

Constitution of the British Polymer Clay Guild

1. The Name of the organisation will be the British Polymer Clay Guild (BPCG)
2. The BPCG is a non-profit organisation we are not allied with any commercial organisation; however, we will not discriminate against members who make a profit from their work with this medium.
3. Membership of the BPCG is open to anyone who is interested in Polymer Clay, professionally or as a hobbyist.
4. The aims of the BPCG are:
 - To enable members to learn new skills and share existing knowledge
 - To raise awareness of the BPCG and polymer clay as an art medium
 - Make the Guild accessible to everyone including those who may be isolated be to location, disability or other personal circumstances
 - Promote the BPCG through all forms of available media including traditional, contemporary and as yet unknown methods of mass communication
 - To encourage excellence in the medium of polymer clay
 - To popularise the use of polymer clay through workshops and exhibitions throughout the UK
 - To share information, developments and ideas about polymer clay as a craft medium
5. The BPCG is run by a Committee consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and at least 3 other members. The Officers are appointed by the Committee and other posts may be established as the need arises. The continued office of the Committee members and / or that of any newly appointed members will be ratified by a vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). If any Committee member wishes to resign a replacement may be chosen by the remaining Committee members. The Vice-President will automatically take on the role and responsibilities of the President if the need arises. New Committee members may be invited to join at any time at the discretion of the Committee members.
6. The Committee will hold a minimum of 2 meetings per year, either physically in person or remote via other means. One of these meetings may be on the same day as the AGM. When matters are decided by a vote a minimum of 5 Committee members are required.
7. An AGM will be held bi-annually and will be open to all members. Notice will be given through the newsletter. When matters are decided by a vote at the AGM a majority of two thirds is required to pass a motion. Votes may be cast by members present at the AGM or by proxy for absentees.
8. Minutes will be taken at all meetings and will be posted to the members section of the BPCG website.
9. Members will pay an annual subscription. The annual rate may change as the need arises and any increase will be voted on at the AGM. Membership currently runs from the first day of March to the last day of February. Any new members joining part way through the year will pay pro-rata for the remaining months.
10. All BPCG funds will be held at a bank as agreed by the Committee members. If the Guild is wound up at any time any surplus funds will be transferred to an allied organisation to be nominated by the Committee at the time.
11. The Treasurer will provide a financial report at each Committee meeting and a full written statement will be provided at the AGM.
12. The accounts will be audited once a year.
13. Any proposed changes to the constitution will be ratified by vote at the AGM.