

# Constitution of the Slimbridge Dowsing Group

## 1. Name

1.1 The name of the society shall be the **Slimbridge Dowsing Group** (hereafter called the Group).

## 2. Objects

2.1 The object of the Group shall be to promote the objects and ideals of the British Society of Dowsers by:

- Encouraging the study and advancement of dowsing for subterranean water courses, wells and other entities, diagnosis and restoration of health, location and identification of archaeological remains and the study of Earth Energies.
- Holding meetings for talks, lectures, discussions and demonstrations
- Arranging visits to places of interest
- Arrange field dowsing demonstrations and investigations
- Arrange training classes for members

## 3. Membership

3.1 Membership shall be open to any person wishing to support the aims and objects of the Group. Completed application forms will be approved by the Committee

3.2 Membership fees shall be determined by a majority vote of the members at a General meeting and shall be payable within three months after the due date.

3.3 Members shall not use their membership of the Group as evidence of their ability as dowsers.

3.4 Members shall be expected to abide by the code of ethics as set out by the British Society of Dowsers

3.5 Any members who, in the opinion of the Committee, behaves in a way likely to bring the Group into disrepute may have his or her membership terminated by that Committee.

## 4. Committee

4.1 The affairs of the Group shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of a minimum of three Officers being the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and up to three (3) members, all being elected at a general meeting. A quorum for a Committee meeting shall normally be three (3) Committee members.

4.2 Members of the Committee shall be elected to serve a one-year term and shall be eligible for re-election thereafter.

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## 5. Holders of Other Posts

5.1 To assist in the running of the Group the following posts may be elected:

- Vice Chairman
- Interest Group leaders as required. i.e., water divining, archaeology, health, energy
- Social and speaker secretary and other posts as become desirable or essential for the efficient running of the Group.

5.2 Members of the Group who are eminent in one of more branches of dowsing and who have rendered distinguished service to the Group may be elected by the Group as “Honorary President” or “Honorary Vice President” and shall enjoy all the privileges of members except that they shall not be eligible to hold office, be an officer or vote in any general or special meeting.

## 6.0 Auditor

6.1 A non-member or member who is not an officer or a Committee member shall be eligible to be appointed Auditor.

## 7. Elections

7.1 Officers, holders of other posts and Committee members shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Group and shall normally hold office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting when they shall retire but be eligible for re-election. Should one of the above stand down mid-term a substitute may be appointed by the Committee to serve for the remainder of the term.

7.2 The Committee shall be able to appoint other posts and Committee members for specific tasks, but any such person co-opted shall retain office until the next Annual General meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election

7.3 A person nominated for a post must have agreed to stand prior to being proposed and seconded by other members at an Annual General Meeting

## 8. Ordinary Meetings

8.1 The ordinary meetings of the Group shall be held in accordance with a programme drawn up annually by the Committee

## 9 Annual General Meeting

9.1 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held annually in December with the aim to see if we are able to also combine it with the annual Christmas Party for the purpose of:

- Receiving a brief report from the Committee of activities during the preceding year

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- Accepting a financial statement and Balance Sheet signed by the Auditor and consider recommendations from the Treasurer on the level of subscriptions for the following year
- The election of Officers and Holders of other posts
- The election of Committee members
- The election of a President if desired
- The election of Vice Presidents if desired
- The appointment of an auditor
- Consideration of any motion received in writing two weeks prior to the AGM which shall be put to the vote and carried by a clear majority of members present and voting, except that a motion proposing changes to the constitution shall require a majority of two thirds of the members present and voting.
- Any other business which the chairman shall rule in order

Twenty-one days' notice of any general meeting shall be sent to every member

## 10 Extraordinary General Meeting

10.1 The Committee may convene an extraordinary General Meeting of the Group at any time and shall do so within four weeks of receiving a written request/requests by 10% of the membership or Three members whichever is the greater. Notification must be communicated to members not less than twenty-one days before such a meeting with the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

## 11 Financial Year

11.1 The financial year of the Group shall commence on the first of November to allow the audited accounts to be ready for the Annual General Meeting

## 12 Subscriptions

12.1 Members shall pay an Annual Subscription to be determined by a majority vote at the Annual General Meeting, such payment due on the date of the AGM, will entitle a member to vote at General Meetings and to receive the benefits of Membership

## 13 Non-Payment of Subscription

13.1 No person shall be entitled to vote at a Group meeting or take advantage of benefits until their current year's subscription has been paid.

## 14 Group Funds

14.1 The Group maintain a current account with a British banking organisation.  
All cheques drawn on the Groups current account shall be signed by two of the three Officers.

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14.2 At the discretion of the officers, the Group may hold funds in a building society or bank savings Account provided that, in the opinion of the Auditor, such account presents no unreasonable risk to the security of the Group's funds.

## 15 Affiliation

15.1 The Group may be an independent Group affiliated to the British Society of Dowsers (a Company limited by Guarantee, Company No. 2154580 and Registered Charity No 295911)

15.2 The Group may make reasonable endeavours to ensure that a minimum of 3 members of the Group shall be members of the British Society of Dowsers (BSD) but this may be dispensed with at the discretion of the BSD

15.3 The Group agrees at its discretion to state "Affiliated to the British Society of Dowsers" on any headed paper and published papers bearing the name of the Group

## 16 Winding up of the Group

16.1 The decision to wind up the Group can only be taken when a majority of members attending an Extraordinary Meeting called for the purpose, vote to do so. An agreement shall be made at the meeting as to who shall be responsible of carrying out the disposal of assets under the procedures listed below in paragraph 17 of this constitution.

## 17 Disposal of Assets

17.1 Liquid Funds:

17.2 The Group's Liquid funds shall be disposed of as follows:

- a) Any outstanding and known future creditors will be paid in proportion to the funds available
- b) All current members will have their subscriptions returned. In the event of there being insufficient funds to meet this liability, the payment will be pro rata.
- c) Any remaining funds will be distributed to the members or a Charity decided upon by the members.

## 18 Disclaimer

18.1 The Group accepts no liability for the use of any information or materials gained from the Group members or guests. All content and materials shall be treated as being for information purposes only and not intended to address any particular needs.

18.2 No financial liabilities of the British Society of Dowsers (BSD) shall be warranted at any time for any reason.

Amended and agreed at the Annual General Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Whitminster Village Hall.

Ratified unanimously by SDG Committee held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020