

# **FRIERN BARNET AND WHETSTONE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

## **NOTE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ASSOCIATION RULES AND CONSTITUTION**

The Committee has decided to propose some changes to the FBWRA rules and constitution (the "rules"). This has been prompted by the experience during the pandemic when we had to move to online meetings for which the rules, which date back to the 1950's/60's, made no provision. We decided that we should give the rules a general update whilst avoiding unnecessary changes.

Attached is a copy of the complete updated version of the rules incorporating the proposed changes. The main changes can be summarised as follows (numbered references to rules are references to the numbers in the draft of the proposed revised rules) -

1. Removing a condition that the Association should be "non- sectarian" because this dates back to when society was very different from now and the need for it has been removed by general anti-discrimination legislation and also a purpose (seeking an equitable assessment of property) which seems obsolete (Rules 2.1 and 3).
2. Providing that a subscription applies to all adult members of a household at the same address and who wish to be members, rather than to husband and wife (Rule 5.1).
3. Introducing a provision that membership lapses if the subscription is not paid for 3 months after the due date (Rule 5.3).
4. Providing that as well as a President we can have 2 Vice-Presidents and clarifying their role (Rule 10).
5. Expressly providing for online meetings (Rule 11.3).
6. Adding more detail about our financial arrangements – expenses and the application of our funds and also including a restriction to make it clear we cannot distribute surplus funds to members ( Rules 13.2 and 13.3)
7. Adding provisions about how notices of meetings are to be given and related arrangements (Rule 14).
8. Adding provisions for the winding-up of the Association (not that we are planning this!), including a dissolution procedure and setting out arrangements to be made for our records and remaining funds (which would be distributed to other organisations with similar objects to ours whose activities concern all or part of the London Borough of Barnet or a neighbouring local authority (Rule 15).
9. Re-ordering the various rules so that they follow a more logical sequence than at present.

The above note does not form part of the proposed Rules and Constitution.

21<sup>st</sup> March 2024