

**Company No: 44483**

**The Companies Acts 1862 to 2006**

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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**MEMORANDUM and ARTICLES  
of ASSOCIATION**

- of -

**THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF  
MEDICAL HERBALISTS**

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(adopted by Special Resolution dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
and amended by Special Resolutions dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010  
4<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013 and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016)

Incorporated on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1895

**Tozers LLP**

Exeter

The Companies Acts 1862 to 2006

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

# Memorandum of Association

- of -

## THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL HERBALISTS

(as adopted by Special Resolution dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009)

### 1. NAME

The name of the Association is "The National Institute of Medical Herbalists" ("**the Institute**"<sup>1</sup>).

WE, the several persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are subscribed, are desirous of being formed into a Company in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

### NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBSCRIBERS

ALFRED RUSSELL FOX, 56 Snig Hill, Sheffield  
Medical Herbalist

WILLIAM PARKER, 272 Fitzwilliam Street, Sheffield  
Medical Herbalist

WILLIAM HENRY BLUNT, 7 Snow Hill, Birmingham  
Medical Herbalist

JOE CRYER SCOTT, 132 Sheffield Road, Barnsley  
Medical Herbalist

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<sup>1</sup> Words defined in clause 1 of the Articles (or elsewhere) are printed in bold the first time they appear

JAMES PARKINSON, 17 Lees Road, Oldham  
Medical Herbalist

SAMUEL HALLIDAY, 22 Northgate, Cleckheaton  
Medical Herbalist

THOMAS OGDEN, 101 Westgate, Dewsbury  
Medical Herbalist

THOMAS TILDESLEY, 70 Broad Street, Parkgate  
Medical Herbalist

JOHN SIMMONS, 94 Shakespeare Street, Southport  
Medical Herbalist

DATED this 28th day of May 1895

WITNESS to the Signatures of the above named Alfred Russell Fox, William Parker,  
William Henry Blunt, Joe Cryer Scott, James Parkinson, Samuel Halliday,  
Thomas Ogden, Thomas Tildesley and John Simmons :-

E. MANNING KEER,

Clerk with A. Muir Wilson,  
Solicitor, Sheffield.

The Companies Acts 1862 - 2006

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## **Articles of Association**

- of -

### **THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL HERBALISTS**

(as adopted by Special Resolution dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
and amended by Special Resolutions dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010 and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2011)

*The following (lettered) provisions from the former Memorandum of Association of the Institute are deemed to be incorporated into the Articles by virtue of the Companies Act 2006 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009:*

#### **A. REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Registered Office will be situated in England.

#### **B. OBJECTS**

The objects of the Institute (**'the Objects'**) are to promote and encourage the study and practice, with a view to the relief of human suffering, of the art and science of **Medical Herbalism**.

#### **C. POWERS**

The Institute has the following powers, which may be exercised only in promoting the Objects:

- C.1 To promote and encourage the study and knowledge of the vegetable kingdom in its application to medicine and public health (both in relation to industry and

agriculture and otherwise), and to diffuse and to seek to diffuse such knowledge by lectures, classes, publications and other lawful means;

- C.2 To safeguard and to improve the quality and the range of services given by qualified Medical Herbalists, to repress malpractices, and by such means to promote the advance of Medical Herbalism as a profession;
- C.3 To train Medical Herbalists, prospective Medical Herbalists and ancillary workers, and to conduct examinations;
- C.4 To provide, maintain and run clinics and hospitals;
- C.5 To form or otherwise acquire and to maintain, extend and improve a library or libraries;
- C.6 To establish, donate and administer prizes and other rewards and distinctions;
- C.7 To co-operate with other bodies
- C.8 To raise funds, borrow money and give security for loans
- C.9 To acquire or hire property of any kind
- C.10 To let or dispose of property of any kind
- C.11 To make grants or loans of money and to give financial guarantees
- C.12 To set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure
- C.13 To invest the moneys of the Institute not immediately required for its purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit, subject nevertheless to such conditions (if any) and such consents (if any) as may for the time being be imposed or required by law, and subject also as hereinafter provided

