

Constitution

Falmadair – The North Lewis Maritime Society

1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be “Falmadair – The North Lewis Maritime Society,” hereinafter referred to as “the Society”.

2. AIMS

The aims of the Society are:

- (a) To promote as a primary objective the social welfare and amenity of the north Lewis area, and in so doing to promote, in the interests of social welfare and education, an active interest in local maritime history and heritage.
- (b) To promote education through developing maritime skills and a better understanding of the marine and coastal environment.
- (c) To bring together individuals and organisations which share such interests.
- (d) Where possible, to cultivate reciprocal relations with organisations that have similar aims, relevant educational objectives or which may otherwise support or benefit the Society.
- (e) To do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objectives.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Society shall be open to anyone interested in the aims of the Society.

4. COMMITTEE

The business and affairs of the Society shall be executed by a management committee, which shall comprise the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and five other members, together with up to three additional members, known as co-opted members, which the committee will have the power to co-opt.

Five members of the committee shall form a quorum.

All committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Society and shall normally hold office for two years. Each committee member will be nominated, seconded and ratified from the floor at the AGM.

At the conclusion of the period of office a member must retire but shall then be eligible for re-election, or co-option.

Co-opted members must retire at the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

There shall be meetings of the management committee at such frequency as is considered necessary for the efficient management of the Society's affairs.

The committee may appoint a sub-committee for any special project with the powers that belong to the committee.

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson:

At the meetings of the management committee the Chairperson, or in his absence the Vice-Chairperson, or any other member duly elected shall preside.

Treasurer:

The treasurer shall keep correct books of account containing a record of all receipts and disbursements of monies on behalf of the Society. Such records shall be presented to the elected auditor(s) who shall report to the Annual General Meeting on the state of the finances of the Society. Any such report shall be an integral part of the accounts presented to the Annual General Meeting.

Secretary:

The secretary shall maintain the minute books of the Society in which shall be entered, a record of the proceedings and resolutions at the Annual General Meeting, Special General Meeting and management committee meetings.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held once in every calendar year in order to:-

- (a) Receive the annual reports and statements of accounts of the Society.
- (b) Elect members to the committee.
- (c) Deal with and vote on any other competent business.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting should be given in the local newspaper two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

7. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The executive committee may at their discretion, or by written request signed by not less than twelve members of the Society, convene a Special General Meeting to discuss the specific question for which the meeting was called.

A request for a Special General Meeting, duly signed by at least twelve members, must be submitted to the Secretary in writing at least 21 days before the date of the meeting and s/he shall be required duly to notify the members of the same.

8. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

The financial transactions of the Society shall be executed through a bank account or accounts on a current account or interest bearing basis in a local bank. Cheques must be signed by the Treasurer with a counter signature by a further executive committee member or a member of the committee duly authorised. Cheques signing authority for particular aspects of Society business may be delegated to committee member(s) responsible for that specific function.

9. INCOME LIMITATION

All monies raised by or on behalf of the Society shall be applied to further the objects of the Society and for no other purpose, provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any employee of the Society and fees to professional and technical advisors or the repayment to members of the management committee or of any Committee or sub-Committee appointed of reasonable out of pocket expenses.

10. AUDITORS

An auditor will be appointed at each general meeting for the examination of the club accounts.

11. TRUSTEES

All heritable property in the ownership of the Society and all funds and securities shall be vested in the executive committee office holders ex officio and these officials shall hold office in an honorary capacity. These Trustees shall enjoy the whole powers, privileges and immunities of gratuitous Trustees.

12. CONSTITUTIONAL ALTERATION

No part of this constitution may be altered, deleted or extended except at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for this purpose. Formal notice of the meeting and its purpose shall be intimated in the local newspaper two weeks prior to the date of the meeting. A clear majority of two-thirds of the members present, entitle to vote and voting, shall affect the change after such amendment has been proposed and seconded.

13. TERMINATION

Should the objects herein defined be frustrated and incapable of being realised, any monies held by the Society shall be transferred to a "Closed Account" and vest in the Society members aforementioned. Any heritable property or other assets held by the Society at such time, or proceeds of any disposals thereof, shall be applied towards charitable purposes as resolved by the members present at the Special General Meeting.

This constitution was adopted at a meeting of the Society on

Signed ----- (Chairperson)

Signed ----- (Secretary/Treasurer)