

# CONSTITUTION OF THE MALDON YOUTH ORCHESTRA

(Updated 2025 in line with 2024 guidance and regulations)

## 1. Name

The name of the organisation is "**Maldon Youth Orchestra**"

## 2. Administration

Subject to the matters set out below, the Maldon Youth Orchestra shall be administered and managed in accordance with this constitution by members of the Management Committee as constituted by Clause 7.

## 3. Objects

The objects of the Maldon Youth Orchestra are:

- To give young people the opportunity to play music together.
- To support young musicians and ensure that when they reach a suitable age and ability, they may be eligible to join our affiliated organisations.

## 4. Powers

In furtherance of the objects, the Management Committee may exercise the following powers:

- To raise funds and invite voluntary contributions.
- To buy or lease and maintain equipment or materials necessary for achieving the objectives.
- To sell, lease or dispose of any part of the property of the Maldon Youth Orchestra.
- To borrow money and charge property as needed.
- To publish materials in print or electronic format and hold intellectual property rights.
- To organise concerts, workshops, and events.
- To provide indemnity insurance.
- To undertake other lawful activities necessary for achieving the objectives.

## 5. Membership

- Ordinary Membership is open to all young people under 18 who play a musical instrument.
- Preference is given to applicants from Maldon and surrounding rural areas.

- There shall be no discrimination based on race, gender, religion, political beliefs or disabilities.
- Members turning 18 may join affiliated organisations or assist during rehearsals.
- The Management Committee may terminate a membership for good reason, with a right to be heard.
- The membership secretary shall maintain membership records and forward subscription income to the treasurer.

## **6. Honorary Officers**

Honorary Officers shall be elected by the Management Committee and shall serve until replaced. These are:

- Musical Director
- Secretary
- Chair
- Treasurer

## **7. Sub Committees**

The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees as needed, with defined terms of reference and reporting responsibilities.

## **8. Receipt and expenditure**

All funds shall be paid into an account operated by the Management Committee in the name of Maldon Youth Orchestra. Funds shall be used solely to further the objectives.

## **9. Accounts**

The treasurer shall:

- Present up-to-date statements to each ordinary meeting of the Management Committee.
- Prepare an annual statement of accounts, independently examined, and publish it for stakeholders in Q1 each year.

## **10. Indemnity**

No Committee member shall be liable:

- For losses due to investments made in good faith.

- For negligence or fraud of any other person unless caused by their own wilful misconduct.

### **11. Annual transparency and stakeholder engagement (replacing AGM further to regulatory changes 2024)**

Where able and at the discretion of the Management Committee, an **Annual Stakeholder Update** shall take place in the **first quarter (Q1)** of each year, providing transparency and accountability. This may take the form of:

- An in-person meeting
- A public online meeting
- A published written report
- Or a combination of both

The update will:

- Present the annual accounts and financial statement
- Summarise activities, outcomes, and plans
- Invite feedback via email, online form, or another accessible channel

The Management Committee shall ensure that this engagement process is accessible and provides a meaningful opportunity for stakeholder input.

### **12. Alterations to the Constitution**

This Constitution may be amended by a resolution passed by at least a two-thirds majority of the Management Committee, following appropriate stakeholder consultation via the annual update process or other appropriate means.

### **13. Dissolution**

If deemed necessary or advisable to dissolve the Maldon Youth Orchestra, the Management Committee shall call a meeting of members with at least 21 days' notice. If confirmed by a two-thirds majority, any assets shall be used to meet liabilities, and remaining assets shall be transferred to organisations with similar aims.

Last amended 7 August 2025 by the Management Committee