



THE THAXTED SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

Ratified by the Membership AGM May 2025

1. Name

The name of the Society shall be The Thaxted Society

2. Objects

The Objects of the Society shall be to promote and encourage the following by charitable means but not otherwise:

- To encourage high standards of architecture and town planning in the Parish of Thaxted,
- To stimulate public interest in, and care for, the beauty, history and character of the area of the town and its surroundings,
- To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public amenity or historic interest,
- To pursue these ends by means of meetings, exhibitions, lectures, publications, other forms of instruction and publicity and promotion of schemes of a charitable nature,
- To scrutinise, robustly, planning applications and long-term developments concerning Thaxted and its environs.

3. Membership

Membership shall be open to all who are interested in the objects of the Society. Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid six months after it is due.

4. Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription of the Society shall be set by the Executive Committee and proposed at the Annual General Meeting in May, after which the agreed subscription is immediately payable or up to six months thereafter.

5. Meetings

- An Annual General Meeting shall be held in April or May of each year to receive the Executive Committee's Report, the Independently Examined Accounts and to elect Officers and Members of the Executive Committee.
- The Executive Committee shall decide when Ordinary Meetings of the Society shall be held and shall give at least, ten days notice of such meetings to all members.
- Special General Meetings of the Society shall be held at the request of ten or more members.
- **Ten, 10** members personally present shall constitute a quorum for a Meeting of the Society.

6. Officers

- Nominations for the Election of Officers shall be made at least ten 10 days, or before, the Annual General Meeting.
- Such Nominations shall be in writing supported by a Seconder and the consent of the proposed Nominee must first have been obtained.
- The Election of Officers shall be completed prior to the Election of further Committee Members.
- The Officers of the Society shall consist of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

7. Executive Committee

- The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers and not more than seven further members. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt members, who shall attend in an advisory non-voting capacity. Nominations for election to the Executive Committee shall be made at or at least ten 10 days before the Annual General Meeting.
- They may be in writing but must be supported by a Seconder and the consent of the proposed Nominee must first have been obtained.
- If Nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place.
- The Executive Committee shall be responsible for running the affairs of the Society and may take decisions on its behalf.
- Included in these responsibilities is the right to set the Annual Subscription for the ensuing year, which must be proposed to, and voted on by a clear majority of the Members at the Annual General Meeting. A quorum for Meetings of the Executive Committee shall consist of four members.

8. Appeals

The Executive Committee shall have the power to make appeals, solicit donations and canvass monies for carrying out the objects of the Society.

9. Expenses of Administration

The Executive Committee shall, out of the monies received by the Society, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit for, or towards, the objects of the Society.

10. Investment.

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not required for immediate application for its objects shall be invested by the Executive Committee in such investments, securities or property as it may think fit. The monies shall only be invested in such securities as may, for the time being, be prescribed by law.

11. Borrowing

The Executive Committee may borrow for the objects of the Society, such monies at such rates of interest and in such a manner, as it may think fit.

12. Amendments

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that ten-days notice of the proposed amendment(s) has been sent to all Members, and provided that nothing contained therein shall authorise any amendment permitting the expenditure of funds of the Society on any object which is not a charitable object.

13. Winding Up

In the event of the winding-up of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to one or more charitable bodies having similar or reasonably similar objects to those of the Society. This choice shall be made and declared to, and approved by, the Members of the Society, before being approved by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales.

This constitution is prepared and adopted from a template provided by the Charity Commissioners England & Wales.

THE THAXTED SOCIETY
thaxtedsociety.com