

# NAR VALLEY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

## 1. TITLE

The Society shall be known as the Nar Valley Ornithological Society.

## 2. AIMS

- a. Encourage and share the enjoyment of birdwatching with others in the Nar Valley Ornithological Society area.
- b. Encourage novice birdwatchers to take an active interest in birdwatching.
- c. Share information with the members.
- d. Gather and collate data on birds in the area.
- e. Participate in Regional and National Bird Surveys within the defined area.
- f. Liaise with other conservation groups within the area, and more widely.
- g. To administer the Society in an environmentally sensitive manner.
- h. To promote a deeper understanding of wildlife in general.

## 3. AREA COVERED

The area covered by the Society shall be twelve 10km squares of the National Grid as follows: TF60/61/62, TF70/71/72, TF 80/81/82, TF 90/91/92.

## 4. MEMBERSHIP

- a. Membership will be open to anyone. Voting rights are restricted to members of 18 years and older. Members and guests under 18 years must be accompanied and supervised at all times by a parent or guardian at any meeting or event.
- b. Where a **vulnerable adult**, or an **adult at risk**, defined as a person over the age of 18 who is unable to take care of themselves or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation, attends any meeting or event, an appropriate carer must be in attendance to supervise at all times.
- c. Membership shall be cancelled for conduct prejudicial to the good name of the Society by a majority vote of the Committee. Members and guests are expected to behave in accordance with Codes of Practice issued by the Society. (References: NarVOS Health and Safety Policy and Procedures and NarVOS Data Protection Policy.)
- d. Honorary Membership of the Society may be offered to persons who have, in the opinion of the Committee, rendered special service to the Society.

## **5. THE COMMITTEE.**

- a. The Society will be administered by a Committee comprising at least a Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer with additional Officers and Members up to a maximum of ten.
- b. The Committee will be elected by the members on an annual basis each January at the Annual General Meeting, which must have at least 20 members to effect a quorum and according to the document "Procedure for Election of Officers".
- c. Officers on retirement must hand over all relevant documents to their successor.
- d. Only paid-up members will be eligible for election to the Committee.

## **6. OFFICERS**

- a. In addition to the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, other Officers will be elected to fill posts as seen fit, e.g. Recorder, Membership Secretary, Events Organiser and Newsletter Editor and Vice-chairperson.
- b. The Committee may fill temporary positions by co-option subject to the agreement of a majority of the elected officers. The elected Committee and co-opted members shall not exceed twelve persons.
- c. An Honorary President may be elected and is eligible to attend Committee Meetings.

## **7. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- a. Subscriptions will be set by the Committee and the financial year will run annually from 1<sup>st</sup> February each year.
- b. Membership will be deemed lapsed if not paid by end of March.

## **8. FINANCES**

- a. The Treasurer will submit an audited account of the Society's funds at the AGM.
- b. Committee members incurring expenses on behalf of the Society must submit a claim, with supporting records, to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

## **9. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Changes to this constitution are only possible at a General Meeting of the Nar Valley Ornithological Society.

**Revised January 2024**