

When Look! St Albans Constitution was first drawn up it was recognised that some exposure to the real world would probably result in modifications being required. The officers have been working on this and a number of changes are proposed, with a view to 1) avoiding confusions, 2) enabling work to progress, 3) avoiding unnecessary work and 4) promoting good governance.

The detailed proposed changes and explanations are attached, but I give below a brief overview of the main changes proposed:

- Look! St Albans is not a membership body, being open to anyone without any specific ‘joining’ process, and the word member in the Constitution is used with two different meanings. It is suggested therefore that the word supporter better describes those who participate in some way, and that the word member should be reserved for the representative group to avoid confusion; b) the words ‘independently externally’ have been added to clarify that facilitators of charrettes must not be aligned to any participant in the process.
- It has proved difficult to always have sufficient numbers at Representative Group meetings and AGMs and it is therefore proposed to change the quorum number for Representatives Group (currently 16) to one third of Group members (from a half) and the number of attendees at an AGM to 20 (from 30) including one third (rather than half) of representative Group members; b) a provision is proposed to enable individuals to be co-opted onto the Representatives Group between AGMs – both enable work to progress.
- Because there will inevitably be periods of little activity it is further proposed that the minimum number of representative Group meetings per annum be reduced from four to two, although there will be more when necessary and also informal meetings to stay in touch – this avoids unnecessary formal meetings and minutes.
- A provision is added that amendments to the constitution or dissolution should require a two thirds majority (rather than a simple majority which applies for votes on other issues); b) a modification to the requirement for two cheque signatories requiring that these two must not be related or members of the same household – these are normal good governance modifications.

I hope you will consider these proposals and give them your support.