- C.14 To delegate the management of investments to a **financial expert** and arrange for investments or other property of the Institute to be held in the name of a nominee company or of a financial expert acting under their instructions, and to pay any reasonable fee required
- C.15 To deposit documents and physical assets with any company registered or having a place of business in the United Kingdom or Ireland as **custodian**, and to pay any reasonable fee required
- C.16 To enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies
- C.17 To pay for **indemnity insurance** for the **Directors**
- C.18 To establish, support, administer or set up any charitable or other trusts which may lawfully be undertaken or supported by the Institute and may be conducive to the Objects; and
- C.19 To do anything else within the law which promotes or helps to promote the Objects

**D. BENEFITS TO MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS**

- D.1 The property and funds of the Institute must be used only for promoting the Objects and do not belong to the **Members** but
- D.1.1 Members who are not Directors may be employed by or enter into contracts with the Institute and receive reasonable payment for goods or services supplied
- D.1.2 Members (including Directors) may be paid interest at a reasonable rate on money lent to the Institute
- D.1.3 Members (including Directors) may be paid a reasonable rent or hiring fee for property let or hired to the Institute

- D.1.4 Members (including Directors) who are also **beneficiaries** may receive charitable benefits in that capacity provided that in the case of a Director:
  - D.1.4.1 the Director would have been entitled to the same (or no less) benefits if he were not a Director
  - D.1.4.2 the provisions of clause D.4 are complied with
- D.2 A Director must not receive any payment of money or other **material benefit** (whether directly or indirectly) from the Institute except
  - D.2.1 as mentioned in clauses C.17 (indemnity insurance), D.1.2 (interest), D.1.3 (rent), D.1.4 (charitable benefits) or D.3 (contractual payments)
  - D.2.2 reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (including hotel and travel costs) actually incurred in the administration of the Institute
  - D.2.3 an indemnity in respect of any liabilities properly incurred in running the Institute (including the costs of a successful defence to criminal proceedings)
  - D.2.4 payment to any company in which a Director has no more than a 1 per cent shareholding
  - D.2.5 in exceptional cases, other payments or benefits as set out in the Bye-Laws
- D.3 A Director may not be an employee of the Institute, but a Director or a **connected person** may enter into a contract with the Institute to supply goods or services in return for a payment or other material benefit if
  - D.3.1 the goods or services are actually required by the Institute
  - D.3.2 the nature and level of the benefit is no more than reasonable in relation to the value of the goods or services and is set at a meeting of the Directors in accordance with the procedure in clause D.4
  - D.3.3 no more than one half of the Directors are interested in such a contract in any **financial year**
- D.4 Whenever a Director has a personal interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting of the Directors or a committee he or she must:

D.4.1 declare an interest before the meeting or at the meeting before discussion begins on the matter

D.4.2 be absent from the meeting for that item unless expressly invited to remain in order to provide information

D.4.3 not be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting

D.4.4 be absent during the vote and have no vote on the matter

## **E. LIMITED LIABILITY**

The liability of the Members is limited.

## **F. GUARANTEE**

Every Member promises, if the Institute is dissolved while he, she or it remains a Member or within 12 months afterwards, to pay up to £10 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the Institute while the contributor was a Member

## **G. DISSOLUTION**

If the Institute is dissolved the assets (if any) remaining after provision has been made for all its liabilities must be applied to some other not-for-profit body or charitable institution or charitable institutions having objects similar to the Objects as determined by the Members, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some other charitable object or charitable objects.

## **H. INTERPRETATION**

References to an Act of Parliament are references to that Act as amended or re-enacted from time to time and to any subordinate legislation made under it.



## PRELIMINARY

1. In the Articles, unless the context indicates another meaning:

**'the Act'** means the Companies Acts 1985 to 2006

**'AGM'** means an annual general meeting of the **Institute**

**'the Articles'** means the Institute's articles of association

**'Bye-Laws'** means bye-laws duly passed by the **Council**<sup>2</sup> for the proper governance of the Institute as a professional body

**'beneficiaries'** means **Members** and any other person entitled to benefit from its support

**'Chair'** means the duly appointed chairperson of a meeting

**'clear day'** means 24 hours from midnight following the relevant event

**'connected person'** means, in relation to a **Director**, a person with whom that member shares a common interest such that he/she may reasonably be regarded as benefiting directly or indirectly from any material benefit received by that person, being either a member of the Director's family or household or a person or body who is a business associate of the Director

