



At the Court at Buckingham Palace

THE 12th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
IN COUNCIL

His Majesty has allowed the amendments to the Charter of The Royal Astronomical Society as set out in the Schedule to this Order.

Richard Tilbrook, CVO

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

1. In Article 2 after “for the encouragement and promotion of *Astronomy*” **insert** “*and Geophysics*”.
2. After Article 3, for the avoidance of doubt, **insert** as Article 3(i) the provisions contained in the Supplemental Charter of 1915, which provide for the election, admission and expulsion of Fellows and Associates, without distinction of sex as follows:

“3(i) Persons may be elected and admitted to be Fellows and Associates of the said Society, and expelled therefrom, without distinction of sex.”
3. In Article 4, for the avoidance of doubt, deletions are incorporated as ordered by Article 1 of the Supplemental Charter of 2005. The following phrases were thereby deleted: “(not withstanding the Statutes of Mortmain),” and ‘, ‘the yearly value of which (including the said hall or college) shall not exceed the whole of the sum of Two Thousand Pounds, computing the same respectively as the rack rent which might have been had or gotten for the same respectively at the time of the purchase and acquisition thereof, and “in mortmain” and “, not exceeding such annual value as aforesaid”.’.

4. In Article 6 after “the Council shall consist of a President,” *insert* “a President-Elect,” .
5. In Article 7:
 - (i) after “the General Meeting shall choose the President,” *insert* “President-Elect,”;
 - (ii) after “for fixing and determining the manner of electing the President,” *insert* “President-Elect,”.
6. In Article 11, after “AND WE” *delete* “LASTLY” and *substitute* “FURTHER”.
7. After Article 11, for the avoidance of doubt, *insert* as Article 12 the provisions contained in Article 2 of the Supplemental Charter of 2005, which sets out the procedure for making amendments to the Charter as follows:

“12. The Council of the Society may by a resolution in that behalf passed at any meeting of such Council by not less than two-thirds of the members of such Council present and voting (being an absolute majority of the whole number of the members of such Council entitled to vote at meetings thereof) and confirmed at a general meeting of members of the Society held not less than one month nor more than four months afterwards by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereat revoke, amend or add to the original Charter, the 1915 Supplemental Charter or this Our Supplemental Charter and any such revocation, amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that the original Charter, the 1915 Supplemental Charter and this our Supplemental Charter as the case may be shall thenceforward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made accordingly. Provided that no such revocation, amendment or addition shall be made which shall cause the Society to cease to be a charity in law. This provision shall apply to the original Charter, the 1915 Supplemental Charter and this Our Supplemental Charter as revoked, amended or added to in manner aforesaid.”.
8. After Article 12 *insert* as a new Article 13:

“13. AND WE LASTLY DECLARE that the Council of the Society may by a resolution passed and confirmed as required by Article 12 hereof surrender this Our Charter and any Supplemental Charter and wind up the affairs of the Society. If upon winding up or dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Fellows but shall (subject to any special trusts affecting the same) be given and transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Society to be determined by the Fellows in General Meeting at or before the time of the dissolution.”.