

# **Angulimala, the Buddhist Prison Chaplaincy Organisation**

## **CONSTITUTION**

**Adopted May 23rd 1986**

**Revised September 18<sup>th</sup> 1999, September 24<sup>th</sup> 2005 and September 8<sup>th</sup> 2007.**

### **1. NAME**

The Association shall be called ANGULIMALA: The Buddhist Prison Chaplaincy Organisation (hereinafter called ANGULIMALA).

### **2. OBJECTS**

To make available facilities for the teaching and practice of Buddhism in Her Majesty's Prisons and other places of lawful detention or custody. Specifically:

- i) To recruit and advise a team of Buddhist visiting chaplains to be available as soon as there is a call for their services;
- ii) To act in an advisory capacity, and to liaise with the Home Office chaplaincy officials, with individual chaplains within Her Majesty's Prisons, and with any other relevant bodies or officials;
- iii) To provide an aftercare and advisory service for prisoners after release.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise ANGULIMALA through its Executive Committee shall have power:

- (a) To assist and co-operate with other charitable institutions having similar aims.
- (b) To raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatever by way of subscription, donation, or otherwise, providing that ANGULIMALA shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its primary objects.
- (c) ANGULIMALA may publish literature including a magazine, books or pamphlets but nothing shall be published in the name of ANGULIMALA without the permission of the Executive Committee.
- (d) To do all such other things as shall further the objects of ANGULIMALA.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

A. Membership shall be open to all Buddhists who are prepared to support the objects of ANGULIMALA.

B. All members are entitled to attend and participate in General Meetings of ANGULIMALA but only appointed Buddhist prison chaplains shall have the right to vote.

C. Membership ceases upon receipt by the Executive Committee of the member's written resignation or by failure of the member after due notices to pay the annual

subscription. The Executive Committee reserves the right to terminate the membership of anyone whose conduct in its opinion renders that member unsuitable for membership. Such a member shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Executive Committee to state his or her case but the decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.

(c) Members are deemed to be cognizant of these rules, a copy of which is to be available for their inspection on request and to be willing to consent to them.

#### **4. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Members are expected to support the work of ANGULIMALA to whatever extent they feel able and to pay such annual minimum subscription as may be acceptable to the Executive Committee.

#### **5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

A. ANGULIMALA shall be governed by an Executive Committee, consisting of not less than three and not exceeding eleven Members of ANGULIMALA as may be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and one ex officio member, being the Spiritual Director for the time being.

B. No person other than a member of the Executive Committee retiring at the meeting shall (unless recommended by the Executive Committee at the Annual General Meeting) be elected a member of the Executive Committee at the Annual General Meeting unless not less than twenty-one days before the date appointed for the meeting there shall have been delivered to the Executive Committee.

(i) a notice in writing, proposed and seconded by members of ANGULIMALA nominating such person for election, and

(ii) a notice in writing signed by that person indicating his or her willingness to be elected.

C. Three members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum. The Executive Committee shall meet as required, but not less than four times in any twelve months.

D. One third of the members of the Executive Committee shall retire at each Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election. Executive Committee members retire in rotation.

E. At least seven days written notice (stating business to be discussed) of a meeting of the Executive Committee shall so far as practicable be given to every member of the Executive Committee.

F. The Executive Committee may fill by co-option any casual vacancy which may occur in their number but the person so filling the vacancy must be a full member of ANGULIMALA and shall retire at the Annual General Meeting next, following his co-option and shall be eligible for election.

G. The Executive Committee may from time to time make, alter and revoke such by-laws for the internal management of ANGULIMALA as they shall deem necessary.

H. Executive Committee Members may resign by notifying the Executive Committee in writing of their wish to do so.

I. The Executive Committee may appoint subcommittees to consider and report on any matter. Members of such sub-committees need not be members of the Executive

Committee but at least one member of each sub-committee shall be a member of the Executive Committee. All acts and proceedings of such sub-committees shall be reported to and confirmed by the Executive Committee as soon as possible.

J. Any questions arising at Executive Committee meetings or sub-committee meetings which have to be decided by a vote shall only be decided by an unanimous decision of those present and voting at such meetings with no abstentions being allowed. Except that decisions of the Executive Committee pursuant to Rule Ten (interpretation) and Rule Thirteen (dissolution) shall be by simple majority of those present and voting.

K. The Executive Committee shall invite and appoint a suitably qualified adherent of Buddhism to be the Spiritual Director of ANGULIMALA.

L. The Executive Committee shall invite and appoint eminent Buddhists as patrons.

## **6. GENERAL MEETINGS**

A. The Executive Committee shall convene an Annual General Meeting to be held at least once in every calendar year being no more than fifteen months nor less than nine months after the holding of the last preceding Annual General Meeting. Notice of such meetings shall be sent to all members in reasonable time and in any event not less than twenty-eight days before the date of such meetings.