**'Council'** means the members of the Council or governing body of the Institute who shall act as its **Directors**

**'custodian'** means a person or body who undertakes safe custody of assets or of documents or records relating to them

**'Director'** means a member of the Council and **'Directors'** has a corresponding meaning

**'Disciplinary Procedure'** means a disciplinary procedure in relation to Members adopted in accordance with the Bye-Laws

**'electronic means'** refers to communications addressed to specified individuals by telephone, fax, email or any other electronic equipment for the processing, storage and transmission of data, using wires, radio optical technologies or any other electromagnetic means, or, in relation to meetings,

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<sup>2</sup> Words defined in clause 1 of the Articles (or elsewhere) are printed in bold the first time they appear

by telephone or televisual or other electronic or virtual means agreed by resolution of the Council

**'Fellow'** means a Member elected as such by the Council

**'financial expert'** means an individual, company or firm who is an authorised person or an exempted person within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

**'financial year'** means the Institute's financial year

**'firm'** includes a limited liability partnership

**'General Meeting'** means any meeting of the Institute other than an AGM

**'Honorary Associate'** means a person (not being a Member) elected as such by the Council

**'indemnity insurance'** means insurance against personal liability incurred by any Director for an act or omission which is or is alleged to be a breach of trust or breach of duty, unless the Director concerned knew that, or was reckless whether, the act or omission was a breach of trust or breach of duty;

**'the Institute'** means the company governed by the Articles

**'Life Member'** means a Member elected as such by the Council

**'material benefit'** means a benefit which may not be financial but has a monetary value

**'Medical Herbalism'** means the professional practice of herbal medicine and

**'Medical Herbalist'** shall mean a qualified person engaged in the Profession

**'Member'** and **'Membership'** refer to company membership of the Institute and so (except where the context indicates otherwise) include a Fellow or Life Member but exclude Honorary Associates

**'Memorandum'** means the Institute's Memorandum of Association

**'month'** means calendar month

**'nominee company'** means a corporate body registered or having an established place of business in England and Wales

**'the Objects'** means the Objects of the Institute as defined in Article B

**'Office Holder'** means a Member elected at an AGM as President, Vice-President, Honorary General Secretary or Honorary Treasurer

**'Practising'** means currently engaged in the practice of the Profession

**'present'** includes being present by electronic means agreed by the Council in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants, whether or not visually

**'Profession'** means the profession of Medical Herbalism

**'Secretary'** means the company secretary of the Institute

**'the UK'** means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**'written'** or **'in writing'** refers to a legible document on paper (including a fax message) and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form

**'year'** means calendar year

Words importing the singular number shall include plural number and vice versa.

Unless the context otherwise requires, expressions defined in the Acts or in any statutory modification thereof any subordinate legislation made under it in force at the date of which these Articles become binding on the Institute shall have the meanings so defined.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

2. The number of Members is unlimited.
3. The subscribers to the Memorandum and such other persons as may be admitted to Membership in accordance with these Articles, and no others, shall be Members, and shall be entered in the Register of Members accordingly.
4. Members (who may be Practising or not) include Fellows and Life Members whose qualifications, rights and obligations are as hereinafter stated.

5. The qualifications for a Member are determined by the Council. Without limitation, the Council may accept an application from any jurisdiction and may make such arrangements as it thinks fit for accreditation in accordance with the Bye-Laws.
6. The Council may establish different classes of Membership from time to time in respect of which it may set differing subscription rates.

### **ADMISSIONS**

7. A person wishing to become a Member shall deliver to the Institute a signed application for admission framed in such terms as the Council requires.
8. 8.1 The Council is responsible for all admissions to Membership and no person shall be admitted as a Member in any class of subscription unless her or his application shall be first approved by the Council and duly registered after all formalities have been completed in accordance with the Bye-Laws.  
  
8.2 The Council may delegate its responsibilities under Article 8.1 to an admissions board established in accordance with the Bye-Laws.

