

**IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF LORDS
SESSION 2023-24**

ROYAL ALBERT HALL BILL

Witness Statement of Ian McCulloch

EXHIBIT 9

**The “Blue Book”, a volume containing the Royal Albert Hall’s
Charters, private Acts, 999-year Lease and Byelaws**

The Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences

1866 Charter

1872 Lease

1876 Act

1887 1st Supplemental Charter

1927 Act

1928 2nd Supplemental Charter

1951 Act

1965 The British Museum (Transitional Provisions) Order

1966 Act

Statutory Instrument: The Charities

(Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences) Order 2000

Byelaws of the Corporation

- February 1967

- February 1985

- October 1999

- October 1999



CHARTER
OF THE
**CORPORATION OF THE HALL OF ARTS AND
SCIENCES**

VICTORIA, by the Grace of GOD of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:—

WHEREAS it has been represented to us by our most dearly beloved Son, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, that the building a Hall for the purposes hereinafter mentioned would conduce to the advancement of Science and Art: And whereas the persons hereinafter named, with many others, have subscribed towards the funds for the erection of the Hall, in consideration of having granted to them in return for their subscriptions, permanent seats in the Hall in manner appearing in the Schedule annexed hereto: And whereas provision is made in the said Schedule for registering as Members of the Corporation established by this Our Charter, all such persons as aforesaid, and all other persons who may engage to take permanent seats in the Hall: And whereas the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, in furtherance of the objects of their Charter, and of the designs of Our late most dearly beloved Husband, the Prince Consort, have agreed to lease to the said Corporation, for the term of 999 years, a portion of their estate at South Kensington, to be used as a site for the Hall; and have further agreed to guarantee a certain portion of the expense of building the Hall, on condition, amongst other things, that the amount guaranteed shall not exceed £50,000, and that the Commissioners, so far as their guarantee is not covered by public subscriptions, shall be entitled to the same rights as are granted to other subscribers, but not for the individual advantages of any of the Members of the Commission: And whereas application has been made to us by Our said dearly beloved Son the Prince of Wales to incorporate the several persons hereinafter named, and all other persons who may become the Members of the said Corporation: NOW KNOW YE THAT WE, being desirous of promoting the advancement of Science and Art by the building of the said Hall, have, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, given and granted, and we do hereby give and grant that Our said dearly beloved Son, ALBERT EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES, and Our dearly beloved Son, ALFRED ERNEST ALBERT, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, and Our right trusty and well beloved Councillor, EDWARD GEOFFREY, EARL OF DERBY, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Our right trusty and well beloved Councillor GRANVILLE GEORGE, EARL GRANVILLE, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Our trusty and well beloved CHARLES GREY, Esquire, Lieutenant-General in Our Army, Our right trusty and well beloved Councillor ROBERT LOWE,

Our right trusty and well beloved Councillor, HENRY AUSTIN BRUCE, Our trusty and well beloved HENRY COLE, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, EDGAR ALFRED BOWRING, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, THOMAS BARING, Esquire, and HENRY THRING, Esquire, and all other persons who may become Members of the Corporation established by this Our Charter, shall be a Body Corporate, by the name of "The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences," having a perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with a capacity to sue and be sued in their corporate name, and to acquire and hold lands for the purposes of the said Corporation without license in mortmain.

And we do hereby declare as follows:—

PRELIMINARY.

1st.—In the construction of this Our Charter, the following words and expressions, unless there is something in the context inconsistent with such interpretations, shall have the meanings hereinafter attached to them, that is to say,

"The Corporation" shall mean "The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences" established by this Our Charter.

"The Commissioners" shall mean "The Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851."

"Persons" shall include "A body of Persons corporate or incorporate." Words in the masculine gender shall include the feminine, and words in the singular number shall include the plural, and in the plural number shall include the singular."

2nd.—The Schedule annexed hereto, shall be deemed part of this Our Charter.

PURPOSES OF CORPORATION.

3rd.—The purposes of the Corporation shall be the Building and maintaining of a Hall and buildings connected therewith, hereinafter included under the term "Hall," on the Estate of the Commissioners at South Kensington, and the appropriation of the Hall to the objects hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, to

- (a.) Congresses, both National and International, for purposes of Science and Art.
- (b.) Performances of Music, including performances on the Organ.
- (c.) The Distribution of Prizes by Public Bodies and Societies.
- (d.) Conversaciones of Societies established for the promotion of Science and Art.
- (e.) Agricultural, Horticultural, and the like Exhibitions.
- (f.) National and International Exhibitions of Works of Art and Industry, including Industrial Exhibitions by the Artizan Classes.

(g.) Exhibitions of Pictures, Sculpture, and other objects of artistic or scientific interest.

(h.) Generally any other purposes connected with Science and Art, with power for the Corporation to furnish the Hall in such manner, and with such works and objects of scientific and artistic interest as they think fit, and generally to do all such acts and things, whether such acts and things are or are not of the same character or nature as the acts and things before enumerated, as they think conducive to the purposes of the Corporation, or for the benefit of the Members thereof, having regard to the purposes aforesaid.

