

BLUE TEXEL SHEEP SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION and MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The **NAME** of the organisation shall be the “Blue Texel Sheep Society”, (hereafter called “the Society”)

2. The **OBJECTS** of the Society shall be to promote the science and practice of agriculture by encouraging and improving Blue Texel sheep (hereafter called “Blue Texels”) by breeding, promotion and management, and by encouraging their use, appreciation, well-being and protection in the UK. (Blue Texels include sheep known as “Blauwe Texelaars” in their country of origin or elsewhere)

3. **POWERS** In furtherance of these objects, but not otherwise, the Society shall have the following powers:

To support the production and publication of a flock book for registration of pedigrees of Blue Texel sheep in the UK.

To define the correct characteristics of Blue Texels, and aim to ensure that all animals meet these requirements in registration procedures, shows, sales and breed promotions.

To promote and encourage the keeping of Blue Texels in the UK by means of shows, sales, exhibitions, advertisement, publicity materials or any other appropriate means.

To provide help, advice and support to members, and to collect and disseminate information by any means beneficial to the Society or its members.

To promote meetings of members to exchange ideas and information.

To cooperate with or affiliate to any organisation in furtherance of the Society’s objects.

4. **MEMBERSHIP** of the Society shall be open to any person owning Blue Texels. Individual, joint or corporate members are entitled to a single vote. Associate membership is available to non-owners having an interest in the objects of the Society, without the right to vote. Membership shall be a gift to the members, if abused by misconduct or disrepute, it can be suspended or withdrawn.

5. **SUBSCRIPTIONS** are payable annually in advance on 1st January. The amount to be paid is decided at the Annual General Meeting before the beginning of the subscription year. Members who have not paid their subscriptions by 1st May will cease to receive the benefits of membership, and may be considered to have resigned.

6. An **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** (“AGM”) will be held in each calendar year with not more than a 15 month interval between them, at which the Management Committee shall report on its work during the previous year, and present audited accounts. The AGM will elect the officers and members of the Management Committee, and an independent auditor. Nomination papers for Committee Members will be sent out to members with the notice calling the AGM, which will be followed by voting papers listing all of those nominated. Members will have the opportunity to discuss all matters relevant to the objects of the Society, and to address the meeting in writing if unable to attend. Notice of the date, time and place of the AGM will be sent to members at least 3 weeks beforehand.

7. **MANAGEMENT** Subject to the overall direction of general meetings of members, the management of the Society’s affairs shall be conducted by a Management Committee (“the Committee”) consisting of Chairman and Vice Chairman both of whom would be selected from the committee and a Treasurer and Secretary (“the officers”) and up to 10 other members, one third of these members to retire annually in rotation but be eligible for re-election at the AGM. The retiring Chairman shall serve for a

year as ex-officio. The officers shall retire annually but may be re-elected. They shall be full voting members of the Committee provided they are unpaid. A quorum for a committee meeting is half the membership of the committee. The Committee may appoint sub-committees, co-opt additional members, and appoint officers in the event of a vacancy occurring before an AGM. The committee shall have powers to investigate any claims of misconduct or disrepute, and to sanction any members so involved. If appealed, a bond of £250 shall be set and dispute arbitrated by an independent body e.g. NSA. If unsuccessful, bond will be forfeited.

8. A **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING** may be convened by the Committee, or by the Secretary at the request of not less than one-fifth of the membership, provided at least 3 weeks notice is given of the date, time and place of the meeting. The notice shall state the names of the members requesting the meeting together with a summary of the reasons why it is being called.

9. **ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION** shall receive the assent of a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at an AGM or Special General Meeting. At least three weeks notice of any proposed change must be given to members, including the text of the proposed alteration.

10. **DISSOLUTION** The Society may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting at a Special General meeting convened for the purpose, of which at least 3 weeks notice shall have been given to members. Assets of the Society remaining after the discharge of due debts shall be transferred to a charitable organisation, to be identified by a majority vote of the outgoing Committee, having some or all of the objects of the Society, or if this cannot be effected, to some other charitable purpose.

11. The **BREED STANDARD** of the Blue Texel shall be as appended. Most recent update 13/12/14

12. The Society will maintain a **FLOCK BOOK** to record the registration of the pedigrees of male and female Blue Texel sheep owned by members of the Society. A certificate of registration will be issued to the new owner for each animal accepted. Registration fees will be decided by the Committee. The following will be admitted to the Flock Book:

- i. Blue Texel sheep sired by a fully registered Blue Texel ram out a fully registered Blue Texel ewe
- ii Blue Texel sheep with a pedigree certificate from the Stamboek Blauwe Texelaar or other similar organisation in the country of origin.

13. **IDENTIFICATION** Sheep put forward for registration must be uniquely identifiable by a method to be decided at an AGM or other general meeting of members. . Identifiable by a method to be decided by DEFRA SEERAD or DARD