### **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

9. **Fellows**
  - 9.1 The Council may elect as a Fellow any Member who in its opinion has distinguished herself or himself in any branch of Medical Herbalism or has rendered conspicuous service to the Institute.
  - 9.2 Any Member wishing to propose another for election as a Fellow must submit to the Secretary a written proposal, stating the grounds for it, for submission to the Council at its next meeting.

9.3 No Fellow shall be elected if the number of Fellows would thereby exceed twenty-five per cent of the Membership.

## 10. **Life Members**

10.1 The Council may grant Life Membership to any Member who in its opinion merits this honour.

10.2 Life Members have the same rights and obligations as any other Member, save that they will not be required to pay the annual subscription. This concession does not extend to the payment of any insurance premium, levy, fee or other charge applicable to Members.

## 11. **Honorary Associates**

11.1 The Council may elect as an Honorary Associate any person who has in its opinion contributed notably to the advancement of Medical Herbalism or the promotion of the Objects.

11.2 Honorary Associates are not company Members of the Institute but are expected to abide by these Articles and the Bye-Laws so far as applicable to them. They may attend and take part in an AGM or General Meeting but may neither vote nor describe themselves as Members.

## 12. **Titles**

Members may, for so long only as they remain Members, use the letters "MNIMH" (Member of the National Institute of Medical Herbalists), except that Fellows may use the letters "FNIMH" (Fellow of the National Institute of Medical Herbalists).

## **CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

13. All Members are bound by the Memorandum, these Articles and the Bye-Laws and by any code of ethics, code of practice, disciplinary procedure, complaints procedure and regulations issued by the Council.
  
14. 14.1 Every Member shall pay an annual subscription appropriate to the class of Membership and all registration fees, levies and any other fees prescribed from time to time by the Council in accordance with Article 39.3, such subscription and other payments to become due on the first day of January in every year unless otherwise decided by the Council.  
  
14.2 Nothing in Article 14.1 shall affect the Member's obligation to pay:
  - 14.2.1 any registration fee or levy charged by any competent authority in connection with practice as a Medical Herbalist and
  - 14.2.2 the premium for any Indemnity Insurance required by the Council in accordance with these Articles and the Bye-Laws.
  
15. Every Practising Member in the UK must take out professional indemnity and malpractice insurance through the Institute's block insurance scheme and pay the due premium, the only exceptions being
  - 15.1 registered medical practitioners who are already fully insured and
  - 15.2 other practitioners who as members of another professional body are fully insured to practise Medical Herbalism provided the cover is equivalent to that of the NIMH block insurance in every respectwho in each case can provide proof of insurance.

## **CEASING MEMBERSHIP**

16. A Member ceases to be a Member by death, resignation or expulsion or in accordance with Article 19.
17. A Member wishing to resign shall send notice in writing with his or her certificate of Membership to the Secretary at the registered office of the Institute by registered post, on receipt of which his or her Membership shall cease after one month from service of the notice.
18. If after enquiry in accordance with the Bye-Laws and any Disciplinary Procedure the Council decides that a Member has been guilty of dishonourable conduct or of any dereliction of the Member's duty towards the Institute, the Council may expel that Member.
19. Any Member who fails to pay her or his annual subscription or a stipulated part of that subscription or any other payment due under Articles 14 and 15 within the period stipulated in the Bye-Laws will cease to be a Member.

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

20. 20.1 The Institute must hold an AGM in every year (and within 15 months of the last AGM) at such time and place as may be determined by the Council.
- 20.2 All other meetings of the Institute are General Meetings.
- 20.3 The Institute may make arrangements for Members to attend a General Meeting by televisual or other electronic or virtual means provided that all remote attendants may securely identify themselves, follow the proceedings and cast their votes by telephone, on line or in a manner otherwise agreed by the Council.

- 20.4 The Council may issue such directions as it may reasonably consider necessary for the appointment verification and revocation of proxies and for valid electronic voting.
21. 21.1 A General Meeting may be called at any time by the Council and must be called by a notice issued within 28 clear days following service of a written request from at least 5% of the Members stating the general nature of the business to be dealt with.
- 21.2 If at any time there are not within the UK sufficient members of the Council to form a quorum, any Director may convene a General Meeting in the same manner, as nearly as possible, as that in which Meetings may be convened by the Council.
22. Any motion that a Member wishes to put to the AGM must be proposed in writing by at least two Members and shall be in the hands of the Honorary General Secretary, in writing, two clear calendar months before the date of the AGM.

