Constitution of the Scottish Text Society

1. The name of the Society is The Scottish Text Society.

2. The purpose of the Society is to further the study and teaching of Scottish literature, its language and history, in particular by publishing editions of original texts including those in Scots, English and Latin, reprinting works of sufficient rarity and importance, and making material available in non-print media.

3. Membership of the Society is constituted by payment of the annual subscription. Each member who has paid a subscription for a particular year is entitled to receive one copy of any volume in the Society's main publications series issued in that year.

4. The affairs of the Society are managed by a Council, consisting of the President, not more than four Vice-Presidents, up to four Executive Officers, whose responsibilities will be defined according to the current needs of the Society, as determined by Council, and no fewer than six and no more than twelve Ordinary members; in addition to Ordinary members, there may be one or two Early Career Council members.. Honorary Presidents appointed under Clause 7 below may also attend and vote at Council meetings. Subject to Clause 5 below, the Council has power to co-opt persons as office-bearers and Ordinary members. The President takes the chair and determines the procedure to be followed by Council, including, where necessary, the form of voting and whether a casting vote is to be used. In the absence of the President, the senior Vice-President takes the chair, whom failing the meeting appoints one of its number for the purpose. The Council may form sub-committees for such purposes as it shall determine, and may formulate such rules for the conduct of its business as it determines.

5. Administration of subscriptions and membership may be performed by persons appointed by and accountable to the Council. The period of office and the remuneration, if any, of such persons is fixed at a meeting of the Council at the time of appointment, but may be varied at subsequent meetings of the Council. Persons so appointed cannot be also a member of Council during their period of office, but will normally be invited to attend Council meetings.

6. A General Meeting of the Society, convened by the President, is held annually at a time, date and place notified to the membership at least fourteen days in advance, together with a statement of the business to be transacted at the Meeting. At the meeting externally scrutinised accounts including statements about the Society's membership and publications in the previous year are presented for approval, and office-bearers and other members of Council are elected. Office-bearers and members of Council are elected for three years and may be re-elected at the end of that term. Should an office or other position on the Council fall vacant for any reason between General Meetings, the Council may co-opt replacements until the next General Meeting, when an election takes place to fill the vacancy.

7. Members of the Society may also, by election at an Annual General Meeting, appoint for life an Honorary President. There may be one or more Honorary Presidents at any time, all of whom may attend and vote at meetings of Council.

8. The rates of annual subscriptions for (a) individual members of the Society and (b) institutions, is determined by the Council. Members whose subscriptions are in arrears do not receive the Society's publications issued during those years in respect of which their subscriptions are in arrears until such arrears are made up.

9. Council may appoint an editorial committee to make recommendations to Council on the selection, editing and progress of works for publication by the Society. The Committee's

membership will be drawn primarily from serving members of Council, although should particular expertise be required, Council may appoint non-members of Council to this Committee. Should the Committee meet separately from Council, it will be chaired by the President, and one of the Executive Officers will act as secretary to the Committee. The Committee will have a requirement of report to and homologation by Council.

10. A sole editor of a publication may claim up to six free copies of that publication; joint editors may receive up to three copies each.

11. The terms of this Constitution may be altered only by a majority consisting of two-thirds of those present at an Annual General Meeting.

2 May 2025