

## THE COMPUTER CONSERVATION SOCIETY (“CCS”) NOTE ON CCS CONSTITUTION

The Constitution was last updated in 2009. It is now updated for the following reasons, while the substantive provisions remain the same, except as mentioned below:

1. The Schedules to the 2009 Constitution listed Groups, Officers, Museums etc. as at the date the Constitution was updated. These have been removed, as such details are amended from time to time, and should not form part of the content of a Constitution.
2. The wording has been updated, principally for accuracy on how we operate or for clarification, or where something should be included in the interests of modern good practice.

### 3. **1 - Objects**

The first Object of the CCS is modified, in the interests of accuracy, as follows:

“To promote the conservation, **restoration and reconstruction** of historic ~~computers~~ **computing systems** and to identify existing ~~computers~~ computing systems which may need to be archived in the future;”

and subsequent Objects are modified where necessary to accept this wording.

### 4. **2 - Status**

Our association with the British Computer Society, the Science Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester, and The National Museum of Computing (MSI), has not changed. Currently in practice, because MSI is part of the Science Museum Group, the representative to the Committee represents both.

The previous Constitution referred to the Codes and Ciphers Heritage Trust, which is now replaced by The National Museum of Computing and Bletchley Park Trust.

Our relationship with BCS continues as ever, as a Specialist Group, and accordingly we are bound by BCS Regulations to the extent that they affect Specialist Groups and their members.

### 5. **3 - Membership**

There is a simple criterion for membership: for individual members that they should be interested, and for corporate members that they should be sympathetic, to the Objects of the CCS.

Theoretically, it is appropriate that if any member was acting detrimentally to CCS interests there should be a mechanism for their removal, and therefore a provision allows for potential determination of an individual membership in such event, with procedural safeguards.

### 6. **5 - Committee**

- Committee membership has been brought up to date, to include: associate representatives *ex officio*; leaders of Projects *ex officio*; leaders of other Groups *ex-officio* may be, if agreed; the Chair and Secretary of Regional Groups *ex-officio* (there is one Regional Group currently, the North West); these *ex officio* appointments are ratified at each AGM.
- Committee members may be co-opted, normally but not necessarily for particular roles. Such members may be co-opted by the Committee until the next AGM, when they retire and may be elected at the AGM for the following year, and be

eligible for re-election. The potential number is increased from six to ten, but it is not necessary to have the maximum number.

- Rules on North West Regional Committee procedure were enshrined in one of the Schedules that has been removed, as they do not need to be at Constitution level.

## **7. 6. Committee Management and Procedure**

The only changes (voting procedure has been moved to section 10 to cover voting at both business and Committee meetings) are:

- if the Chair is absent, another Officer takes the chair, but if there is conflict, it will be by majority vote of those present
- a Committee member is required to declare any conflict of interest contrary to the interests of the CCS (such as a significant financial interest), which might influence such member's decision making, and withdraw from any discussion or vote.

## **8. 7. Projects**

Projects are about conservation, restoration or reconstruction, and are established and overseen by the Committee, on reasonable terms. Project leaders are required to comply with any Project guidelines and other reasonable rules of which they are advised by the Committee.

## **9. 8. Groups other than Projects**

Projects are differentiated from any other kind of group the Committee may wish to set up, including any Regional Group, awards group, working parties for conferences etc. They may be long term or short term. Group leaders do not automatically become *ex-officio* members of the Committee, but may be, depending on Committee decision.

## **10. 9. Business Meetings**

No substantive change to the procedures for AGMs and EGMs except:

- Making clear the ratification/election of the Committee and other AGM business;
- Notice of meetings will be by email and the CCS website, at least 14 days beforehand, not via *Resurrection*, as it may not be published in time;
- A few formalities to make the procedure clear: for example, if the Chair is absent, another Officer takes the chair, but if there is conflict, it will be by majority vote of those present.

## **11. 10. Voting**

Clarification of wording on the voting majority at business meetings or Committee meetings, and that only BCS members may vote on matters relating to BCS.