### **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

23. General Meetings are called on at least 21 clear days' written notice specifying the place and time chosen by the Council and the business to be discussed. A General Meeting may be called by shorter notice if agreed:
- 23.1 in the case of an **AGM**, by all the Members entitled to attend and vote; and
- 23.2 in the case of a General Meeting, by a 95% majority of such Members
24. The accidental omission to give notice of a Meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a Meeting by, any Member shall not invalidate the proceedings at any Meetings.
25. 25.1 In addition to notice of the statutory right to appoint a proxy any notice of General Meeting shall include a ballot paper which when duly completed and delivered to the Secretary at or before the meeting shall



be a Member's only means of voting (subject to any arrangements made by the Council under Article 20.3), whether in person or by proxy, on any formal motion to be put to that meeting.

25.2 Before the AGM the Secretary shall issue to each Member papers for nominating the Office holders (where any such office falls or is about to fall vacant) and for filling any vacancies among the other Directors.

25.3 Nominations, which must in all cases be proposed and seconded by Members, must be consented to by the nominee and submitted to the Secretary in writing at least six weeks before the AGM.

25.4 The list of nominees shall be sent to all Members, with the necessary ballot papers listing all the motions which are to be put to the Meeting, at least three weeks before the AGM. The completed ballot papers shall be returned to the Secretary by the date specified by the Institute.

25.5. Any further procedural requirements in relation to any General Meeting shall be at the reasonable discretion of the Council

### **PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

26. All business put before the Members by the Council that is transacted at a General Meeting, and also all that is transacted at an AGM (with the exception of the consideration of the accounts, balance sheets, and the ordinary report of the Council and Auditors, the election of the Council and other officers in the place of those retiring and the appointment of, and the fixing of, the remuneration of the Auditors), shall be deemed special.

27. 27.1 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum of Members is present (whether in person or by proxy) at the time when the Meeting proceeds to business.

27.2 Save as herein otherwise provided ten Members shall be a quorum.

28. If there is no quorum present within half-an-hour from the appointed time, the meeting will be dissolved if convened upon the requisition of Members or, in any other case, adjourned to such time and place as the Council decides, but if business is adjourned for more than 28 days then at least 14 clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting and business must be given. If at the adjourned Meeting a quorum is not present within half-an-hour from the appointed time, the Members present shall be a quorum.
29. The President, whom failing the Vice-President, or in their absence any Member then appointed by those present, presides at a General Meeting.
30. The Chair may, with the consent of any Meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the Meeting) adjourn the Meeting to another time or place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned Meeting other than the business left unfinished at the Meeting from which the adjournment took place. Save as aforesaid, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of the adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned Meeting.
31. Every Member has one vote (but for the avoidance of doubt an Honorary Associate has none).
32. 32.1 At any General Meeting the results of any ballot in respect of any formal resolution under Article 25 shall be declared by the Chair at or as soon as practicable after that Meeting. Any other decision (such as to elect a Chair or to adjourn) shall be made on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) by at least two Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote.  
  
32.2 Unless a poll is demanded, a declaration by the Chair that a resolution has on a ballot or show of hands been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the Minute Book, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that resolution.

33. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a ballot, on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chair of the Meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
34. A poll demanded on the election of a Chair or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken via a postal voting process no later than two weeks after the General Meeting in which the poll was demanded.

### **THE COUNCIL**

35. 35.1 The Council consists of the following who are all Members elected at an AGM:

President

Vice President

Honorary General Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

and up to six other Directors.

35.2 Any Member (including a Director) may nominate a Member to fill any vacancy in the Council, for a term of two years subject to the provisions of Article 36 (a 'year' in this context meaning from one AGM to the next).

35.3 As soon as practicable after the AGM the Council shall define the responsibilities of the six other Directors.

36. 36.1 During their respective terms of office the rotation provisions of Article 36.3 do not apply to the elected Office holders.

36.2 If any Office holder ceases to hold that office for any reason, he or she shall retire from the Council at the same time.

