

THE NIKÆAN CLUB

CONSTITUTION

(As approved September 1980 and amended March 1984, March 1997, April 1999 and March 2008)

Objects

1. The Nikaeian Club was founded in 1925 to commemorate the sixteenth centenary of the Oecumenical and Great Council of Nicaea. It exists to further relations with non-Anglican Christian churches, to assist students from such Churches and to offer hospitality on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury to representatives of such Churches.

Membership

2. Anglicans in communion with the See of Canterbury and interested in the ecumenical movement are eligible for nomination to membership of the Club. Names proposed and seconded by members of the Club shall be considered and voted upon by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may additionally invite members of foreign churches in communion with the See of Canterbury who are resident in the United Kingdom to become members of the Club. Any member who ceases to be an Anglican in communion with the See of Canterbury shall cease to be a member of the Club.
3. Associate membership may be granted by the Executive Committee to eligible applicants (proposed and seconded in the usual way) who are engaged in ecumenical activities by virtue of their employment within the National Church Institutions or in the Anglican Communion Office. Associate members shall have the same voting rights as full members. They shall not pay annual subscriptions but shall contribute to the cost of Nikaeian Club events which they attend, on the same basis as full members. Associate membership is terminated when the holder's tenure of the post or office concerned comes to an end.
4. Life membership shall automatically be granted to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and their spouses.
5. The annual subscription shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting and shall become due and payable on the first day of January in each year.
6. Any member of the Club may resign his membership by giving to the Secretary notice in writing to that effect. Any person shall, on ceasing to be a member of the Club, forfeit all right to and claim upon the Club and its property and funds.

President

7. The Archbishop of Canterbury shall be President of the Club.

Guestmaster

8. The Guestmaster of the Club shall be appointed by the President for such term as the president shall determine. The function of the Guestmaster shall be to offer advice to the President and the Executive Committee with regard to hospitality.

Chairman

9. When the office of Chairman is or has become vacant, at least seven weeks before the Annual General Meeting a nomination form shall be sent to every member inviting nominations of members of the Club for the office of Chairman. Every nomination shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Club and the candidate shall have signified his willingness to serve if appointed.
10. The period for the nominations shall not be less than fourteen days. All valid nominations shall be forwarded by the Secretary to the President who shall appoint one of those nominated to be Chairman of the Club and of the Executive Committee for the term of five years. At the end of the term of office an outgoing Chairman shall be eligible for a further term of five years in accordance with the above procedure, provided that no Chairman may hold office for more than ten years.

Executive Committee

11. The management of the Club shall be deputed to an Executive Committee consisting of a Chairman, Guestmaster, Secretary and Treasurer ex officio and six members who shall be elected for a term of three years.
12. No member may serve as an elected member of the Executive Committee for more than six years consecutively but after an interval of one year may again stand for election.
13. The executive Committee shall appoint persons annually to act as Secretary and Treasurer of the Club who shall be ex officio members of the Committee.
14. Nominations of members of the Club for election to the Executive Committee may be made in writing to the Secretary at any time except during the period of four weeks preceding the date announced for the Annual General Meeting. Every nomination shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Club and the candidate shall have signified his willingness to serve if elected. A list of members of the Club shall be provided by the Secretary on application by any member.

15. At least three weeks before the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall notify every member of the candidates nominated for election to the Executive Committee. If more candidates nominated than there are seats to be filled a voting paper shall at the same time be sent to every member by the Secretary indicating that it shall be returnable to the Secretary marked and signed by the elector within a period of not less than fourteen days after the date on which the voting paper is issued.
16. The result of the election shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting and the new members shall assume office at the conclusion.
17. The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint any member of the Club to fill a casual vacancy on the Committee until the conclusion of the Next Annual General Meeting and may co-opt up to two additional members of the Club to the Committee whose term of office shall be until conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting.
18. The quorum at a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be three members other than co-opted members.
19. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the offering of hospitality in the name of the president to representatives of other Churches

Finance

20. The financial year of the Club shall end on the 31st day of December in each year and the accounts shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, be audited or independently examined. Should the office of auditor or independent examiner become vacant during the year, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy provided that the person appointed is not a member of the Executive Committee.

General Meetings

21. Not less than fourteen days notice shall be given to all members of an Annual General Meeting or of an Extraordinary Meeting.
22. The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held each year at a time and place agreed by the Executive Committee.
23. An Extraordinary Meeting may be convened by the Executive Committee and shall be convened if requested by one fifth of the members of the Club.
24. The quorum at a General Meeting shall be twenty five members. Where such quorum is not present fifteen minutes after the advertised start of the meeting, then those members present may constitute themselves a quorum by special Resolution of three quarters of the members present, otherwise the meeting shall fail. Should

an Annual General Meeting so fail the Executive Committee shall remain in being until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting.

25. The purpose and business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:
- a. to consider a report, balance sheet and statement of accounts for the preceding financial year, and an estimate of the receipts and expenditure for the current financial year.
 - b. To agree the subscription for the next financial year.
 - c. To consider a report on the activities of the Club for the preceding twelve months, and plans for the future.
 - d. To appoint auditors or independent examiners, not being members of the Executive Committee.
 - e. To transact any other items of business on the agenda of which notice has been given to the secretary at least seven days prior to the Meeting.
26. At a General Meeting and at the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

Amendment of Constitution and Dissolution

27. This Constitution may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting, providing that no such solution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it is carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the members present and voting thereon.
28. If at any General Meeting a Resolution for the dissolution of the Club shall be passed by a majority of two thirds of the members present and voting thereon, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such future dates as shall be specified in such resolutions, proceed to realise the property of the Club and after the discharge of all liabilities shall pay the same as directed by the president.