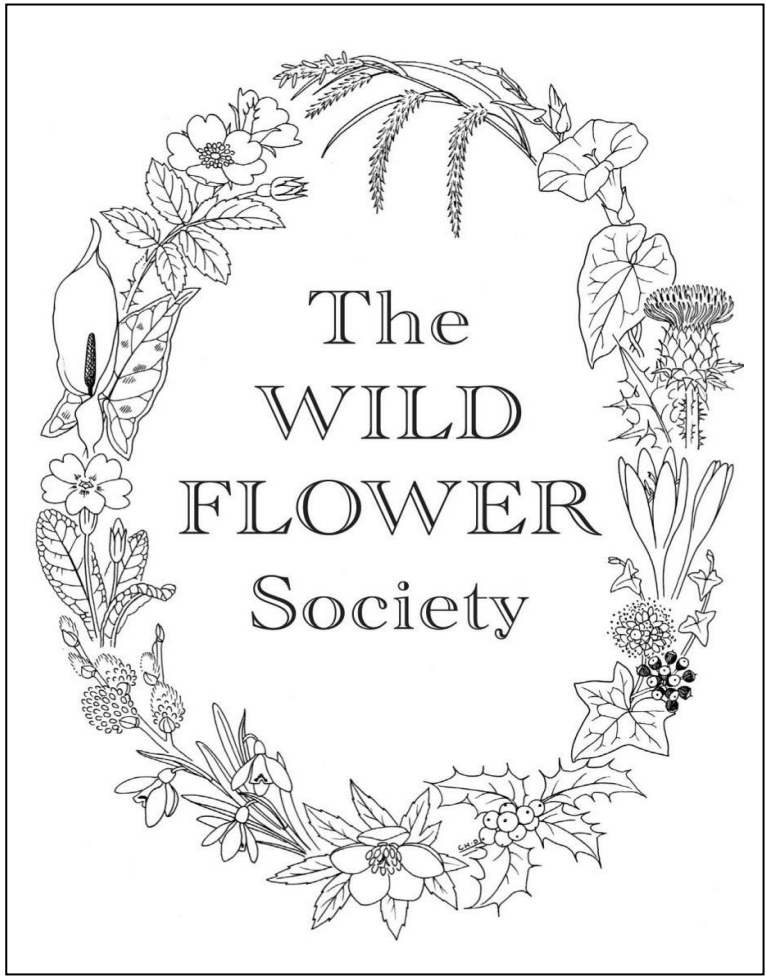
AIMS & RULES



2026

1. The name of the society is The Wild Flower Society (hereinafter referred to as "the Society").

2. The aims of the Society are:
   a) to promote a greater knowledge of field botany among the general public and in particular among young people;
   b) to advance education in matters relating to the conservation of wild flowers and of the countryside;
   c) to promote the conservation of the British flora.

3. a) Membership shall be open to all who support the aims of the Society, on payment of the first subscription.
   b) Junior membership for those under 18 on 1 January, and group membership, shall be available at a reduced subscription.
   c) Any publications the Society may produce shall be available on payment to non-members; and guests shall be welcome at field meetings on the same conditions as members.

4. The Executive Committee (see Rule 6) reserves the right to refuse membership of the Society.

5. If it is proved to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee that a member has acted in anyway contrary to the objects of the Society, the Executive Committee shall make a report to the next General Meeting. On a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members present at such a meeting, the member in question shall be expelled, ceasing to have further claim on the Society unless reinstated..

6. The management of affairs of the Society shall be in the hands of an Executive Committee consisting of:
   a) the officers of the Society other than the President (see Rule 7) and
   b) four other members elected according to the provisions of Rule 8.
   The function of the Committee shall be to carry out the general policy of the Society and to provide for its administration between General Meetings, including the making of any necessary appointments.

7. The Officers of the Society shall be the President, Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Meetings Secretary, Publicity Secretary, Website Manager and Grants Secretary. All these posts are honorary; the holders shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and maybe re-elected. Nominations for election of officers, signed by two members of the Society and with the written consent of the nominee to serve in the office to which nominated, shall reach the General Secretary not less than two weeks before the Annual General Meeting. Re-election of existing officers may be proposed without advance nomination at the Annual General Meeting.