36.3 One third (or the number nearest to but not more than one third) of the Council (excluding any Office holder whose term of office has not yet

expired) must retire at each AGM, those longest in office retiring first and the choice between any of equal service being made by drawing lots.

- 36.4 Except that no-one may serve more than six years consecutively as President, all members of the Council shall (subject to the provisions of Article 43) be eligible for re-election unless otherwise resolved in General Meeting.
37. The Council may at any time co-opt (and remove on notice in writing) any Member to fill a vacancy in their number provided that the prescribed maximum is not exceeded. That person holds office only until the next AGM but may be re-elected for a full term.
38. Subject to Articles 21 and 22 the Members may by special resolution remove any Director before the expiration of her or his period of office, and may by an ordinary resolution elect another person in her or his stead.

### **POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL**

39. 39.1 The business of the Institute shall be managed by the Council who may pay all expenses incurred in the establishment and registration of the Institute and may exercise all powers which are not reserved to a General Meeting, subject to these Articles, to the provisions of the Acts and to any Regulation made by the Institute in General Meeting; but no such Regulation shall invalidate any prior valid act of the Council.
- 39.2 The Institute is responsible for overseeing and raising the standards of training in the profession and for accrediting courses leading to membership of the Institute but may delegate the task to an Accreditation Board established in accordance with the Bye-Laws.
- 39.3 The Council will set the annual subscription appropriate to the class of Membership and all registration fees, levies and any other fees. The annual subscription may be increased by no more than 5% per annum,

and any increase greater than 5% will be by resolution passed at a general Meeting of the Institute.

40. The Council may appoint a Director as its representative under its direction in the role of Director or officer of another organisation of which the Institute is a member.

41. The Council must keep proper records of:-

41.1 all appointments of officers made by the Council.

41.2 the names of Members present at each meeting of the Council.

41.3 all proceedings at meetings of the Institute and the Council.

Minutes of any meeting, purporting to be signed by the Chair of that or the next succeeding meeting, shall be sufficient evidence of the facts therein stated without further proof.

#### **SECRETARY**

42. The Honorary General Secretary for the time being of the Institute shall be treated as the Company Secretary. The Council may at any time by resolution appoint an assistant or deputy secretary, or may authorise some other officer to act as or in place of the Honorary General Secretary, upon such terms as it may think fit (subject to the provisions of Article D) but not on such terms as would prevent her or his removal from office by the Council at any time.

#### **DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

43. 43.1 The office of a Director shall be vacated if:-

(a) a receiving order is made against her or him, or she or he makes any arrangement or composition with her or his creditors;

- (b) she or he becomes of unsound mind;
- (c) she or he ceases to be a Member;
- (d) she or he resigns by written notice to the Institute;
- (e) she or he becomes prohibited from holding office by reason of any court order made under the Act;
- (f) she or he is removed by resolution of the Members present and voting at a General Meeting;
- (g) she or he assumes any office of profit under the Institute or receives any remuneration or other direct or indirect benefit from the Institute, contrary to the provisions of Article D; or
- (h) she or he is directly or indirectly interested in any contract with the Institute, and fails to declare the nature of her or his interest in manner required by the Act.

43.2 No Member shall be disqualified from being a Director by virtue merely of attaining the age of 70 or any particular age.

### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL**

44. 44.1 The Council may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn, and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit.
- 44.2 Every issue may be determined by a simple majority. The Chair has a second or casting vote.
- 44.3 A Director may, and the Honorary General Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall forthwith, summon a meeting of the Council.

45. A quorum at a meeting of the Council is 6 unless otherwise decided by the Council.
46. The Council may act notwithstanding any vacancy, but if its number falls below the quorum the Council may act for the purpose of increasing that number, or of summoning a General Meeting, but for no other purpose.
47. The President, or in her or his absence the Vice-President, shall preside over the meeting of the Council, and failing these the Council present may choose one of their number to be Chair of the meeting.
48. The Council may delegate any of their functions to committees consisting of two or more individuals appointed by them on such terms as the Council thinks fit. Any committee shall, in the exercise of its functions, conform to any regulations imposed on them by the Council from time to time.
49. A procedural defect (including in relation to the appointment of a Director) of which the Council or its Committee are unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.
50. 50.1 A meeting of the Council may be held either in person or by electronic means agreed by the Council in which all participants may [as near] simultaneously [as possible] communicate with all the other participants.  
  
