

Modernising the Society's Constitution

Like all charities, the Society has a written constitution which lays down its objectives and the key principles of how it is governed. This is an important document and can only be changed with the approval of Members; it also needs to be endorsed by the Charity Commission. After careful consideration, the Trustees have decided to recommend to Members that our current constitution be updated.

Why do we want to update the constitution?

The current constitution has not been revised for 15 years. Modernisation is needed in order to:

- Maximise the chance of the Society's wonderful orchestral concerts continuing for many years to come.
- Allow us to adopt new IT technologies that did not exist 15 years ago.
- Allow more flexibility in decision making.

The Trustees view the proposed revisions as being minor, non-controversial, and necessary in order to maximise the chances for continuing live orchestral classical music for many years to come.

What do we want to update?

Our primary motivation is to make it easier to run the Society, and be less time consuming for Trustees. The main changes are:-

- Trustee meetings can be held online and by telephone as well as face-to-face.
- Clarification that online mechanisms can be used to formally inform members of Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings.
- The Trustees can co-opt Members without a fee having to be paid.
- Clarification on the declaration of potential conflicts of interest by Trustees.
- Various minor clarifications and improvements to the wording.

What happens next?

Members are invited to provide general feedback, and to review and comment on the proposed revisions to the constitution. The Trustees will reflect and respond to any feedback received. We currently plan to hold a face-to-face AGM in late July (COVID-19 permitting), at which members will be invited to formally adopt the revised constitution. Assuming that revisions are adopted, we would then seek endorsement from the Charity Commission.

How can I get more involved?

Members who wish to get more involved should initially contact the Trustees via email to contact@lakelandsinfonia.org.uk.

Copies of the old constitution, and the proposed revision, and this document, are available on the Society's website.