8. The Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected, by ballot when necessary, at Annual General Meetings. They shall be elected to serve for an initial term of four years. After the end of that initial term, they shall be eligible for re-election each year for a further term of one year. Nominations for vacancies among the Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee, signed by two members of the Society and with the written consent of the nominee to serve, shall reach the General Secretary not less than two weeks before the Annual General Meeting. If insufficient nominations are received the Executive Committee shall make the necessary nominations.

9. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint a member fo fill any vacancy among the Officers that may arise.
   Any vacancy among the Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee; any member appointed to fill such a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired residue of the term of office of the vacating member, subject to confirmation by the members of the Society at the next Annual General Meeting.

10. The General Secretary shall be required to call a meeting of the Executive Committee at least once a year, and exceptionally at the written request of the President or Chairman, or of not fewer than three members of the Executive Committee. Not less than twenty-one days' notice shall be given of such a meeting. A quorum at any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be four members. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held in person, online, by telephone or on a hybrid basis.

11. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in each calendar year. At least twenty-one days' notice shall be given to members, with an agenda approved by the Executive Committee.

12. Extraordinary General Meetings shall be called by the General Secretary if the Executive Committee so directs, or on the written request of not fewer than six members of the Society. At least twenty-one days' notice shall be given to members, with an agenda indicating the purpose for which the meeting is being called.

13. A quorum at any General Meeting shall be thirty members.

14. At all General or Executive Committee Meetings, the Chair shall be taken by the President or the Chairman. In the absence of both, the Chair shall be taken by a member of the Executive Committee elected at the meeting.

15. Voting at General Meetings shall be by a show of hands except when, on the ruling of the member taking the Chair or on the demand of not fewer than five members present, a ballot shall be taken. When there is an equality of votes, the member taking the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

16. The annual subscriptions shall be amounts recommended by the Treasurer, supported by the Executive Committee and approved by members at a General Meeting. Subscriptions shall be payable on 1 January each year, but the subscription of a member joining the Society on or after 1 October shall cover membership for the following calendar year.

17. Any member whose subscription is in arrears for four months shall cease to be a member of the Society.

18. The annual subscription entitles each member or membership group of the Society:
    a) to receive one copy of each issue of the Wild Flower Magazine for that year;
    b) belong to one or more branches of the Society without additional payment;
    c) to attend and vote at General Meetings of the Society, with the proviso that junior members may not vote;

d) to attend and to invite guests to attend field meetings, subject to any conditions set out in the Regulations of the Society which are appended to these Rules.

19. For the furtherance of its objects, the Society shall be organised on the basis of branches controlled by the Executive Committee which, on the recommendation of the General Secretary, shall appoint an honorary secretary for each branch.
The activities of the Society shall be conducted according to the Regulations which maybe amended by a General Meeting of the Society, provided that such amendments shall not be inconsistent with the objects of the Society.

20. The Society's funds shall be administered by the Treasurer on the general direction of the Executive Committee which shall have power to adopt such financial measures as may seem expedient in the interests of the Society and in the furtherance of its aims.
Cheques on the Society's accounts shall be signed by two of the three Officers designated by the Executive Committee.

21. An Independent Examiner shall be appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting. The accounts for the ensuing year as approved by the Executive Committee, together with the Independent Examiner's report thereon, shall be circulated to members with the notice of the next Annual General Meeting and presented to the meeting for adoption. The financial year shall end on 31 December.

22. No addition or amendment to these Aims & Rules shall be made except at a General Meeting. Any proposal to amend them shall reach the General Secretary at least two calendar months before the date of the Meeting and the General Secretary shall give at least twenty-one days' notice of the proposal to all members. At the General Meeting, the proposal shall fail unless approved by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

23. No amendments shall be made which will cause the Society to cease to be a charity at law.

24. Should an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting resolve on the dissolution of the Society, for which a two-thirds majority of members present and voting shall be necessary, any funds remaining after payment of all liabilities shall be given to charities having similar aims and objects to those of the Society.