



Clevedon Community Bookshop Co-operative Ltd Explanatory Guide to changes to the Rules of the Society

Introduction

On 11 May 2015, the Board of the Bookshop Co-operative approved revised Rules to be put to the membership for adoption at its Special General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 9 June at 7.30pm in Clevedon. The revised Rules have been prepared by the Secretary with advice from members and from the Co-operative Development Agency, Bristol.

Revisions

- With new legislation, we are now a Society under the Co-operative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014. Reference to the new Act has been made throughout our Rules and one necessary change made: rule 8.1, the maximum shareholding permitted by law has been raised from £20,000 to £100,000.
- The purpose of the Rules is set out in Section 1.
- The meaning of being a Co-operative, with the co-operative principles, is covered by rule 2.1.
- Our objectives, and the ways in which we understand the 'community' we serve, are set out in section 3.
- Our registered office will be at our store and Internet Shop where we have appropriate office facilities for the filing of confidential information. See section 4.
- Disciplinary action that the Co-operative may need to take, possibly through General Meetings, is now linked to the disciplinary and grievance policies procedures adopted by the Board, see rules 11.5, 11.6 & 27.1.
- Currently, the quorum for general meetings of the Co-operative is 10% of the membership. This has proved difficult to achieve: our membership is world-wide and now comprises 644 members. It is proposed that the Rules be revised so that the quorum is 10% of the membership until the membership reaches the level of three hundred members, in which case, and beyond that level, the quorum will be 30 members. See rules 12.3 and 13.4.
- The Board (the Committee) will be 5 or more members, formally 3, and limited to 12 members, formally 15, see rule 15.1.
- Reference is made to the Code of Conduct adopted by the Board, see rule 15.17, and the Co-operative's disciplinary and grievance policies and procedures, see rule 15.8.
- Responsibilities of the Board (the Committee) are set out in rules 17.1 and 17.2.

Angela Everitt
Secretary
11 May 2015