

## **Proposed Changes to the DVS Constitution**

At the moment DVS committee members are appointed for a period of three years. The committee proposes that, in the interests of good governance, a committee member should not serve for more than four terms of three years. In addition, it is recommending that the post of Chairman should not be held by the same person for more than five years.

It is felt that this proposal should be reflected in the Constitution of the Society, rather than just being left to the good practice of the committee.

Changes to the Constitution need to be confirmed at the Society's AGM. Accordingly, it is recommended that the sentence currently in the Constitution, which reads "One third of the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, and outgoing members may be re-elected." should be replaced. The proposed new wording is:

"One third (or as close to this as is possible) of the members of the Executive Committee shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting of the Society normally for, but not exceeding, a period of three years; and outgoing members may be re-elected. The maximum period for which an individual shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee shall be twelve years. Transitional arrangements shall apply, as minuted by the Executive Committee and to ensure the smooth

running of the Society, for the early years of the introduction of this policy with effect from the Annual General Meeting in 2017.”

A second change to the Constitution is also recommended. Section 14 of the constitution refers to the ways in which notices are deemed to have been given to members. At the moment the current wording in section 14 of the constitution reads:

“Any notices required to be given by this constitution shall be deemed to be duly given if published in Dore to Door, displayed on the Society’s notice board or left at or sent by prepaid post to members using the address last notified to the Secretary”.

It is recommended that the word “Secretary” is replaced with “Membership Secretary” and that the following phrase is added to that sentence as follows: “or to the email address last notified to the Membership Secretary”.