

Constitution

1. Name

1.1 The name of the society will be Liverpool Network Theatre Group.

2. Aims and Objectives

Liverpool Network Theatre Group is established for dramatic, cultural, educational, social and other purposes of a progressive nature - in particular:

2.1 To produce and perform amateur theatre.

2.2 To encourage participation in the performing arts.

2.3 To advance the education of the public in and by means of the performing arts and by improving the appreciation of the performing arts.

2.4 To encourage the development of personal and communication skills by means of the performing arts.

2.5 To establish a resource for the benefit of the inhabitants of Merseyside

And for the furtherance of said objects but not otherwise:

2.6 To arrange for theatrical and other performances and to encourage the use of the theatre by non-theatre goers.

2.7 To arrange and provide for, or join in arranging and providing for, the holding of meetings, lectures, classes and performing arts.

2.8 To establish and support or aid in the establishment and support of any group pursuing the same objects as ourselves.

2.9 To do all such things as will further or are incidental to the furtherance of the aforesaid objects.

3. Membership

3.1 Membership of the group shall be open to any individual who supports the aims and objectives of the Group.

3.2 Membership requires payment of an annual subscription, due on 15 August each year.

3.3 Subscription rates shall be set and changed at the AGM or EGM. Differential rates shall be charged for waged and unwaged individuals.

3.4 Only those members who have paid their annual subscription will be eligible to be involved in productions, in order to meet insurance requirements.

3.5 If at any time the conduct of a member appears inconsistent with the aims and objectives of Liverpool Network Theatre Group, the Committee may require the person to give an explanation of this conduct.

In this event the person's membership will be withdrawn automatically; should the explanation prove satisfactory, the member will be reinstated.

If the person concerned does not accept the decision of the Committee, they may notify the Committee in writing, and the matter will be raised at the next General Meeting where the person can speak. The decision of the General Meeting will be binding.

4. Committee

4.1 The Committee shall be responsible for the day to day running of the Group, and shall include:

- a) the Chair
- b) the Secretary
- c) the Treasurer
- d) the director of any production presently in rehearsal or production
- e) not less than three ordinary members of the Group, who will be elected by the group at an AGM
- f) any other officers appointed by the membership.

4.2 The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt any member of the Group onto the Committee. Such co-options shall be subject to ratification at the next Ordinary General Meeting.

4.3 The Committee shall hold office until the next AGM unless an EGM resolves otherwise.

4.4 The Committee shall meet no less than eight times in a year; non-committee members may attend as observers and participate in debate, but will have no voting rights.

4.5 The Committee has the power to refuse any application for membership of the Group.

4.6 Once 50% of those eligible to vote at the Committee meetings are present, said meeting will be considered to be quorate.

5. Administration

5.1 Executive Officers. The group will maintain three executive officers: Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. The Executive Officers will serve for one year and stand for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. (5.3)

A motion to remove an officer may be made at any meeting if:

5.2 The officer is held to be unfit to hold office because of ill health

5.1.2 The officer has failed to attend at least 50% of the committee meetings held in the previous six months and adequate cause has not been given.

5.1.3 The officer can be shown to have used society funds or resources in an inappropriate manner.

5.1.4 The officer can be shown to have acted in a manner inconsistent with the aims and objectives of the group.

5.2 Powers of Executive Officers.

5.2.1 The officers shall have the power to disperse such funds from society accounts as necessary to achieve the Group's objectives.

5.2.2 The officers shall have the power to do all such lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objects of the group.

5.2.3 The power of all officers shall at no time exceed the provisions of this constitution.

5.3 Annual General Meeting.

5.3.1 This meeting will be held once a year. All bona fide members will be notified and entitled to attend and vote.

5.3.2 The meeting will be considered quorate with ten members, or one third of the current membership, whichever is the lower figure, in attendance.

5.3.3 Every fully paid-up individual member who was in membership at the time of notice being sent shall be entitled to vote at the AGM and stand for election to the Committee.

5.3.4 Notification of the AGM including, the proposed agenda shall be not less than four weeks.

5.3.5 The agenda will be agreed at the beginning of the meeting

5.3.6 Any motions or nominations for discussion at the AGM may be submitted to the Secretary by all fully paid up members at the time of notification, and not less than two weeks before the AGM. All motions and nominations received shall be sent out not less than one week before the AGM.

5.3.7 The AGM shall elect a Committee as defined in section 4.1 and shall receive a report from the outgoing Committee including an audited statement of accounts.

5.4 Ordinary General Meeting.

5.4.1 Ordinary General Meetings shall be arranged in a regular basis, not less than two times a year. The agenda will be made available the week before, under all reasonable circumstances. All bona-fide members will be entitled to attend and vote. The meeting will be considered quorate with ten members, or one third of the current membership, whichever is the lowest figure, in attendance.

5.5 Extraordinary General Meeting.

5.5.1 An EGM can be proposed by any member.

5.5.2 The EGM can only be held if said proposal is supported by ten members or one third of the current membership, whichever is the lower figure.

5.5.3 The EGM will be held within one calendar month of the motion to hold being carried.

5.5.4 All members will be notified of the EGM and its agenda no later than 21 days before the date of the meeting.

5.5.5 The EGM will only deal with the matter for which it was called

5.6 Proxy votes.

5.6.1 **All members will be entitled to a proxy vote.**

5.6.2 Proxy votes will be accepted at all meetings if they are submitted in writing and through the Chair.

5.7 Accounts.

These will be held by the treasurer and be available for examination by any bona-fide member or relevant statutory body, upon request.

5.8 Amending the constitution.

Constitutional amendments may only be made by a two thirds majority of those present and voting at the AGM or EGM.

Notice of any proposed changes must be circulated to all members as in sections 5.3 and 5.5.

6. Dissolution.

6.1 A motion to dissolve must be made at an Annual General Meeting (5.3) or EGM

6.2 A proposal to wind up must be agreed by two thirds of the voting membership, in order to be carried.

6.3 Dispersal of resources

6.3.1 If Group resources include unused grant or sponsorship, then the grant making or sponsorship body or bodies will be informed.

6.3.2 If any members can show willingness to continue work compatible with the Group's objectives in a properly constituted manner, then any resources - after settlement of debt and return of unused grant and sponsorship - shall be given to them for that work, upon condition that they include this winding up section, in its entirety, for their own constitution.

6.3.3 If no members are willing to continue the work of the Group then resources will be given to an existing project compatible with the Group's objectives.

6.3.4 If no group can be found compatible with the Group's objectives then the Group's resources will be donated to a charity to be agreed by simple majority at the dissolution EGM or AGM.