

THE CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Society is The Lickey Hills Society.

2. The Area of Interest

The Society operates for the public benefit in an area comprising the Lickey Hills and its environs.

The Area of Interest is broadly bounded by significant roads, namely:

M42 – Junction 2 (Hopwood Park) to Junction 1 (The Forest) with the A38
A38 via Lydiate Ash, Rubery & Longbridge Island to Longbridge Lane
Longbridge Lane to Redditch Road A441
A441 via Hopwood back to M42 Junction 2

The Society reserves the right to comment on any relevant issues beyond its Area of Interest.

The Area of Interest is depicted on the Map – Appendix 1.

3. Aims of the Society

1. To preserve or improve all aspects relating to the geography, geology, natural history, history or architecture within the Area of Interest.
2. To monitor planning applications in the Area of Interest and to try and ensure that any developments are appropriate and meet high standards of planning and architecture.
3. To work with relevant local authorities, organisations and individuals having aims similar to those of the Society.
4. To work with and support the work and activities of the Rangers in the Lickey Hills Country Park.
5. To inform members and the wider public on topics relevant to the Country Park and the Area of Interest

4. Membership

1. Membership will be open to all who wish to support the aims of the Society on payment of the appropriate annual fee.
2. Renewal of membership will commence on January 1st each year with the payment of the appropriate membership fee and will terminate on 31st December each year.
3. Junior members will be those under 18 years at the time their subscription is due.
4. No member will be able to vote at any meeting of the Society if his or her subscription is unpaid at the time of the meeting.
5. Membership details will be safeguarded in compliance with The General Data Protection Regulation [GDPR] that came into force in May 2018. (See Appendix 3).
6. Corporate or Society members will be those who are interested in furthering the aims of the Society and they will be entitled to a single vote at any meeting of the Society.
7. The Committee may award honorary life membership to a member who has given generously of their time and expertise to promote and enhance the work of the Society.
8. The Committee has the power to refuse or terminate the membership of any person or member considered to be acting in any manner contrary to the aims of the Society, following due diligence and a right of appeal.
9. Membership shall be considered to have lapsed if the annual subscription remains unpaid after three months.

5. Membership Subscriptions

The annual subscription rates for membership of the Society shall be reviewed and determined by the committee every year and duly notified to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

Categories for membership will be as follows:

Ordinary Member	
Senior Citizen	(state pensionable age)
Junior Member	(under 18)
Household Membership	(all members living at the same address)
Corporate or Society Membership	

Subscription rates for each category are given in in Appendix 2.

6. Management

1. A Management Committee will be elected annually at the AGM and shall be responsible for the day to day running of the Society.
2. The Committee shall consist of four officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and between two and six other members of the Society.
3. All officers and committee members will serve for twelve months and automatically be eligible for re-election at the next AGM.
4. Nominations for the election of new officers and committee members shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days before the AGM. Nominations will be supported by a nominee and a seconder.
5. Nominees for election as officers or committee members shall declare at the time of nomination and at the Annual General Meeting at which their election is to be considered any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Society.
6. If the nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place in such a manner as shall be determined.
7. The Committee may co-opt additional members if vacancies occur.
8. The Committee shall meet at least six times a year.
9. At least 50% of committee members must be present at a committee meeting for decisions to be made.
10. A proper record of all committee meetings shall be kept.
11. The Committee is responsible for:
 - Managing the funds of the Society.
 - Maintaining an up-to-date list of members.
 - Carrying out any such lawful actions necessary to support or further the aims of the Society.
 - The formation of sub groups of Society members as considered appropriate.
 - The appointment of Trustees.

7. Meetings

1. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM of the Society will be held as soon as is practicable to do so after the end of the Financial Year, for the purpose of:

- The presentation of reports and the annual accounts for the previous financial year.
- The election of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and committee members.
- Any other business deemed necessary for the running of the Society.

Notice of the AGM will be published and notified to members at least 28 days beforehand. Proceedings of the AGM will be minuted and brought to the next AGM.

2. Special General Meetings (SGM)

An SGM may be called at any time at the request of the Committee or at the written request of twenty or more members whose subscriptions are fully paid-up. A notice detailing the place, date, time and reason shall be sent to all members at least 14 days beforehand. Proceedings of the SGM will be minuted and available to members.