50.2 A written resolution signed by all the Council (or its Committee as the case may be) is as valid as a resolution passed at a meeting.

## **ACCOUNTS**

51. The Council must comply with the requirements of the Act as to keeping financial records, the audit of accounts and the preparation and transmission to the Registrar of Companies of:
  - 51.1 annual reports
  - 51.2 annual returns

51.3 annual statements of account.

52. The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the payment of all accounts, and all cheques shall be signed by either the President or the Treasurer and one other authorised signatory.
53. The accounting records shall be kept at the registered office of the Institute, or (subject to the Act) at such other place or places as the Council decides, and shall always be open to the inspection of the Council.
54. The accounting records may be made available for inspection by Members who are not members of the Council if the Council so decides. No Member (not being a Director) has any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the Institute except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Council or in General Meeting.
55. The Council shall in accordance with the Act cause to be laid before the Members at the AGM such profit and loss accounts, balance sheets and reports as are required by the Act, made up to a date not longer than 9 months after the end of the accounting reference period of the Institute.
56. A copy of every balance sheet (including every document required by law to be annexed thereto) which is to be laid before the Members at the AGM, together with a copy of the Auditor's report and the report of the Council, shall not less than 21 days before the date of the AGM be sent to all persons entitled to receive notices of the AGM. The Auditor's report shall be open to inspection and be read before the meeting as required by the Act.

#### **SEAL**

57. The common seal (if any) of the Institute will be kept safely and used only by resolution of the Council and in the presence and over the signatures of two members of the Council and of the Honorary General Secretary or any other officer duly appointed or authorised under these Articles. The Council may in



the alternative authorise two of its members to sign a deed or other document without the seal.

## **NOTICES**

58. 58.1 Notices under the Articles may be sent by hand, or by post or by suitable electronic means or (where applicable to Members generally) may be published in any suitable journal or national newspaper or any journal distributed by the Institute. The only address at which a Member is entitled to receive notices by post is the address shown in the register of Members or such other address as the member may notify to the Institute for the purpose from time to time
- 58.2 Subject to the provisions of the Act and the Articles the Institute may send or supply all types of notice, document or information to Members either by hard copy or by electronic means or by making them available on a website.
59. Any notice given in accordance with the Articles is to be treated for all purposes as having been received
- 59.1 24 hours after being sent by electronic means or delivered by hand to the relevant address
- 59.2 2 clear days after being sent by first class post to that address
- 58.3 3 clear days after being sent by second class
- 59.4 5 clear days after being sent by overseas post to that address
- 59.5 on the date of publication of a newspaper containing the notice
- 59.6 on being handed to the Member personally or, if earlier,
- 59.7 as soon as the Member acknowledges actual receipt

60. Notice of every General Meeting shall be given to every Member, to the auditor or auditors, and to every holder of debentures (if any) of the Institute, and no other. Provided that this Article shall not require a copy of such notice to be sent to any person of whose address the Institute is not aware, or to more than one of the joint holders of any debentures.

### **REGULATIONS**

61. The Council may decide upon any subject not provided for in the foregoing Articles, according to the spirit of the Objects.
62. These Articles are retrospective and binding on all Members.

### **BYE-LAWS**

63. The Council may as and when and for such purposes as they shall think fit make Bye-Laws for the conduct of the Institute.

### **INDEMNITY**

64. The Institute will indemnify any officer for the time being of the Institute from and against any act or omission which she or he may perform or fail or neglect to perform in good faith whilst in office.

## **BYE-LAWS**

### **of The National Institute of Medical Herbalists**

(adopted on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009)

In these Bye-Laws, unless the context otherwise requires, expressions defined in the Articles of Association of the Institute shall have the meanings so defined.

## **COUNCIL**

### **1. Nomination Procedures**

Nominations of the Officer Holders and for filling vacancies among the other Directors should be made in writing on the prescribed nomination form issued, signed and completed in accordance with Article 25. No nomination shall be accepted unless all subscriptions levies and other fees due to the Institute by the nominee, proposer and seconder are fully paid up.

