

The Constitution of The York & District Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers
Reg Charity 519097

Passed at AGM 7/2/1987.

Revisions passed at AGMs:

16/1/1988: Clause 9	20/1/1990: Clause 4a	20/1/1996: Clauses 4b
20/3/1999: Clause 6b	17/3/2007: Clauses 3a & 3b	21/3/2009: Clause 4b
18/3/2017: Clauses 6a, 7b & 7e		

1. Name

This Guild shall be called 'The York & District Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers'

2. Aims

The Guild is established to:

i) preserve and promote the traditional crafts of handweaving, spinning and dyeing for the benefit of the public

ii) advance the education of the public in the aforesaid crafts and allied textile crafts

In furtherance of the above objectives but not further otherwise, the Guild shall have the following powers to:

a) encourage and maintain integrity and excellence in craftsmanship

b) foster a sense of beauty of material, texture, colour and design

c) exchange information and enlarge knowledge by short courses, demonstrations, lectures and library facilities

d) co-operate with other guilds having similar aims

3. Membership

a) Full membership is open to anyone practising or interested in the textile crafts who is willing to support the aims of the Guild on payment of the annual subscription to the Guild as determined by the Annual General Meeting. Persons joining half way through the year pay half the full membership subscription.

b) Student membership is open to full-time students (copy of student card required) for half of the membership subscription.

c) Honorary membership shall be conferred by agreement of full members of the Guild in appreciation of long and outstanding service to the Guild.

d) Only full members are entitled to vote at Ordinary Meetings, the Annual general Meeting and any Extraordinary General Meeting.

e) Full members are entitled to receive copies of the quarterly Journal of the Association of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers at a concessionary rate if ordered through the Guild.

4. Organisation of the Guild

a) The organisation of the Guild shall be by a committee of eleven members elected from and by full members of the Guild. The committee shall comprise the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and seven others.

b) All committee members shall be elected by the AGM to hold office for three consecutive years. One year must elapse before the members may offer themselves for re-election to the same Committee position. This prohibition enforcing the lapse of one year does not apply to the Secretary or Treasurer. All members of the Committee except co-opted members have the power to vote.

c) The Chair of the Committee shall be elected Chair of the Guild or a member of the Committee elected by the Committee.

d) Committee meetings shall be minuted. Five members shall form a quorum

e) The Committee shall agree to meet as frequently as is conducive to the good management of Guild affairs

5. The Committee shall have power to:

a) elect a sub-committee for any special purpose such as the organisation of an exhibition, visit etc. Such a sub-committee shall elect a Chair and Secretary and if necessary

- a) Treasurer from its own members. The sub-committee must report fully and promptly to the Committee. For financial arrangements of sub-committees, see Section 7.
- b) co-opt members provided that the number of co-opted members of the Committee at any one time shall not exceed the total (*elected*) membership of the committee.
- c) call an extraordinary meeting (see Section 6c).
- d) institute and revise rules for the day to day running of the Guild
- e) present proposed changes to the Constitution to the Guild members (see Section 8)

6. Meetings

- a) Ordinary Meetings. At least five ordinary meetings shall be held throughout the year. Visitors may attend an ordinary meeting on payment of a fee to be determined by the Committee. Visitors shall be allowed to attend no more than 3 ordinary meetings in any one period of twelve months. Workshops, courses, demonstrations etc shall be between ordinary meetings.
- b) Annual General Meeting. There shall be an AGM in March of every year. The business transacted shall include:
 - i) The Chair's remarks
 - ii) The Secretary's report on the year's work
 - iii) The Treasurer's report and submission of audited accounts
 - iv) The appointment of an auditor for the ensuing year
 - v) Any items for which due notice has been given
 - vi) The election of committee members for the ensuing year. Candidates shall be nominated and seconded in writing with the permission of the nominee, at any time between the AGM and the previous Ordinary meeting
- c) Extraordinary Meetings. Such a meeting shall be called at the request, in writing, of not fewer than six full members. Only the matter for which it is called may be discussed. A quorum shall be 60% of the membership. At least twenty-eight days' notice shall be given for this meeting. At these meeting a), b), and c) above shall apply and also:
 - i) The Chair of the meeting shall be the elected Chair or the deputy appointed by the Committee
 - ii) Voting shall be by full members only
 - iii) The meeting shall be minuted

7. Financial Arrangements

- a) The Guild shall bank accounts in the name of the Guild according to the needs of the Guild.
- b) Payments may be authorised by any one of the Treasurer, Chair or Secretary. One of these officers, normally the Treasurer, may be nominated to be the administrator for online banking.
- c) The dates of the financial year shall be 1st January to 31st December.
- d) A statement of accounts shall be published to each full member.
- e) The annual accounts shall be subject to independent review.

8. Changes to the Constitution

These shall be made only at the AGM.

Amendments to the Constitution, proposed and seconded, must be submitted to the Committee at least twenty-one days before the Ordinary meeting preceding the AGM. The Committee shall prepare, publish and distribute the proposed amendments to all members with the notice convening the AGM.

No amendments shall be made to Clauses 2 or 9 or to this clause without the prior approval of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales.

9. Winding up

The Guild may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Guild to include postal votes of full members who are unable to attend an Extraordinary meeting convened for that purpose of which twenty-eight days' notice shall be given. Such resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by or in the name of the Guild, provided that if any property remains after the satisfaction of all debts

and liabilities, such property shall not be paid or distributed among members of the Guild but shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objectives similar to some or all of the objectives of the Guild, as the Guild may determine, and in so far as effect cannot be given to this provision, then some other charitable purpose.

March 2017.