

**RULES OF THE
KIDLINGTON FRIENDLY
SOCIETY, IN THE
COUNTY OF OXFORD**

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Rules of the Kidlington Friendly Society, in the county of Oxford by Various

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VARIOUS

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OF THE

KIDLINGTON

FRIENDLY SOCIETY,

IN THE COUNTY OF OXFORD.

ESTABLISHED JULY 5, 1839.

OXFORD,
PRINTED BY W. BAXTER.

1839.



RULES.

I. CONSTITUTION.

The Object and Extent.

1. THIS Society, called "The Kidlington Friendly Society," formed and established upon a plan of mutual assurance, has for its object the raising of a Fund by means of the joint contributions of its Members, for the mutual relief of each other, their wives, or children, or other relations, in sickness, infancy, advanced age, widowhood, and death. Any person residing in the parish of Kidlington or its neighbourhood, may, at the discretion of the Directors, be admitted a Member of this Institution, if of an age to be found in the Tables respectively, and otherwise qualified and eligible.

Membership.

2. The Society shall consist of "Honorary Members" and "Benefit Members." Each of the male Members shall have one vote at all its General Meetings. Honorary Members to be those who contribute to the Funds of the Society not less than £5. by Donation; or 10s. per annum by voluntary Subscription; or £1. by Donation, together with 5s. annual Subscription. Ladies may be admitted Honorary Members upon the payment of one half of these amounts respectively. No Honorary Member shall derive any emolument, benefit, or advantage, directly or indirectly, from the funds of this Institution. Benefit Members to be contributors for benefits. The word "Member" when used in these Rules shall apply to Benefit Members; and wherever the word importing the singular number or the masculine gender only is used, the same shall be understood to include several persons or parties, as well as one person or party, and females as well as males, unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

Married Women. Minors.

3. Married women are not allowed to become Members without the consent of their husbands, such consent to be given to the Committee in writing, and to be attested by the Clerk; or they must sign a clause in the declaration to be made by their wives to that effect, to be attested by the Clerk. If a female Member marry a man who is a Member, he from that time represents her, and is answerable for her payments:

if he is not a Member, he must give his consent (in a similar way) to her continuing such. A Minor shall not be admitted into the Society, except with the consent of his Parents, or Master, or Guardians, which consent shall be given to the Committee in writing: he shall have no vote until ten years of age, except in the cases of altering the present Rules or dissolving the Society.

Management.

4. The Society shall be under the entire control and management of a Committee of Directors, consisting of a President, a Vice-President, four Trustees, a Treasurer, a Secretary, two Wardens, a Father, and four Stewards; and to them shall be delegated all the powers given in the management and conduct of Friendly Societies by the Acts 10th Geo. IV. cap. 56, and 4th and 5th William IV. cap. 40, and for all the purposes of the same. They shall meet on the first Monday in every calendar month for the transaction of business, when four shall form a quorum.

Regulation of Meetings.

5. Every question, whether in Committee or at any Ordinary or General Meeting, so far as lawfully may be, shall be decided by the majority of votes: the Chairman shall be chosen according to seniority, and shall have a casting vote. The Directors may adjourn themselves to meet at such time as the major part of them present at any Meeting shall appoint; but no proceedings or transactions shall be valid or have force, unless entered together with the names of the Directors present in a book to be kept for this purpose, and signed by the Chairman of the Meeting. In case four Directors shall not attend, the Secretary shall have power to adjourn the Meeting to some convenient day; which adjournment, being entered in the book of proceedings, shall be deemed a sufficient continuance of such Meeting.

Election of Officers.

6. The President shall always be the Vicar of the parish of Kidlington for the time being, and shall have a Veto upon all the acts of the Society within six weeks of the date of the same. The four Trustees shall be appointed for life from and by the Honorary Members, with liberty to resign their Trusteeship at any time, by giving three months' notice thereof to the Committee. The Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary, shall be elected annually from and by the Honorary Members; the two Wardens shall be elected annually from among the Honorary Members by the Benefit Members; the

Father and the four Stewards shall be elected annually from and by the male Benefit Members: such Elections by the Benefit Members to be made at the monthly Meeting in May, or in failure thereof, the Officers last chosen shall be considered as again appointed, and as such shall continue in office. When any vacancy in any of the above offices shall arise during the year, the Directors shall have it in their power to fill up the same in such manner as they think proper, until the said monthly Meeting in May. All the old Officers shall continue in authority until the monthly Meeting in July, when they shall deliver up their respective offices to their successors.

Honorary Physician and Surgeon. Medical Attendance.

