

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

(Instituted 3 February 1876)

BYE-LAWS¹

1. The object of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, with which the Crystallogical Society was amalgamated on 11 December 1883, shall be to advance the knowledge of Mineralogy and also of Crystallography and Petrology.
2. The Society shall consist of Ordinary Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members.

ORDINARY AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

3. Every candidate for Ordinary Membership shall be proposed by two Members, one at least of whom shall have personal knowledge of the candidate.

Every candidate for Associate Membership shall be proposed by one Ordinary Member.

4. Elections to Ordinary Membership shall be made by the Council, and shall be confirmed at the ensuing General Meeting by a majority consisting of three-fourths of the Members present and voting.

Elections to Associate Membership shall be made by the Council. Associate Members may be elected for one period of three years only.

5. Ordinary Members shall pay an entrance fee of £1 and an annual subscription of £6, entitling them to *Mineralogical Magazine*, *Mineralogical Abstracts*, and *Clay Minerals* (other than special volumes), and the *Mineralogical Society Bulletin*. Members elected before they reach the age of 23 shall be exempt from an entrance fee and need pay only £2 (entitling them to *Mineralogical Magazine*, *Mineralogical Abstracts*, and *Clay Minerals*, other than special volumes, and the *Mineralogical Society Bulletin*) for each of their first two annual subscriptions. Members shall be entitled to compound for the annual subscription by a single payment, provided always that no Member shall be entitled to compound who is in arrear with his subscription for the preceding calendar year. The maximum composition fee shall be decided by Council. Members of some years' standing may compound for a reduced fee, details of which are available on application to the Treasurer. Members who have paid forty annual subscriptions, excluding any paid at a reduced rate, are exempt from further annual subscriptions.

Associate Members shall pay an annual subscription of £2 entitling them to the *Mineralogical Society Bulletin*. On being elected to Ordinary Membership in accordance with Bye-Laws 3, 4, and 5, Associate Members shall be exempted from payment of the entrance fee. Associate Members shall not be entitled to vote on any question relating to the management or business of the Society, nor to serve on the Council of the Society, nor to fill any Office in the Society.

6. Annual subscriptions shall be due on the first of January each year, but Members elected after the first of October shall not be required to pay a subscription for the then current year.

7. No person elected a Member of the Society shall be entitled to any of the privileges of Membership until he shall have paid his entrance fee (except for Ordinary Members elected before the age of 23 and Associate Members) and first annual subscription; and unless these be received within four calendar months of the date of his election, or within such further time as the Council may determine, the election of such person shall be void.

8. At the first Meeting of the Council in each calendar year the name of any Member who is in default with his annual subscription for the preceding year shall be brought before the Council, and an intimation that this action has been taken shall be communicated to the Member in writing at his last known address. If at the next Council Meeting the Member be still in default, the Council shall be empowered to erase his name from the list of Members.

¹ Revised at the Anniversary Meeting of 3 November 1931, and further amended on 7 March 1940, 22 January 1948, 24 June 1948, 1 November 1951, 3 November 1955, 6 November 1958, 5 November 1964, 4 November 1965, 9 June 1966, 3 November 1966, 2 November 1967, 6 June 1968, 6 November 1969.

HONORARY MEMBERS

9. Twelve persons, non-resident in Great Britain or Ireland, may be elected Honorary Members. They shall pay neither entrance fee nor annual subscription. They shall not be entitled to vote on any question relating to the management or business of the Society, nor to serve on the Council of the Society, nor to fill any Office in the Society, but subject to these restrictions shall be entitled to every other privilege accorded to Ordinary Members.

10. Every candidate for Honorary Membership shall be proposed by two Members of the Council, and the election shall be by the Council, and shall be confirmed at the ensuing General Meeting by a majority of three-fourths of the Members present and voting.

COUNCIL

11. The Society shall be governed by a Council consisting of a President, a General Secretary, a Treasurer, the Editors of *Mineralogical Magazine*, and *Mineralogical Abstracts*, the Publications Manager, the Chairmen of the Clay Minerals Group, the Geochemistry Group, and the Applied Mineralogy Group, and twelve Ordinary Members, each of whom shall be elected annually.¹ The President shall nominate two Vice-Presidents from the elected Council Members.

12. The President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Publications Manager, and the Editors of the *Magazine* and *Abstracts* shall be deemed the Officers of the Society.