B. At the Annual General Meeting of ANGULIMALA the following business shall be transacted:

(i) To receive and if approved to adopt an independently examined or audited statement of the accounts to the end of the previous financial year.

(ii) To elect the members of the Executive Committee.

(iii) To elect an Independent Examiner or Auditor.

(iv) To deal with any special matter which the Executive Committee desires to bring before the members and to receive and consider suggestions from the members for consideration by the Executive Committee.

C. An Extraordinary General Meeting of ANGULIMALA may be called at any time by the Executive Committee and shall be so called within twenty-eight days of receipt by the Executive Committee of a request in writing signed by not less than one-third of the Members of ANGULIMALA stating the purpose for which such a meeting is desired and setting out any resolution which is desired to propose thereat. The Executive Committee shall send notices convening such meetings to all Members at least fourteen days before the meeting. The notice shall specify the business to be transacted at such a meeting and no other business shall be transacted.

D. Any questions arising at General Meetings which have to be decided by a vote shall be decided by a two-thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote at such a meeting unless otherwise provided.

E. Election of Executive Committee members at the Annual General Meeting shall be by simple majority of those present and entitled to vote.

## **7. PROPERTY**

A. ANGULIMALA through the Executive Committee may receive and disclaim property of any nature whether or not it is subject to any express conditions or trusts. The Fellowship may purchase or otherwise acquire and hold property of any nature and

may sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise deal with the same. Any property belonging to ANGULIMALA may be invested.

(i) In the names of not more than four Trustees who may be appointed from time to time by the Executive Committee; or

(ii) In the name of a private company established by and under the control of ANGULIMALA; or

(iii) In the name of the Official Custodian for Charities,

B. Such investments may be in or upon such shares, stocks, funds, securities, investments and property, real or personal, freehold or leasehold upon such terms or conditions (if any) as the Executive Committee shall in its absolute discretion think and in all respects as if the Executive Committee were the sole beneficial owners thereof. The Executive Committee may from time to time direct the Trustees to to sell, vary and transfer such investments and property.

C. The Executive Committee may deal with the said investments as if they were the sole beneficial owners thereof and without prejudice to generality of power may borrow for the general purposes of ANGULIMALA such sums as may be required be it and may charge such sums upon the property of ANGULIMALA.

D. The Trustees shall in all respects act as required by the Executive Committee and the copy of a minute of the meeting of the Executive Committee signed by two members of the Executive Committee shall be conclusive evidence of its decision.

E. Any Trustees may be removed from office by a resolution passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

F. The Trustees shall be effectually indemnified by the Executive Committee from and against any liability, costs, expenses and payments whatsoever which may be properly incurred or made by them in relation to the Trusts of the property and investments of ANGULIMALA or in relation to any legal proceedings or which otherwise relate directly or indirectly to the performance of the functions of ANGULIMALA.

## **8. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS**

A. The financial year shall end on 31st March of each year. The income and property of ANGULIMALA and all money received by or on behalf of ANGULIMALA shall be applied solely towards the furtherance, promotion and execution of the objects of ANGULIMALA and no portion thereof shall be paid by way of dividend, bonus or profit to any member of ANGULIMALA.

B. All monies belonging to ANGULIMALA shall (unless invested) be deposited in a banking account in the name of ANGULIMALA. No sum shall be drawn from this account except by cheques signed by two members of the Executive Committee. Any monies not required for immediate use may be invested by the Executive Committee as herein authorised. The Executive Committee shall cause true accounts of the receipts, expenditures, assets, credits and liabilities of ANGULIMALA and shall place before the members of the ANGULIMALA at each Annual General Meeting an independently examined or audited statement of accounts made up to the end of the previous financial year.

## **9. RECORDS**

Records shall be taken and minutes kept of the proceedings at all General Meetings, all meetings of the Executive Committee and all sub-committee meetings and the Executive Committee shall have charge of all minute books and all correspondence.

## **10. INTERPRETATION**

If there should be any ambiguity or difference of opinion concerning the purport or interpretation of any rule and to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules, reference shall be made in writing to the Executive Committee. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final and binding on all parties

## **11. INDEPENDENCE**

ANGULIMALA shall not be affiliated with any political party or organisation and shall not take part in any political activities.

## **12. ALTERATION OF RULES**

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present at an Annual or Extraordinary General meeting provided that fourteen days notice of the proposed has been sent to all members and provided that nothing herein contained shall have the effect of the Society ceasing to be a charity at law. No amendment shall be made to Clause 2, this Clause or Clause 13, without the written consent in advance of the Charity Commissioners.

## **13. DISSOLUTION**

In the event of a dissolution of ANGULIMALA any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities shall not be paid to or distributed among ANGULIMALA but shall be given to such other charitable institution or institutions having similar objects to ANGULIMALA.

**ANGULIMALA**  
**the Buddhist Prison**  
**Chaplaincy Organisation**

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