3. Changes to the Constitution

The constitution can only be changed at the AGM or an SGM. Proposals to change the constitution other than those made by the Committee, must be given in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days before the AGM or SGM with a brief summary of why the proposed changes need to be made. All proposed changes, with their summaries, must be communicated to all members at least 7 days before the AGM.

Changes to the constitution must be approved by a two-thirds majority of those members present. The proponents of any changes to the constitution must be present at the AGM and be prepared to give their reasons for the proposed changes.

The Society must not make any amendment to the constitution concerning its charitable status until the approval in writing of the Charity Commissioners has been obtained

8. Finances

1. All funds received by the Society shall be paid into an account operated by the Committee.
2. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by at least two members of the Committee.
3. All the Society's funds shall be used only to further the aims of the Society.
4. The Committee shall, out of the funds of the Society, pay all proper expenses related to the administration and management of the Society.
5. A complete and up-to-date record of all income and expenditure will be kept, and an independently audited set of accounts will be presented at the AGM.
6. The financial year of the Society will run from 1st November to 30th October.

9. Dissolution

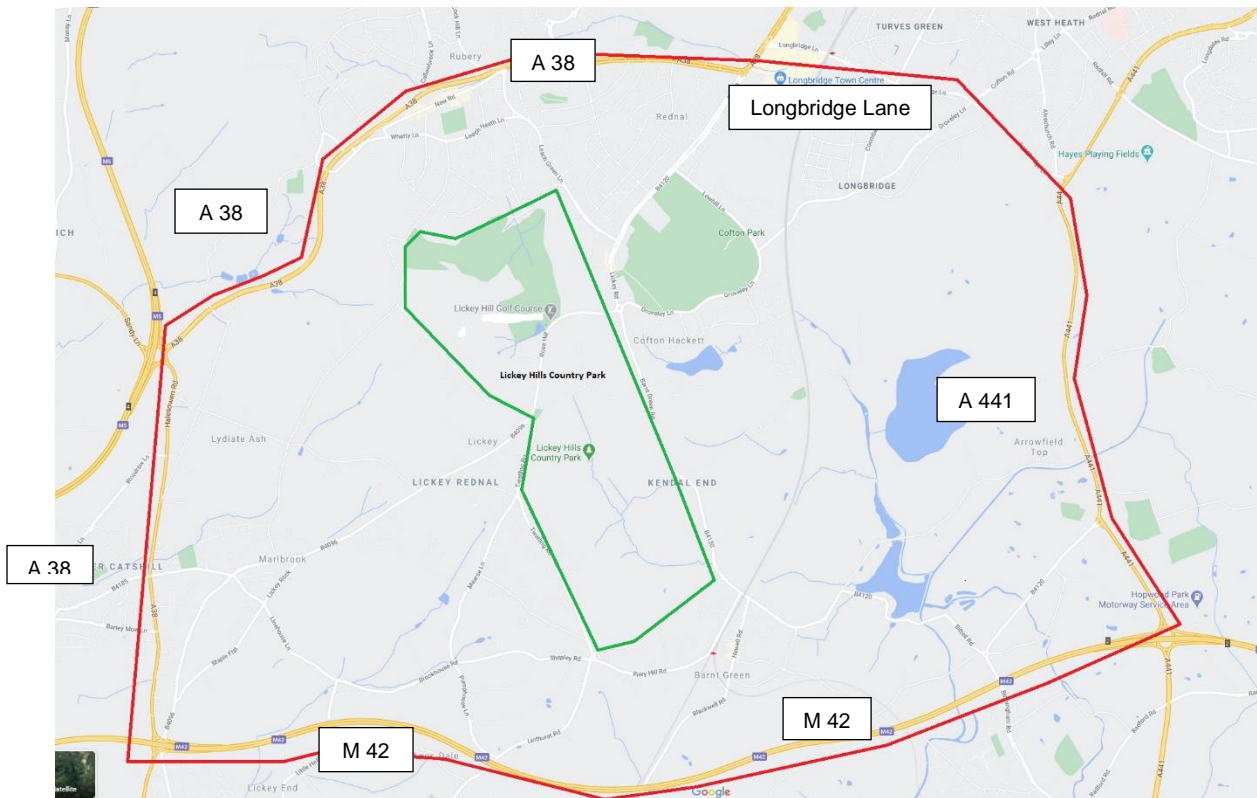
1. A motion to dissolve the Society may be proposed at an Annual General Meeting or a properly convened Special General Meeting provided the intention to do so was clearly stated in the notice given for the meeting.
2. The motion for the dissolution of the Society must be passed by a two-thirds majority of members voting at the meeting of the Society.
3. On dissolution, the committee shall ensure that all outstanding debts and obligations are settled.
4. Any assets remaining shall be donated to charitable institutions or organisations having aims similar to those of the Society or some other charitable purpose(s) as the Society may decide.