13. A Managing Trustee shall not be precluded by reason of his appointment as such from being an Officer or Vice-President of the Society.

14. The Officers and Ordinary Members of Council shall be elected annually at the Anniversary Meeting, which shall be held in January each year or as near thereto as may be convenient. The maximum term of office of the President and the Vice-Presidents shall be two consecutive years, of the General Secretary, Treasurer, and Publications Manager six consecutive years, and of Ordinary Members of Council three consecutive years.

15. Four Ordinary Members of Council shall retire annually at the Anniversary Meeting, and shall not be eligible for re-election as such until the next Anniversary Meeting.

16. At or before the end of June in each year the Council shall prepare a list of Members nominated by the Council as Officers and as Ordinary Members of Council for the next ensuing year.

17. The list of Members nominated by the Council in accordance with the preceding Bye-Law shall be sent by the General Secretary to every Member of the Society at his last known address not later than the next ensuing 30 September.

18. Additional nominations may be made by Ordinary Members of the Society, not being Members of Council, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) All such nominations must be received by the General Secretary not later than the next ensuing 1 November, and no nomination received after that date shall be valid.
- (b) Every Candidate, whether proposed as an Officer or Ordinary Member of Council, must be proposed by not less than eight Ordinary Members of the Society, not being Members of the Council, who must all sign the Candidate's Nomination Form, which must be accompanied by a statement signed by the Candidate that he accepts nomination.
- (c) No Member of the Society may propose more than four Candidates.
- (d) No Candidate may be nominated for more than one position on the Council.
- (e) No Member of the Society whose name has been entered on the list of Candidates nominated by the Council for Ordinary Membership of Council may accept nomination under this Bye-Law for any other position on the Council.

19. If through death or for any other reason a vacancy should be created on the list circulated by the Council, the Council shall have power to fill the vacancy thus created, and shall notify the Members of the Society of this change as soon as possible, in any case not later than on the notice convening the Anniversary Meeting.

¹ Presidents who were elected before 1948 may remain Life Members of the Council as provided in the original Bye-Laws revised in 1931 and 1940.

20. If no more than twenty-one Candidates are nominated and the nominations be in accordance with the provisions of these Bye-Laws, the Candidates shall be declared duly elected at the next ensuing Anniversary Meeting.
21. If more Candidates are nominated for any of the positions on the Council set out in Bye-Law 11 than there are places to be filled, then an election by Ballot shall be held.
22. In the event of an election by Ballot being required, the General Secretary shall issue to every Ordinary Member of the Society at his last known address not later than the next ensuing 30 November a voting-paper containing the names of all Candidates duly nominated in accordance with the provisions of these Bye-Laws, which list shall show the Office or other position on the Council for which each Candidate has been nominated.
23. No vote may be cast for any Candidate whose name is not entered on the voting list, and no member may vote for more than twenty-one Candidates in all.
24. Every Member voting shall place his voting-paper when duly completed in an envelope, which shall be closed and placed in another envelope for return to the Scrutineers of the Ballot. The outer envelope must also be closed, must be inscribed 'Voting Paper', and must bear the name of the Member voting, but no indication of the Voter's identity may appear on the voting-paper or on the inner envelope. Members voting may return their voting-papers enclosed in the manner prescribed to the General Secretary beforehand by post or other means or may deliver them to him at the commencement of the Anniversary Meeting.
25. As soon as may be convenient after the opening of the Anniversary Meeting the Chairman of the Meeting shall appoint from amongst the Ordinary Members present two Members, not being Members of the Council or Candidates for election to the Council, to act as Scrutineers of the Ballot, to whom the outer envelopes containing the voting-papers received by the General Secretary shall be forthwith delivered unopened, and when this has been done the Ballot shall be declared closed.
26. Upon completion of their examination of the voting-papers the Scrutineers shall present to the Chairman of the Meeting a list showing the result of the Ballot, and if the list be in accordance with the provisions of these Bye-Laws, the Chairman shall declare the new Council to have been duly elected and to be constituted in accordance with the provisions of these Bye-Laws.
27. If, however, any difficulty should arise in constituting the new Council in conformity with the provision of these Bye-Laws from the list returned by the Scrutineers owing to an equality of votes or otherwise, the decision of the Chairman, who shall have a casting vote, shall be final, provided always that in no case shall the Chairman declare elected more than seventeen Members who were Members of the retiring Council.
28. The Council shall have power to appoint Officers, and to co-opt Ordinary Members of Council, to fill vacancies in the Council caused by death or resignation during the interval between two Anniversary Meetings.
29. Meetings of the Council shall be summoned by the General Secretary at the order of the President or of not fewer than three Members of the Council; at such meetings, six shall be a quorum, of whom one shall be either the President, a Vice-President, the Treasurer, or the General Secretary.
30. A Report of the Council on the work and progress of the Society shall be submitted to each Anniversary Meeting.

