

THE MUSIC MAKERS of MILTON KEYNES

CONSTITUTION

Revised at AGM 19 March 2002

1. Title: The: Society shall be called “The Music Makers of Milton Keynes”
2. Objects: The object of the Society is to educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts, and in furtherance of this object but not otherwise the Society through its management committee shall have the following powers:
 - a. To promote plays, dramas, comedies, operas, operettas, and other works.
 - b. To purchase, acquire and obtain interests in the copyright of or the right to perform or show any such work.
 - c. To purchase or otherwise acquire plant, machinery, furniture, fixtures, fittings, scenery and all other necessary effects.
 - d. To raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person whatsoever by way of subscriptions, donations and otherwise, provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds.
 - e. To do all such other things as shall further the objects of The Society.
3. Membership: The Society shall consist of Acting and Non-Acting members and may also include as Life Members such other persons as shall have rendered special services to the Society.
4. Management: The Society shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the following officers: - Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer together with up to six members. All decisions of the committee shall be deemed valid if agreed by a bare majority of the whole committee.
5. Contracts: Elected Officers of the committee may enter into contracts on behalf of The Society, provided such contracts are lawful and entered into with the knowledge and consent of the committee. Any Officer entering into such a contract will be indemnified by the whole membership of The Society.
6. Health and Safety: The Committee shall ensure that rehearsals and performances are conducted in accordance with the requirements of Health and Safety. All members shall pay attention to health and safety instructions and

advise the committee or person in charge of anything that may harm health and safety at rehearsals and performances

7. Eligibility for Membership: Membership of the Society shall be open to all those having sympathy with the objects of the Society and desiring actively to further it and to pay such annual subscription as shall be from time to time prescribed by the rules.
8. Expulsion of Members:
 - a. Any member of the society who in the opinion of the Committee confirmed by an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society shall be guilty by his or her action of misusing the privileges of the Society or of otherwise bringing the Society into disrepute may be suspended or expelled from the Society.
 - b. The Committee may by a unanimous vote remove from the list of members, the name of any Acting Member who has persistently neglected the work undertaken by the Society and the name of any member whose conduct they consider likely to endanger the welfare of the Society.
9. Payment of Subscriptions: First annual subscriptions shall become due and paid: to the Treasurer on receipt of notice of election to the Society and all subsequent annual subscriptions shall become due on the 1st January each year and shall be paid to the Treasurer not later than 31st March, in that year.
10. Life Members: Life members may on the nomination and recommendation of the Committee be elected on such terms as the members of the Society at an Annual General Meeting may decide.
11. Finance:
 - a. The funds of the Society shall be applied solely to the stated objects of the Society,
 - b. No member of the Society shall receive payment either directly or indirectly for services to the Society, or for other than legitimate expenses incurred in the Society's work
12. Non-payment of Subscriptions: The Committee shall have power by ordinary resolution to suspend any member whose subscription remains unpaid after the 31st March in any year from exercising any or all of the privileges of membership until his or her subscription is paid.
13. Financial Year:

The financial year of the Society shall commence on the 1st January and an annual profit and loss account and balance sheet shall be prepared within one calendar month after 31st December each year.

14. Annual General Meeting: The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held before the end of April when the report of the Committee and the accounts for the past year duly audited shall be presented. The Officers and other members of the Committee and an Auditor shall be elected for the ensuing year, Life Members if any elected, and all general business transacted
15. Extraordinary General Meeting: An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be called at any time at the discretion of the Committee and shall be called within 21 days after the receipt by the Secretary in writing of a requisition for an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held, agreed by at least 12 members. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting.
16. Resolutions at General Meetings: Unless otherwise provided by these rules all resolutions brought forward at a General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of the votes properly recorded at such meeting and in the case of an equality of division of the votes recorded, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
17. Retirement of Committee: The Officers, members of this Committee and Auditor and shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. The names of candidates for these positions to be in the hands of the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting and if more names are proposed than the number required to fill the vacancies, then an election shall be conducted by ballot. If all the above positions are not filled at such meeting or any casual vacancy shall thereafter occur the same shall be filled by the remaining members of the Committee.
18. Appointment of Sub-Committees: The Committee shall have power to appoint Sub-Committees comprising Committee members and/or ordinary members of The Society and to delegate to such Sub-Committees any or all of its powers. Such Sub-Committee's shall continue to hold office until their work is completed or the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting whichever occurs first.
19. Selection of

- Cast: The cast for any production shall be selected by the Committee or by an audition panel appointed by the Committee.
20. Revision of Cast: The Committee shall have the power to revise the cast if any acting member to whom a character has been assigned shall in the Committee's opinion prove unsuitable for the part.
21. Obligations of Acting Members: Acting members shall to the best of their ability play the parts assigned to them whether principal or chorus, and obey all proper directions given at rehearsals and performances.
22. Control of Rehearsals: The committee will appoint a Musical Director and/or a Producer who will be jointly responsible for the conduct of rehearsals and performances. The committee will also appoint a Stage Manager and a Front of house Manager when required to ensure the safe and proper conduct of performances.
23. Attendance at Rehearsals and Performances: The Secretary shall keep a record of the attendance of Acting members at rehearsals and performances and the Committee shall have power to prohibit any member whose attendance at rehearsals shall have been irregular from taking part in the performance in preparation. Acting members absenting themselves from four consecutive rehearsals may at the discretion of the Committee be deemed to have resigned their parts in the work then in rehearsal.
24. Selection of Works: The Committee shall select the works to be performed by the Society.
25. Production Money: All monies due from members in connection with the production and performance of any work shall be accounted for and paid to the Treasurer within 21 days after the final performance.
26. Production Account: Within two calendar months after the final performance of any work produced by the Society the Committee shall prepare or cause to be prepared a full statement of the receipts and expenses of the production and the same shall be open for the inspection of members at such time and place as the Committee shall decide.
27. Recovery of Monies due to The Society: All monies due and owing to the Society including the subscriptions of members shall be recoverable at law in the name of the Secretary of the Society

28. Committee's Powers: The Committee shall have power to decide any questions arising out of these rules and all other matters connected with the Society, other than and except those which can only be dealt with by the Society in General meeting, and to make maintain and publish all necessary orders, regulations and bye-laws in connection therewith.
29. Dissolution of The Society: The Society shall only be dissolved by a resolution passed by a majority of at least five sixths of the members present and voting at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose of considering such dissolution. In the event of dissolution any balance of cash remaining after the realisation of assets and the payment of debts shall be applied for such charitable purposes similar to those of the Society, or be paid, distributed or transferred to such charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the Society as the Committee with the consent of the meeting shall decide.
30. Alteration to Rules: No alteration of these rules shall be made except at a General Meeting nor unless 21 days prior to such meeting a written notice of the proposed alteration or of one substantially to the like effect shall have been given to the Secretary who shall give 10 days notice thereof to the members and the resolution embodying such proposed alteration shall be carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the votes recorded thereon at the meeting.
31. ENDS