7. One Honorary Physician, or more, shall be nominated, if such can be found willing to give advice gratuitously to such Members of the Society as may be recommended in writing by the Committee. The Honorary Surgeon shall always be chosen by the Directors, and if an Honorary Subscriber, shall have a vote at their Board. The Committee are also empowered at any time, as they think fit, to engage, or discontinue their engagement with one or more of the Medical Gentlemen in the neighbourhood, to visit all Members claiming the allowance in sickness. They may assign him such an annual salary out of the Honorary Fund, but out of no other, as bears a reasonable proportion to the existing number of Members, and is sufficient to meet the entire expense of Attendance, Medicines, &c. Every Member having a just claim for benefit in sickness shall be entitled to the Attendance, Advice, and Medicines, of the Surgeon appointed for the district or place, (when any such is appointed,) free of all charge. The Surgeon shall attend the Sick Member when he is incapable of attending upon him, but when it is practicable, the Sick Member shall attend upon the Surgeon. No Member shall be entitled to the attendance of the Surgeon without an order from the Clerk.

Increase of Stewards. Local Agents.

8. The Honorary Members shall have it in their power at any time and at all times to increase the number of Stewards, if the affairs of the Society seem to require it; such increase, and the regulations concerning it, to be made at a special Meeting appointed for that purpose, and the Stewards to be chosen from and by the Benefit Members. Local, gratuitous, and stipendiary Agents may be appointed in such manner and in such places or districts, as the Directors (not less than eight being present) shall think fit. Every such Agent shall strictly conform to the regulations prescribed by the Board; shall

pay such sums. as the Members may severally be entitled to claim; and shall receive the monthly contributions and the fines due to the Society, as well as all other monies payable to the same, within the district for which they may have been appointed.

Monthly Meetings, &c.

9. The Monthly, Annual, and all other Meetings, shall take place in the National School-rooms, with the Vicar's permission, or in such other place within the limits of the parish as he shall appoint. The Monthly Meetings shall be held on the first Monday in every calendar month, from 6 o'clock in the evening to 8 o'clock during the two winter-quarters, and from 7 to 9 o'clock during the two summer-quarters. Whatever injury may be done to the said School-rooms, or other buildings or grounds therewith in any way connected, and whatsoever expense may be incurred in consequence thereof, or by reason of the Society's Meetings being held therein, shall be made good and defrayed out of the Society's funds.

General Meeting of the Honorary Members. Auditors.

10. A general Meeting of all the Honorary Members shall be held on the first Thursday in May, at the usual time and place, when the report of the Committee for the current year shall be received, and the Auditors appointed. At this Meeting all the Honorary Officers shall be elected, whom it pertains to the Honorary Members to elect; or in failure thereof, the Officers last chosen shall be considered as again appointed, and as such shall continue in office.

Special General Meeting of Directors and Honorary Members.

11. A special General Meeting of the Directors and Honorary Members may be convened on any emergency, by the direction of the President, or of any ten Honorary Members signified in writing to the Secretary, and stating the purposes for which such special General Meeting is required; of which convenient notice shall be given to every Director and Honorary Member. The Directors and Honorary Members present at any such Meeting shall and may respectively transact any business of which notice shall have been given; but no other business than what shall have been specified in such notice shall then be taken into consideration. So assembled, they shall have full power to displace any of the Officers, excepting the President, and at once to fill up the vacancy in such manner as to them may seem expedient for the advantage of this Institution.

Anniversary Meeting. Report.

12. An Anniversary Meeting of all the Members may be held in Kidlington on the first Thursday in June, under such regulations as the General Meeting of the Honorary Members shall deem convenient. But the attendance of the Members at any such Meeting shall be voluntary; and the funds of the Institution shall not sustain any portion of the expenses incurred on such an occasion. At this Meeting may be read the Report drawn up by the Committee, signed by the two Auditors, and countersigned by the Treasurer, setting forth the state of the funds and the general prospects of the Society. This Report shall be afterwards printed, and every Member shall receive a copy of the same, for which he shall pay a sum not exceeding two pence.

Securities.

13. Any Officer of the Society, or any person appointed to any office, in any wise touching or concerning the receipt, management, or expenditure, of any sum of money collected for the purposes of this Institution, shall (if required by the Committee) become bound in a bond for the just and faithful execution of his office and trust, according to the Act 10th Geo. IV. cap. 56.

Limitation of Responsibility.

14. No Officer of this Society shall be liable to make good any deficiency which may arise in the funds thereof, unless he shall have declared, by writing under his hand, deposited and registered in like manner with the Rules of this Society, that he is willing so to be answerable; and it shall be lawful for each Officer, or for all the Officers collectively, to limit his or their responsibility, to such sum as shall be specified in any such instrument or writing: Provided always, that every Officer of this Institution shall be personally responsible and liable for all monies actually received by him on account of, or to and for the use of, this Society.

Documents of the Society.

15. The Account Books and all the other documents of the Society shall be kept in a fire-proof box with two locks; one key to be in the possession of the Senior Warden, and the other in that of the Senior Steward: the box itself is always to remain in the Club room. The Accounts shall be open for the inspection of the Members upon every monthly Meeting.