

CHELTENHAM RAMBLING CLUB RULES (as at 11th November 2013)

1. The organisation shall be called **The Cheltenham Rambling Club** (hereafter called the "Club")
2. The purpose of the Club is to encourage the pastime of rambling, and to foster an appreciation, knowledge and use of the countryside, and to this end organise rambles, walks and associated recreations in the Cheltenham district and elsewhere as may be decided upon.
3. New members, including those whose membership has lapsed, shall pay a **joining fee**, and thereafter members shall pay an **annual subscription**, which will cover membership from **1 January to 31 December**. Renewal of subscriptions must be made to the Membership Secretary by 31 January annually, otherwise membership will be deemed to have lapsed. The subscription shall be proposed by the committee and approved at an Annual General Meeting.
4. Family membership will be available to include partner and children **residing under one roof** at one-and-a-half times the normal subscription.
5. A general meeting shall be called **annually** (hereafter "AGM") to discuss the business of the Club and to elect a committee. Motions for discussion must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary before the date of the September committee meeting each year. Any decisions based upon these motions taken at the AGM will be binding and in no circumstances will they be varied or revoked except by resolution at an AGM or at an Extraordinary General Meeting (hereafter "EGM").
6. The committee shall terminate office at each AGM and a new one shall be elected for the ensuing year from retiring members and any other members of the Club. The committee shall comprise a **Chairperson, General Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary, Membership Secretary**, all of whom will be "**Officers**". Other members shall be elected as **ordinary members**. The size of the committee shall not exceed **fifteen** persons. An **Honorary Auditor** or **Honorary Examiner** to examine the accounts shall also be appointed annually. The committee may change or delete the title and/or role of any of the officers' posts if all its members agree that the alteration is necessary.
7. The elected committee shall conduct the affairs of the Club and produce a programme of rambles and other social events as decided upon, which shall be notified to members at regular intervals throughout the year. No business may be discussed without a **quorum** at least equal to the majority of the current committee.
8. Once the details, prospective costs and estimated recovery price of any event have been agreed by the committee, there shall be no pressure on the organiser of the event to avoid making a financial loss. Neither shall cancellation of the event, nor the invitation of non-Club members, be considered as necessary options against a possible loss.
9. Members of the Club may request an EGM by delivery to the General Secretary of a written application signed by at least twenty members of the Club.
10. The committee may make a presentation or gift to a member or ex-member where it considers their services to the Club justify this.
11. When rambling the whole party shall follow the guidance of and accept the instructions of the **ramble leader** and shall observe the **Countryside Code**. Children under sixteen must be **accompanied by an adult**.
12. Any member or visitor taking part in **any** Club activity does so **at his or her own risk**, and the Cheltenham Rambling Club and its leaders will not accept liability or responsibility for any injuries which may be received.
13. When members have paid for a club holiday or other event, and either they cannot attend or the club is unable to provide the holiday or event for any reason, refunds may only be made to the extent that such refunds do not result in the club making a loss or becoming insolvent. Whether to make a refund, and the amount of any refund, will be decided by the club Treasurer in consultation with the event organiser on a fair and reasonable basis. In the event of a dispute over refunds the Committee will decide at the next planned committee meeting. The Committee's decision is final.
14. Membership of the Club or attendance at any event organised by the Club shall constitute acceptance of the rules of the Club. **Continued membership of the Club is at the discretion of the committee.**
15. The committee may make donation(s), to walking-related causes only, without the consent of the AGM provided that the total of all donations made in a year does not exceed £50.00. Any donation(s) made must be mentioned in the following programme.
16. Committee members are permitted to claim travelling expenses to committee meetings at the same rate as walkovers.
17. The Club may be dissolved at an Extraordinary General Meeting upon 75% of the entire membership voting in favour of dissolution. A postal vote would be arranged for those unable to attend. Disposal of the Club's assets would be decided at the EGM.