

# SOUTH LEICESTER BIRDWATCHERS CONSTITUTION & RULES

## 1/ NAME

The name of the club shall be SOUTH LEICESTER BIRDWATCHERS

## 2/ AIM

- a) To enjoy the hobby of birdwatching
- b) To respect and support the conservation of birds and their habitat
- c) To encourage the sharing of knowledge of birds amongst fellow club members
- d) To welcome and encourage new members

## 3/ ELIGIBILITY and TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership is available to anyone 18 years or over, subject to their agreeing to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the club. It is dependent on the payment of an annual subscription
- b) Types of membership are 'single adult` and 'double adult` (where 2 people share the same postal address). Prospective members must fill in an application form for submission to a committee member for approval and registration
- c) A subscription is payable on joining and is renewable annually on 1st September. A half-year subscription is payable if the date of a member joining is after 1st March. Membership cards will be issued to paid-up members as proof of membership

## 4/ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- a) The club will be organised on behalf of members by a management committee consisting of a Chairman/Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of 1 other serving committee person
- b) The Committee will have the power to co-opt additional members as necessary
- c) All club business will be directed by this Committee who will offer themselves for re-election at an Annual General Meeting
- d) The Committee will meet as required to arrange future meetings, field trips and other matters to ensure smooth, sound and consistent running of the club in accordance with its aims
- e) The Committee will ensure that a suitable bank account is maintained for the club's funds and that proper books of account are maintained. The club's financial year shall end on 31st August and accounts shall be prepared by the Treasurer within 3 months of the year end for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

- f) The Committee shall maintain a list of members, approve the admission of members and agree any disciplinary action necessary

#### 5/ CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings will normally be held monthly (except for July and August where no meeting will be held) at a suitable pre-booked venue

An Annual General Meeting shall be held within 3 months of the end of each financial year. The date, time and agenda will be notified to each member at least 14 days in advance when possible

Special meetings may be called by one third of paid-up members applying to the Management Committee to discuss any amendments of the Constitution and Rules. Any amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the club members. All paid-up members shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings of the club

#### 6/ DISSOLUTION

The club can be dissolved with the agreement of two-thirds of paid-up members at a special meeting. Upon dissolution an approved Trustee for the club shall take appropriate action to convert any assets into money and pay off debts. The use of the remaining finances should be indicated by the members

## RULES

1/ Members shall abide by the Constitution and Rules of the club and all relevant law and code of practice issued by the government, organisations or societies

2/ Members shall show care and respect for landowners, the public and other club members whenever taking part in club activities. On field trips the birds' interest shall always come first.

3/ A member may be suspended or expelled from the club at the decision of the Committee if they feel the member has discredited the club in any way or has failed to abide by the Constitution and Rules, or appropriate codes of conduct. Failure to pay a subscription or other fees required will result in loss of membership

4/ All members taking part in activities organised by the club do so entirely at their own risk. SOUTH LEICESTER BIRDWATCHERS will not be liable for loss, damage or injury whatsoever directly or indirectly occasioned by, or resulting from, the negligence, wrongful act or default of its officials, members, Committee or from any other cause including Act of God

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Sue Walton        Mob.: 07786931950    E-mail: suecwalton@yahoo.co.uk

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