

The Arts Society Stafford 24th AGM, Tuesday 17th November 2026
Agenda Item 3 - Proposed amendments to the Constitution

As noted in the Chair's reports to previous AGMs, several Arts Societies have struggled to fill vacancies on committees, with some even closing altogether. At this AGM here in Stafford we are fortunate to have a number of members putting themselves forward for the committee which is a very welcome development.

Your committee have considered this issue and looked at our current constitution with a view to making some minor amendments which would bring added flexibility should TASS find itself in a difficult position in the future in terms of recruitment.

The following extracts from the constitution show *the relevant sections as they stand in italics* and - **in bold** - the proposed amendments and additions.

5 The Officers

(a) The Officers of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary, all of whom shall be nominated annually by the Committee for election at the Annual General Meeting. *Neither the Chairman nor the Vice Chairman may hold office in such post for more than three consecutive years. The Treasurer and the Secretary shall not normally hold office for more than three years but the Committee may extend this up to a maximum of five years to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities.*

Proposed Amendment

5 The Officers

(a) The Officers of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary, all of whom shall be nominated annually by the Committee for election at the Annual General Meeting. ***Neither the Chairman nor the Vice Chairman may hold office in such post for more than three consecutive years but the Committee may extend this up to a maximum of five years to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities. The Treasurer and the Secretary shall not normally hold office for more than four years but the Committee may extend this up to a maximum of six years to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities.***

6 Committee

6 (d) No Committee Member may serve for more than three years, unless elected from the Committee to be an Officer when they may serve a maximum of three years in each post, with the possibility of extension as provided for in Rule 5 (a).

Proposed Amendment

6 (d) No Committee Member may serve for more than three years **but the Committee may extend this up to a maximum of five years to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities**, unless elected from the Committee to be an Officer when they may serve a maximum of three years in each post, with the possibility of extension as provided for in Rule 6(e)

6(e)

Members of the Steering Committee forming the Society may serve an additional year.

To be replaced with -

Proposed Amendment

6(e)

To keep TASS running the committee may extend the maximum number of years an officer or committee member may serve beyond the five years listed. This can happen yearly with the acceptance of the members at the relevant AGM.

6(g) The Committee may co-opt up to four additional Members to the Committee. Co-opted Members shall have the right to attend and speak at Meetings of the Committee but not have the right to vote. Co-opted Members shall be appointed for a specific period not exceeding two years

Proposed Amendment

6(g) The Committee may co-opt up to four additional Members to the Committee. Co-opted Members shall have the right to attend and speak at Meetings of the Committee but not have the right to vote. Co-opted Members shall be appointed for a specific period not exceeding two years ***but the Committee may extend this up to a maximum of five years to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities***