

The Godney Amateur Dramatic Society

Articles of Association

(March 2003)

(Last amended March 2012)

- Article 1 Name The Society shall be known as “***The Godney Amateur Dramatic Society***” or “***GADS***”.
- Article 2 Definition ***The Godney Amateur Dramatic Society (GADS)*** is a non-profit making Society whose members are drawn from the residents of Godney and their immediate relatives and to whom the activities of the Society are particularly directed.
- Article 3 Aim The aim of the Society is to provide a forum for the community to appreciate and enjoy theatrical entertainment in its many formats by:
- creating dramatic performances with exceptional production values for the entertainment and engagement of participants and community audiences.
 - providing a focus for social interaction in a creative context, thereby strengthening community cohesion and helping to combat rural isolation.
 - encouraging the active engagement of children and young adults in a safe and stimulating environment, promoting camaraderie, teamwork and social development, helping them to establish relationships, build character, develop self-awareness and work towards a common goal.
- Article 4 Membership Full membership of the Society shall be free and shall be granted to any resident of Godney and their immediate families who subscribe to, actively support and participate in the aim of the Society. Associate membership of the Society shall be granted to any non-resident of Godney who subscribes to, actively supports and participates in the aim of the Society. Associate members can be invited to become Full members if nominated and seconded at any meeting by Full Members.
- Article 5 Organisation The members of the Society shall elect a general committee from their ranks once a year at the Annual General Meeting. The committee members shall be empowered to organise the affairs of the Society in conjunction with each other and in accordance with the members’ wishes, enlisting the aid of the said members where necessary, and shall consist of the following:
- Chair** - To chair all group meetings or nominate a deputy should their attendance at a meeting be impossible; to co-ordinate the business, secretarial, front of house and publicity aspects of the Society; to co-ordinate front of house staff, programme production and ticket selling ensuring a common policy is in force on each production in conjunction with the Producer and/or Business Manager of each production.
- Secretary** – To be responsible for all of the Society’s correspondence; to be responsible for convening meetings as agreed by the committee ensuring adequate notice of and publicity given to the meetings; to be responsible for recording the minutes of meetings distributing them and publicising them as appropriate on their completion.

Treasurer - To be responsible for the Society's funds and for keeping records of all accounts presenting a record of those accounts at General Meetings; to ensure each production has a member responsible for the production accounts.

Technical Co-ordinator – To co-ordinate the technical support necessary for productions, play readings and workshops; to co-ordinate all production technical tasks in conjunction with the Producer and/or Stage Manager of each production; to encourage and arrange training for prospective technical members of the Society.

Artistic Co-ordinator - To co-ordinate a programme of theatrical events including productions, play readings and workshops; to co-ordinate all production design tasks in conjunction with the Director and/or Producer of each production; to encourage and arrange training for prospective Designers and Directors.

Co-opted Members – The committee can at any time co-opt members to the committee for specific tasks or to deputise for elected committee members unable to complete a full year in office. These posts will be open for election at the next available General Meeting.

Article 6 Meetings

All meetings shall be chaired by the Chair of the Society or their nominated deputy. Members of the Society shall be invited twice a year to attend General Meetings. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to convene such meetings and to give members sufficient notice of the closing date for both items for the agenda and nominations for any vacant committee positions to be filled, as well as the date and location of the actual meeting. The Secretary should, after the closing date for submissions, publish an Agenda so that members can have the opportunity to prepare for the meeting. These meetings shall be:

Annual General Meeting – This will usually take place in March each year where reports on the previous twelve months' activities and plans for the future twelve months shall be presented. The committee shall then resign en bloc prior to elections for the new committee although proceedings will still be chaired by the outgoing Chair until a new member is elected. The meeting can then proceed as normal.

Bi-Annual General Meeting – This will usually take place in September each year where mid-term reports on activities since the Annual General Meeting and plans for the future will be presented by the committee. Elections for any advertised co-opted posts will also take place if necessary.

Additional Meetings

Extraordinary General Meetings – These can be convened at any time by the committee, with due notice given to the membership, if it is considered necessary or by request received from 10 or more Full Members of the Society.

Monthly Committee Meetings – These will be held on the first Thursday of every month and will be less formal primarily for the committee to ensure the smooth running of the Society's business but are open to all members and can be utilised as a means of maintaining member contact between productions.

- Article 7 Voting Each Full Member shall be entitled to one vote at any of the Society's meetings. No block, postal or proxy voting will be permitted. Decisions will be by simple majority. Associate Members and the Chair cannot vote except in the event of a tie, in which case the Chair will have the casting vote.
- Article 8 Amendments Any amendments or additions to Articles of Association can only be made by a majority vote of the members of the Society at a General Meeting. The Secretary is responsible for ensuring that any proposed amendment or addition is included as an Agenda item for the next available General Meeting.
- Article 9 Dissolution In the event of the Society having to dissolve itself, for whatever reason, the Chair shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting to approve the realisation and disposition of assets.