### **2. Investment of Funds and Keeping of Records**

2.1 The Council may deposit or invest funds in any manner (but invest only after obtaining such advice from a financial expert (that is, an individual, company or firm who is an authorised person or an exempted person within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000) as the Directors consider necessary and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification).

2.2 The Council must also keep records of all proceedings at general meetings and meetings of the Council, all resolutions in writing all reports of committees and all professional advice obtained.

### 3. **Benefits in Kind**

Having regard to their duties the Directors need not pay fees for attending the Institute's professional development seminars and annual Conference. This Bye-law may be amended only by a resolution passed at a General Meeting.

### **NIMH ACCREDITATION BOARD**

4. 4.1 The Accreditation Board shall comprise a minimum of ten persons, half of whom shall be appointed by the full Accreditation Board from outside the Institute. The remaining half will be four Members (elected at the AGM) and the Director of Accreditation (appointed from the Council). The Board may co-opt Members to fill any Member vacancy occurring, provided the number of Members and non-Members on the Board remains equal.
- 4.2 The Accreditation Board shall have such powers and duties relating to accreditation as are defined in the Accreditation Board constitution approved by the Council from time to time.
- 4.3 The Accreditation Board may recommend for approval by or on behalf of the Council fees for the accreditation and review of training programmes so that the Accreditation Board remains self-financing.

### **ADMISSIONS BOARD**

5. 5.1 The Council will establish the Admissions Board to which it will delegate admissions to Membership in accordance with a detailed admissions procedure to be approved by the Council from time to time.
- 5.2 The Admissions Board will consist of:

- 5.2.1 The Director of Admissions
- 5.2.2 The Membership Registrar
- 5.2.3 A third Member approved by Council from a list of applicants supplied by the Admissions Board (without prejudice to the power of the Council to choose another Member)
- 5.2.4 Other members as required from time to time and approved by Council

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **6. Admissions**

- 6.1 The qualifications for a Member are as reasonably determined by the Council.
- 6.2 The basic criteria include (without limitation):-
  - 6.2.1 possession of good character;
  - 6.2.2 compliance with and passing the requisite training and examination(s) as prescribed by the competent authority in regard to Medical Herbalism or its equivalent as determined by Council.
  - 6.2.3 any other criteria the Council reasonably stipulates

### **7. Certificate**

- 7.1 Every Member shall be entitled to receive on admission a certificate of Membership bearing the seal of the Institute.
- 7.2 The certificate belongs to the Institute and must be returned to it on cessation of membership.

**8. Requirements following admission**

8.1 Every Member shall on admission be supplied with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles, the Bye-Laws, any codes of ethics and practice, and any complaints and disciplinary procedures.

8.2 Every Member shall on admission complete all the formalities of registration in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles, the Bye-Laws, and procedures for admissions, registration and subscription. Registration as a Member will not be effective until all the formalities are completed.

**9. Non-Payment of Subscriptions and other Fees**

9.1 Annual subscriptions and all other payments in accordance with Articles 14 and 15 must be paid in full within one month of their becoming due.

9.2 Where the Council is satisfied that failure to pay a subscription or other payment by the due date ought specially to be excused, the Member in default may be reinstated upon such terms as the Council may think fit.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**10. Motions for Agenda**

Any motion for the agenda of the AGM shall be in the hands of the Honorary General Secretary, in writing, two clear calendar months before the date of the AGM.

## **PROSECUTIONS AND DEFENCE**

11. Should any Member be charged with an offence which is or may be inimical or prejudicial to the objects of the Institute (including without limitation an offence against children or vulnerable adults), she or he shall immediately communicate that fact to the Honorary General Secretary, enclosing any documents she or he may have received in regard to that offence. No reply shall be sent by any such Member, but the matter shall be referred by the Honorary General Secretary to the Institute's solicitors.

## **CONDUCT**

### **12. Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures**

All disciplinary matters shall be dealt with in accordance with the codes of ethics and practice, and the complaints and disciplinary procedures of the NIMH to be approved by the Council from time to time and promptly made available to the Members.

## **AUTHORISATION**

13. No Member shall commit or pledge the Institute to any action, undertaking or liability, without first receiving from the Institute authority in writing giving her or him permission so to do.