**Amendments to the Constitution – Rationale for suggested changes - June 2023**

The proposed amendments have been highlighted in red in the revised draft Constitution. This document details the current provision, the suggested revised provision and the rationale for the suggested change.

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| **No** | **Current Provision** | **Proposed Provision** | **Reason for change** |
| 1 | 2.Purposes  The current purposes of the Society includes Society is a ‘peak body’  The purposes of the Society are to:…  2.5 as the peak body represent and support affiliated historical societies throughout Victoria;… | **2** The purposes of the Society are to:  …  2.5 support and assist affiliated historical societies throughout Victoria;…  .. | Council has reviewed the reference to the RHSV as a ‘peak body’. In Council deliberations Councillors agreed that the RHSV does not perform a peak body representation role. Affiliated historical societies do not have voting rights and there are no formal processes to consult affiliated society members prior to Council considerations.  Council has agreed to remove the reference to ‘peak body’ and ‘represent’ and replace with ‘support and assist’ which accurately reflects the relationship between the Society and its affiliated historical societies. |
| 2 | **9**. **Categories of Membership and Fees**  The Council may determine membership categories, fees and these will be published as By-Law No.1  **13. Annual subscription**  (1) The Council may determine from time to time the amount of the annual subscription.  (2) The term of the annual subscription will date from the day a member joins.  Note: Prior to 2018 members had a fixed membership renewal date of either 1 January or 1 July. From 2018 new members will renew on the anniversary date of their joining.  (3) If a membership lapses for a period of more than six months, subsequent renewal will be treated as a new membership.  (4) The rights of a member (including the right to vote) who has not paid the annual subscription within three months of the due date are suspended until the subscription is paid. | **9. Categories of Membership, subscriptions and Fees**  The Council may determine membership categories, subscriptions and fees.  **13.Annual subscription**  (1) The term of the annual subscription will date from the day a member joins.  Note: Prior to 2018 members had a fixed membership renewal date of either 1 January or 1 July. From 2018 new members will renew on the anniversary date of their joining.  (2) If a membership lapses for a period of more than six months, subsequent renewal will be treated as a new membership.  (3) The rights of a member (including the right to vote) who has not paid the annual subscription within three months of the due date are suspended until the subscription is paid. | To provide clarity and to remove duplication.  Clause 9 – was a new provision added in 2019 when the Constitution was last reviewed. Subscriptions will be added to the title and the wording of the provision.  Clause 13 (1) is superfluous given the provision of clause 9 and should be deleted.  Remove ‘fee on joining’ from clause 13 in the ‘Table of Provisions’ as this is not the title of the provision. |