

## **STATUTE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MALTA**

### **I NAME**

The name of the society shall be “The Archaeological Society Malta”, hereinafter referred to as the Society.

### **II AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. The Archaeological Society, Malta shall be a non-profit making organisation as defined in the Voluntary Organisations Act (Chapter 492 of the Laws of Malta).
2. The Society shall be concerned with all matters relating to archaeology in general and in particular that of the Maltese Islands.
3. The Society shall encourage, promote, and facilitate the study of archaeology among its members by means of  
MEETINGS for reading papers, lectures, for exhibitions, and discussion;  
EXCURSIONS to places of archaeological interest, both in the Maltese Islands and abroad;  
A COLLECTION of books, drawings, photographs and other material;  
The PUBLICATION of a Newsletter and other such publications that may be feasible.
4. The Society shall endeavour to develop and maintain a close liaison with the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Heritage Malta and the Department of Classics and Archaeology at the University, and support the activities of these institutions.
5. The Society shall develop and maintain relations with corresponding archaeological institutions abroad with a view to exchanging information and facilitating visits by members to overseas sites and institutions as well as those by visitors from abroad.

### **III MEMBERSHIP**

1. Membership of the Society shall be open to all interested in furthering the objectives of the Society.
2. Application forms duly submitted by the applicant shall be forwarded to the Treasurer and approved by the General Committee.
3. Membership of the Society shall be divided into five categories;
  - a. Ordinary Members
  - b. Honorary Members
  - c. Student Associate
  - d. Life Members
  - e. Corporate Members
4. Honorary Membership shall be reserved for those whom the Society wishes to honour for outstanding service to archaeology, and must be approved by two thirds of the Members at the Annual General Meeting, the nomination having been made by the President and agreed by the General Committee, and three weeks notice having been given before the Annual General Meeting.
5. Student Associates shall be persons in full time education.

6. Corporate Members shall be bodies or associations whose admission shall be approved by the General Committee and who shall pay such collective annual subscription as may be determined in each case by the General Committee.

7. Subscription rates shall be fixed by the General Committee, but shall not be altered without the consent of the Annual General Meeting.

8. All subscriptions shall be due on the first day of January and shall be paid to the Treasurer.

9. No member whose subscriptions are in arrears shall be entitled to privileges as a Member. Any Member who fails to pay the annual subscription by 31st March shall not be entitled to receive any further notice of Meetings etc. If a Member's subscription is in arrears for two years the General Committee may remove the name from the list of Members.

#### **IV GENERAL COMMITTEE**

1. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a General Committee consisting of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and up to five others, elected by and from the Members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting, as hereinunder provided.

2. To qualify for election to the General Committee a Member must be proposed by any two Members of the Society in writing to the Secretary not less than three weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

3. At the Annual General Meeting if more names have been proposed than vacant positions the election shall proceed by ballot. If fewer names have been proposed than the vacant positions, the nomination of additional names shall rest with the General Committee.

4. The General Committee may co-opt two additional members until the end of the year, and may fill up any vacancies in its own body which may occur during the year.

5. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

#### **V OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY**

1. The Officers of the Society shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

##### **President**

2. The President shall be elected from among candidates who, being Members of the Society, have been proposed in writing to the Secretary by any two Members not less than three weeks before the Annual General Meeting, the consent of the candidate having previously been obtained in writing or by email.

3. The election, if there be more than one name proposed, shall proceed by ballot.

4. If no names have been so proposed, the nomination of the President shall rest with the General Committee.

5. The election to the post of President shall be for a period of two years and the post shall not be held by the same person for more than four consecutive years, after which the outgoing President will only be eligible for re-election after the lapse of two years.

### **Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer**

6. The Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society shall be elected at the first General Committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting from amongst the committee members and shall serve for a period of two years.

7. The Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall automatically serve for a further period of two years as members of the General Committee and shall also be eligible for re-election as Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society.

### **VI MEETINGS**

1. The Annual General Meetings and the Extraordinary General Meetings of the Society shall be open only to Members of the Society. The General Committee may, however, in the case of certain Meetings, open the attendance to the general public, due notice being given to Members on the circular convening the Meeting.

2. At all Meetings, whether of the General Committee or of the whole Society, the Chair shall be taken by the President, or, in his/her absence, by the Vice-President, or a member of the General Committee.

3. The Chairperson shall regulate all proceedings and discussion, shall have unlimited power in questions of order, and shall have a casting vote as well as his/her ordinary vote.

### **Annual General Meetings**

4. The Society shall hold an Annual General Meeting for its members not later than May every calendar year.

5. The hour and day of the Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be fixed by the General Committee and at least three weeks notice by the Secretary shall be given to Members.

6. During the Annual General Meeting the following matters shall be considered:

- a. Approval of minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
- b. Matters arising from the minutes
- c. Report of the President
- d. Adoption of the Report and Audited Financial Statements for the preceding year
- e. Election of President (every second year)
- f. Election of General Committee (every second year)
- g. Appointment of Auditor/s
- h. Any Other Matters

7. The quorum for the Annual General Meeting shall be 50% of the paid up members of the Society, but in the absence of a quorum at the convened time, the Annual General Meeting shall be postponed for 15 minutes, after which time the quorum for the meeting shall be the members present.

8. Any decision/s taken during the Annual General Meeting and the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society are to take immediate effect unless otherwise decided.

### **General Committee Meetings**

9. All Meetings of the General Committee shall be called by the Secretary and at least six days notice shall be given, but the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting shall be called by the President.

## **Extraordinary General Meetings**

10. The General Committee on its own initiative may call for an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss any matter which it deems should be discussed at a general meeting of the Members.

11. An Extraordinary General Meeting may also be called by request of at least 25% of the members or 30 members whichever is the least to discuss any matter they deem should be discussed at a general meeting of the Members.

12. The hour and day of the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be fixed by the General Committee and at least three weeks notice by the Secretary shall be given to members.

13. The quorum for the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be 50% of the paid up members of the Society, but in the absence of a quorum at the convened time, the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be postponed for 15 minutes, after which time the quorum for the meeting shall be the members present.

## **VII FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE SOCIETY**

The Treasurer of the Society shall keep a proper record of accounts of the Society which shall be audited by the Auditor/s appointed at the Annual General Meeting as above, soon after the end of each calendar year, and after being passed by the General Committee shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting.

## **VIII ACTION BY THE SOCIETY**

Any proposal for action by the Society must receive the prior sanction of the General Committee; in cases of urgency, the Officers, or a majority of them may take action in the name of the Society, without calling the General Committee, provided that they shall report their action to that Committee regularly summoned at the first opportunity.

## **IX CHANGES IN THE STATUTE**

Any Member may propose amendments to this Statute in writing to the Secretary. The General Committee after considering such proposal may decide to recommend such proposals or amendments thereof for the approval of the Society at its Annual General Meeting, providing that such proposals would have been received in time for consideration by the General Committee before the issue of the circular calling the Meeting and provided that the general sense of the proposed change shall be notified in the circular.

## **X DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY**

Dissolution of the Society may only take place during an Extraordinary General Meeting convened specifically for this purpose. In the event of the dissolution of the Society its assets shall be applied in favour of another non-profit making organisation with similar aims as the Society as selected by the members present during the Extraordinary General Meeting.