PROPERTY AND TRUSTEES

31. Three or more Trustees shall be appointed by the Council. Of the Trustees thus appointed not less than two shall be Managing Trustees selected from amongst the Members of the Society, and one a Custodian Trustee. The Custodian Trustee shall be the Public Trustee or a Bank or other Corporate Body authorized by law to act as Trustee, and the invested property of the Society shall stand in his or its name.
32. (a) Any Member of the Society appointed a Managing Trustee shall be appointed in the first instance for a period of five years.
(b) The Managing Trustees and the Treasurer shall constitute a Finance Committee.
33. The Council may from time to time make such purchases of books or other movable effects as they may consider to be required for the furtherance of the objects of the Society and the conduct of

its business. They may also dispose of such effects by sale, if not required, provided that no instruction to sell at any time effects the total value of which exceeds the sum of fifty pounds shall be valid unless endorsed by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Society.

34. The Council may authorize the investment of money and the sale of investments. A copy of a resolution of the Council authorizing the sale or purchase of investments, certified by the Chairman of the meeting at which it was passed, shall be sufficient authority to the Managing Trustees to give effect to such resolution.

35. Composition fees shall be treated as Capital, and all moneys so received and all other moneys the investment of which has been authorized by the Council shall be invested in such stock or security as the Council may select from amongst the stocks and securities authorized by law for the investment of trust moneys.

36. No Member of the Society is or shall be entitled to any distinct or separate share in the estate, revenue, or effects of the Society, and the Society shall not and may not make any dividend, gift, division, or bonus in money unto or between any of its Members, provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration, or of an honorarium in lieu thereof, to any Member of the Society in return for services rendered to the Society, nor prevent the distribution of copies of the publications of the Society *gratis* among the Members of the Society.

37. In the event of a dissolution of the Society its property and effects (whether funded or otherwise) shall be disposed of by gift to such other Societies or Institutions or in such other manner as may be decided by the vote of a majority of at least three-fourths of those present and voting at a General Meeting of the Society summoned with notice of the proposed disposal, provided that no individual Members shall benefit thereby, and that such gift or other disposal shall be for the benefit of Mineralogy or its allied sciences.

MEETINGS

38. General Meetings of the Society shall be summoned from time to time as may be deemed necessary by the Council, or on the requisition of any ten Ordinary Members of the Society. One of these meetings in each year shall be termed the Anniversary Meeting. Any meeting of the Society summoned for the purpose of considering special matters relating to the business of the Society shall be termed a Special General Meeting, and the summons thereto shall contain the resolution or other matter to be considered, and shall be issued to the Ordinary Members not less than four weeks before the date fixed for the Meeting.

PUBLICATIONS

39. The *Mineralogical Magazine* and *Mineralogical Abstracts* are issued separately four times annually. *Clay Minerals*, published for the Society by the Clay Minerals Group is issued twice annually. These shall be sent, postage paid, to every Ordinary and Honorary Member of the Society, other than annual subscribers who are in default with their annual subscriptions for the preceding calendar year (unless they are exempt from payment as provided in the last sentence of the first paragraph of Bye-Law 5).

The Society publishes monographs from time to time. Members may purchase single copies of such monographs for their personal use at a cost below that fixed for non-members.

AUDITORS AND BALANCE SHEET

40. The Council shall appoint annually a practising firm of Accountants to audit the accounts of the Society.

41. The audited Balance Sheet, after submission to the Council, shall be published in the *Mineralogical Society Bulletin* as early as possible in every year.

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

42. A majority consisting of three-fourths of the whole Council shall have power to expel a Member from the Society, but a Member who has been expelled shall have a right of appeal to the Society. Notice of such appeal to the Society shall be sent by such Member to the General Secretary within four weeks of the expulsion, and the appeal shall be considered by the Society at the next Anniversary Meeting or at a Special General Meeting; a majority of votes recorded at such Meeting sufficing to confirm or annul the decision of the Council.

