**The Ashfield Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers**

Constitution – Revised April 2012

1. The Guild shall be called the Ashfield Guild of Spinners, Weavers & Dyers.
2. The objects of the Guild are the preservation and improvement of craftsmanship in hand weaving, spinning and dyeing, for the benefit of the community and the promotion of community awareness and education in such craftsmanship.
3. Membership of the Guild is open to all persons who support its objective.
4. The membership year commences in January. All annual subscriptions shall be payable during the month of January.
5. Membership of the Guild is dependent on a member giving their address and contact details. These details shall be held by the secretary and, subject to each member’s permission, shall be available to all members.
6. A new member shall pay to the Honorary Treasurer a proportionate part of the annual subscription (if any) for the current year having regard to the number of complete months remaining in that year.
7. There shall be a charge per meeting as fixed by the committee. Visitors aren’t charged for their first meeting, but after that are charged the same rate as members. On their third visit they are required to pay the membership fee. If visitors wish to attend day long workshops, they will be charged on an ad hoc basis.
8. The Annual General Meeting of the Guild shall be held once every calendar year in March. Should a new chairperson be elected, he/she shall take over for the remainder of that AGM.
9. Notice of the Annual General Meeting & any Special General Meeting shall be made at the regular meetings of the Guild.
10. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and two committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
11. Candidates for election to the committee must be proposed and seconded by two paid up members of the Guild and the names should preferably be sent to the Secretary before the Annual General Meeting, although nominations may be accepted at this meeting.
12. The committee will meet twice a year, in October to ratify the following year’s programme, and in February before the AGM. Minutes shall be kept and shall be available for inspection by any member applying to the Secretary and giving reasonable prior notice.
13. The Committee shall call extra meetings as it deems necessary and a quorum shall be four plus the chairperson.
14. All members shall be eligible to vote at any meeting.
15. The Financial year of the Guild shall end on the 31st December in each year, to which day the accounts shall be balanced.
16. The Treasurer shall present a Balance Sheet to all members at the AGM and the accounts shall be available for inspection at any time by any member applying to the Treasurer and giving reasonable prior notice.
17. Subject to the discretion of the committee, the Treasurer may reimburse members for costs incurred carrying out the objectives of the guild.
18. Equipment is available for members to hire, for which there is a charge.
19. Members are expected to support each other and the objectives of the Guild. Any member whose actions cause disruption to meetings or offense to other members shall be warned about their behaviour by the committee. If the issue is not resolved, renewal of their membership may be refused at the discretion of the committee.
20. The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of this Constitution and the decision of the Committee upon any questions or interpretation upon any matter affecting the Guild and not provided by this Constitution shall be final & binding on all members.
21. This Constitution may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have passed unless it is carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members voting thereon.
22. If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Guild shall be passed by a majority of the members and at a Special General Meeting held not less than six weeks thereafter that resolution shall be confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members voting thereon, the Committee shall there upon, or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Guild and after discharge of all liabilities shall divide the same equally among the members, and upon the completion of such division the Guild shall be dissolved.