



THE KENNET & AVON CANAL TRUST

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Membership Rules

1. There shall be one class of membership.
2. Membership shall be open to individuals (individual subscription) and to two people resident at the same address (joint subscription) on payment of a defined minimum donation fee. This may be paid annually or quarterly in advance.
3. Applications for membership shall be made to the Trust in the form specified by the Trust. The membership form shall be available on request and published on the Trust's website.
4. The minimum membership shall be £20 per year or £5 per quarter for an individual subscription and £23 per year / £6 per quarter for a joint subscription, both paid in advance. Membership shall commence on receipt of the first payment. Thereafter membership subscription fees are not refundable.
5. In the event of an increase in the minimum subscription fee, all current memberships shall remain valid until their next scheduled renewal payment date. Thereafter any payments below the defined minimum will be regarded as a donation.
6. Members shall act in accord with the Trust's Articles of Association. Members will have the right to attend and vote at general meetings of the Trust and to receive copies of the annual accounts and annual report of the Trust.
7. Communication with members will be in electronic form unless a member has no email address or has specifically requested other forms of communication. In the case of a joint subscription, communication with one member will be regarded as communication with both.
8. Members shall be entitled to receive electronic copies of the Trust's magazine and electronic newsletters, as produced from time to time.
9. Members who have an annual subscription or who have made 4 consecutive quarterly payments may choose to receive a printed copy of the Trust's magazine produced from time to time, and may claim free or reduced rate admission to the Trust's pumping station at Crofton and associated events held there as shown on the Trust website.
10. Members shall notify the Trust of any change of postal or email address, or eligibility for Gift Aid, through the Trust web site or by notifying the Trust.
11. Membership is also offered to organisations by arrangement with the Trust. In such cases one nominated member of that organisation will be regarded as the member in respect of membership rights and benefits.



Explanatory notes – these are not part of the Rules and are intended to assist understanding and discussion of them

The minimum rate is not a standard rate. New members will be encouraged by the website and on membership forms to choose a higher level whilst leaving the option for active volunteers who already contribute to Trust fund raising activities (some of whom are not currently members) and members of limited means to pay less.

Current annual membership rates are £20 single, £23 joint for over 60s and £27 / £30 for others. The new arrangements will apply to all memberships irrespective of age.

The new minimum rate is the lowest current subscription rate. Abolition of the current discount for Direct Debit payment will result in a £2 increase for members currently using this system, but does not require them to contact their bank unless they disagree..

The intention is that current members will continue their current subscription until renewal is due. They will then be asked to renew at either their current rate (without discount) or, should they feel able, a higher one. Although much of the process will be automated, this gives a phased workload for Trust staff and allows easier monitoring of results.

Life membership is no longer offered. Surviving life members retain their membership and associated benefits but can be asked if they wish to make donations.

All members who have supplied email details are entitled to electronic items as set out in Rule 8. New members will be encouraged to take the cost of a printed Butty into account when setting their subscription. Current members already receive a printed Butty as part of their membership and, under Rule 9, may choose to continue to do so.

Rule 9 includes a limitation on membership benefits for those paying quarterly. This Rule also includes flexibility to change member admission rates and conditions if required.

Council has the power to change future minimum rates and membership benefits as indicated in the Articles of Association.

THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT CONTROLLED ONCE PRINTED

Responsible Trustee	David Copley
Date approved by the Trust Council:	15 March 2021
Review Date:	July 2022