ALTERATION OF THE BYE-LAWS

43. The Bye-Laws may be altered only at an Anniversary Meeting or at a Special General Meeting duly summoned for the purpose of considering the proposed alterations, and only by a majority consisting of three-fourths of the Ordinary Members present and voting. Notice of changes proposed to be made in the Bye-Laws shall be communicated by the General Secretary to every Ordinary Member of the Society at least four weeks before the Anniversary Meeting or the Special General Meeting summoned for the purpose of their consideration.

OBLIGATION

44. Ordinary and Associate Members, by payment of their first Annual subscription, signify their acceptance of any Bye-Laws approved by the Society.

INTERPRETATION

45. In the interpretation of the Bye-Laws words in the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender also.

Constitutions of the Groups of the Society

1. The names of the Groups shall be the *Clay Minerals Group*, the *Applied Mineralogy Group*, and the *Geochemistry Group* of the Mineralogical Society.

Aims

2. The aims of the Groups shall be:

Clay Minerals Group, to further the study of clay minerals and allied substances:

- (a) by stimulating an interest in clay mineralogy;
- (b) by facilitating the exchange of information between members of the Group and, in general, all those interested in clay minerals;
- (c) by providing facilities for the reading and discussion of papers on the methods and results of research on clay minerals and allied topics, also the publication of the journal *Clay Minerals*;
- (d) by encouraging the practical applications of clay mineral research;
- (e) by such other means as the Group and its Committee may from time to time think opportune subject to the approval of the Council of the Society.

Applied Mineralogy Group, to further the study of industrial and ore minerals, including coals:

- (a) by stimulating an interest in applied mineralogy;
- (b) by facilitating the exchange of information on applied mineralogy;
- (c) by arranging for the presentation and discussion of papers on these subjects;
- (d) by encouraging the practical applications of the subjects;
- (e) by such other means as the Group and its Committee may from time to time think opportune, subject to the approval of the Council of the Society.

Geochemistry Group, to advance the knowledge of the chemistry of, and the chemical processes in, the earth, and cosmochemistry:

- (a) by stimulating a wider interest in geochemistry and cosmochemistry;
- (b) by facilitating the exchange of information between members of the Group and with other geochemists;
- (c) by arranging the presentation and discussion of papers on the methods and results of research in geochemistry and by arranging seminars, discussion groups, and reviews on aspects of the subject;
- (d) by encouraging the practical applications of geochemistry;
- (e) by such other means as the Group and its Committee may from time to time think opportune, subject to the approval of the Council of the Society.

Membership

3. All members of the Society are eligible for membership of the Groups.

4. Members of the Society may become members of the Groups without additional payment, by written application to the Secretary of the appropriate Group.

Termination of Membership

5. Membership of any Group may be ended by written notice to the Secretary of that Group.

Management

6. The activities of each Group shall be managed by a Committee consisting of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and, for the Clay Minerals Group, the Editor of *Clay Minerals*, and six Ordinary Members who shall be elected annually, and *ex officio*, the General Secretary of the Mineralogical Society, and one other Member of the Council of the Society, appointed by the Council. All members of the Committee must normally be resident in Great Britain or Ireland during their period of office.

7. The Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and, for the Clay Minerals Group, the Editor of *Clay Minerals*, shall be deemed to be the Officers of each Group, and the Chairman and Secretary shall be the official representatives of that Group in all matters pertaining to relations with the parent Society. The Chairman of each Group, or his nominee, shall be *ex officio* a member of the Council of the Society.

8. The Officers and Ordinary Members of the Committee of each Group shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of that Group and shall hold office from the end of that Annual General Meeting to the end of the next Annual General Meeting.

9. Two Ordinary Members of the Committee shall retire annually at the Annual General Meeting, and shall not be eligible for re-election as such until the next Annual General Meeting. The maximum term of office of the Chairman of each Group shall be three consecutive years and of the Secretary and Treasurer six consecutive years.

10. At or before the end of June each year the Committee of each Group shall prepare a list of members nominated by the Committee as Officers and as Ordinary Members of Committee for the ensuing year, this list to be sent by the Secretary to every Member of that Group at his last known address not later than the next ensuing 31 July.

