting on behalf of the Governors of Pocklington School.

(ii) In the event of the dissolution of the Association, any remaining funds shall be disposed of in accordance with a Resolution put to the above meeting, or a subsequent meeting, and also requiring a two-thirds majority of those voting in person or by a post and Internet vote. In the event of a majority not being obtainable, the funds shall be conveyed to the Governors of Pocklington School for use by them at their absolute discretion.

Interpretation

14. (i) In case of doubt as to the meaning or interpretation of this constitution the decision of the Executive Committee shall be final and binding on the members of the Association.

(ii) Words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender and vice versa.

BJ Worthy
27 June 2004