10. Trustees

1. Any property (freehold or leasehold) acquired by the Society shall be vested in Trustees who will deal with the property as directed by the Committee.
2. There should be at least three Trustees or a Trust Corporation. The appointment of new Trustees will be the responsibility of the Committee.
3. A Trustee need not be a member of the Society.
4. The Secretary must notify the Trustees in writing of any amendments to their duties. The Trustees will not be bound by any amendments if written notification has not been given.
5. The Society shall pay the Trustees any expenses incurred whilst carrying out their duties.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 A Map showing the Area of Interest of the Lickey Hills Society



Map showing Area of Interest

 Approximate boundary of the Lickey Hills Country Park

The Area of Interest is bounded by significant roads, namely:

M42 – Junction 2 (Hopwood Park) to Junction 1 (The Forest) with the A38

A38 via Lydiate Ash, Rubery & Longbridge Island to Longbridge Lane

Longbridge Lane to Redditch Road A441

A441 via Hopwood back to M42 Junction 2

Appendix 2 Current Subscription rates – as of October 2022

Ordinary Member		£5.00
Senior Citizen	(of state pension age)	£4.00
Junior Member	(under 18)	£4.00
Household Membership	(all members living at the same address)	£8.00
Corporate or Society Membership	(unless a reciprocal membership agreement is in place)	£20.00

Appendix 3 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Statement

The Lickey Hills Society

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1000852

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION [GDPR]

Changes to the law relating to Data Protection came into effect on 25 May 2018 which obliges all clubs and societies to inform their members about the information they store, and about who has access to that information.

The Lickey Hills Society currently stores:

- Contact details of its members; names and addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses where appropriate
- Email addresses of non-members who receive complimentary copies of the Society's Newsletters. Many of these addresses are in the public domain.

The information is collected when individuals sign up for membership or subsequently to enable the Society to communicate to its members.

Purpose

The information is used for the following purposes:

- Administration of memberships – this may involve contacting members where necessary regarding the payment of subscriptions.
- Ensuring the delivery of the Society's Newsletters and any additional information to members as and when appropriate, by email, by post or by hand delivery.

The Society will only use the information for the purposes for which it was collected, unless we consider that we need to use it for another reason and that reason is compatible with the aims of the Society. The information may be shared with Society Officers, Executive Committee Members and those members concerned with the distribution of Newsletters and Society correspondence. The information will not be shared with any third parties.

Safeguarding

The information is available only to

- The Officers and Executive Committee Members of the Society.
- Currently the production and distribution of the Society's Newsletter is the responsibility of Officers and Committee Members. Should this change at some point in the future, the information will be made available to the person responsible for Newsletter production and distribution and any other correspondence distribution.

The above information is collated by the Membership Secretary to whom requests for alteration of personal information should be addressed. It is important that the information held about members is accurate and current. Members are advised to inform the Membership Secretary of any changes to their personal information.

Personal information will be retained for the duration of the membership to which it relates and will be deleted after six months of non-payment of subscription, or immediately upon notification of cessation of membership (whichever is sooner).

All personal information of Society members is stored securely.

Members of the Society, by law have the right to:-

- request access to their personal information
- request correction of their personal information
- request erasure of their personal information

Contact details of relevant Society Officers are listed in the heading of each copy of the Society's Newsletter in case members have any questions.

November 2018