11. Additional nominations may be made by Members of each Group, not being Members of the Committee, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) All such nominations must be received by the Secretary of the Group not later than the next ensuing 1 September.
- (b) Every Candidate, whether proposed as an Officer or Ordinary Member of Committee, must be proposed by not less than six Members of that Group, not being Members of the Committee, who must all sign the Candidate's Nomination Form, which must be accompanied by a statement signed by the Candidate that he accepts nomination.
- (c) No member of a Group may propose more than one Candidate.
- (d) No Candidate may be nominated for more than one position on the Committee of a Group.
- (e) No Member of a Group whose name has been entered on the list of Candidates nominated by the Committee for Ordinary Membership of Committee may accept nomination under this paragraph for any other position on the Committee.

12. If through death or for any other reason a vacancy should be created on the list circulated by the Committee, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy thus created and shall notify Members of this change as soon as possible.

13. If not more than nine Candidates (ten including an Editor) are nominated for the positions set out in paragraph 7, the Candidates shall be declared duly elected at the next ensuing Annual General Meeting.

14. If more Candidates are nominated for any position on the Committee of a Group than there are vacancies, then an election by ballot shall be held.

15. In the event of an election by ballot being required, the Secretary of the Group shall issue to every member of that Group at his last known address not later than the next ensuing 30 September, a voting paper containing the names of all Candidates duly nominated in accordance with the provisions of these paragraphs, which list shall show the office or other position on the Committee for which each Candidate has been nominated.

16. No vote may be cast for any Candidate whose name is not entered on the voting list, and no Member may vote for more than nine Candidates in all (ten including an Editor).

17. Every member voting shall place his voting paper when duly completed in an envelope, which shall be closed and placed in another envelope for return to the Scrutineers of the Ballot. The outer envelope must also be closed, must be inscribed *Voting Paper*, and must bear the name of the member voting, but no indication of the Voter's identity may appear on the voting paper or on the inner envelope. Members voting may return their voting papers enclosed in the manner prescribed to the Secretary of the Group beforehand by post or other means or may deliver them to him at the commencement of the Annual General Meeting of the Group.

18. As soon as may be convenient after the opening of the Annual General Meeting of the Group the Chairman of the meeting shall appoint from amongst the members present two members, not being members of the Committee, or Candidates for election to the Committee, to act as Scrutineers of the Ballot, to whom the outer envelopes containing the voting papers received by the Secretary of the Group shall be forthwith delivered unopened, and when this has been done the Ballot shall be declared closed.

19. Upon completion of their examination of the voting papers the Scrutineers shall present to the Chairman of the meeting a list showing the result of the ballot, and if the list be in accordance with the provisions of these paragraphs, the Chairman shall disclose the number of votes cast for each Candidate and shall declare the new Committee to have been duly elected and to be constituted in accordance with the provisions of these paragraphs.

20. If, however, any difficulty should arise in constituting the new Committee in conformity with the provision of these paragraphs from the list returned by the Scrutineers owing to an equality of votes or otherwise, the decision of the Chairman, who shall have a casting vote, shall be final.

21. The Committee shall have the power to appoint Officers, and to co-opt Ordinary Members of the Committee to fill vacancies caused by death or resignation during the interval between two Annual General Meetings of the Group.

22. Meetings of the Committee shall be summoned by the Group Secretary at the order of the Chairman, or of not fewer than three members of the Committee; at such a meeting, four shall be a quorum, of whom one shall be either the Chairman, the Secretary, or the Treasurer of the Group.

23. A report on the work, progress and finances of each Group shall be submitted at each Annual General Meeting of the Group for transmission to the Society.

Meetings

24. The Annual General Meeting of each Group shall be held either in November or as near thereto as may be convenient.

25. Further meetings may be held at the discretion of each Committee or on the requisition of any ten members of the Group. Such meetings may be either Special General Meetings (for the transaction of business affecting the constitution or management of any Group) or Ordinary Meetings.

26. Members shall be notified of the place and date of each Annual or Special General Meeting of the Group not less than three weeks in advance.

Alterations to Constitution

27. Alterations to the Constitution may be made only with the approval of the Group concerned (expressed by majority decision at an Annual or Special General Meeting) and of the Council of the Society; and shall not become effective until they have received such approval.

Terminology

28. In the above text 'the Society' means the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, 'the Groups' mean the Clay Minerals Group, the Applied Mineralogy Group and the Geochemistry Group of the Mineralogical Society, 'the Group' or 'a Group' means any one of the above three Groups, 'the Committee' means the Committee of any one of the three Groups as above defined, and 'the Annual General Meeting' means the Annual General Meeting of any one of the three Groups as above defined.