4th.—With a view to raise the required funds for the building and maintenance of the Hall, the Corporation may receive Subscriptions or Donations from any persons or societies desirous of giving the same; and, subject to the rights reserved to Members of the Corporation by this Our Charter, may grant to the persons or societies giving such Subscriptions or Donations, such interests in the Hall as the Corporation deem expedient.

5th.—Subject to the rights reserved to the Members of the Corporation, the Corporation may let the use of the Hall, for a limited period, either wholly or partially, exclusively, or reserving certain rights of entry to any persons for any purposes for which the Corporation might themselves use the Hall. The Corporation may also appropriate, for a limited period, any buildings connected with the Hall, and which may not, for the time being, be required for the purposes thereof, to the use of any society, or societies, established for purposes similar to those for which the Corporation are themselves established, and upon such terms as the Corporation think expedient.

6th.—No dividend shall be payable to any Member of the Corporation, and all profits which the Corporation make by the use of the Hall, or by the sale or letting of any seats, which, after the completion of the Hall, may, for the time being, belong to the Corporation, shall be applied in carrying into effect the purposes of the Corporation in such manner as the Corporation think fit.

GOVERNING BODY OF CORPORATION.

7th.—The governing body of the Corporation, until a Council is substituted for them as hereinafter mentioned, shall be a Provisional Committee, consisting of the persons hereinbefore named.

8th.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales shall be President of the Provisional Committee.

9th.—The Provisional Committee are entrusted with the duty of carrying into effect the purposes of the Corporation, until such time as another governing body is appointed in pursuance of this Our Charter, and they may do all such acts and things, and exercise all such powers

as the Corporation themselves are empowered, by this Our Charter, to do or exercise. The Provisional Committee may fill up any vacancy occurring in their number. They may also add to their number by the election of any other person or persons being a Member or Members of the Corporation.

10th.—The Provisional Committee may act, notwithstanding any vacancy in their body. They may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn, and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit, and determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business, and the mode of voting at their meetings; and may, from time to time, appoint and remove all necessary officers, award to them their salaries, and assign their duties.

11th.—The Provisional Committee shall be assisted in the performance of their duties by an Executive Committee.

12th.—The first Members of the Executive Committee shall be the following persons: That is to say—Our said dearly beloved Son ALFRED ERNEST ALBERT, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, and the said CHARLES GREY, HENRY AUSTIN BRUCE, HENRY COLE, EDGAR ALFRED BOWRING, and HENRY THRING.

13th.—The Executive Committee shall conform to any instructions that may be given them by the Provisional Committee, and it shall be lawful for the Provisional Committee from time to time to revoke, determine, or modify any powers conferred on the Executive Committee, and to confer any new powers on them, to add to or diminish the number of their Members, and otherwise to deal with them as the Provisional Committee think fit, but subject, as aforesaid, and until any alteration is made by the Provisional Committee, or instructions given to the contrary, the Executive Committee may contract for building the Hall, and do any other acts that may be conducive to the completion of the Hall.

14th.—Subject as aforesaid, the Executive Committee may appoint the necessary officers to superintend the building of the Hall, assign to them their duties, and award to them their salaries; they may also appoint Solicitors, Bankers, and other officers of the Corporation.

15th.—Subject as aforesaid, the Executive Committee may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn, or otherwise regulate their proceedings as they think fit, and determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business, and the mode of voting at their meetings.

OPENING OF THE HALL.

16th.—The Provisional Committee shall open the Hall, when completed, with such ceremonies and in such manner as they think fit.

17th.—Within twelve months, at the furthest, after the opening of the Hall, the Provisional Committee shall call a General Meeting of the

Corporation, by Advertisement published in some London Newspaper, and shall render to the Corporation a full account of all expenses incurred by the Provisional Committee in respect of the Hall, and, on the occasion of such meeting, shall propose to the Corporation a form of constitution containing such provisions as may be deemed expedient in relation to the government of the Corporation, and to the management of the Hall, and generally to the regulation of all matters whatever (whether of the same description or not as those hereinbefore specified), which the Provisional Committee may deem it expedient to provide for in such constitution, with as ample a power in the Corporation of making regulations for the administration of their affairs (subject only to those provisions of this Our Charter, which define the purpose of the Corporation, and the right of Members), as if the Corporation were the absolute and uncontrolled owners of the property belonging to them.

The form of constitution proposed by the Provisional Committee, or any modification thereof, when accepted by the Corporation and approved by us, shall be as valid as if contained in this Charter, but shall be subject to alteration in manner hereinafter mentioned.

18th.—The acceptance by the Corporation of any such constitution as aforesaid, or any modification thereof, shall be certified by a Resolution passed by a majority of Members of the said Corporation, present personally or by proxy, at the General Meeting summoned as aforesaid, by the Provisional Committee, or at some adjournment thereof, or at some other General Meeting that may be summoned for that purpose by the Provisional Committee.

19th.—Ten Members, personally present, shall be a quorum at any General Meeting of the Corporation, and the President for the time being of the Governing Body, or in his absence, any person chosen by the meeting, shall be the Chairman.

20th.—The Chairman of a General Meeting may adjourn any meeting, and may regulate the proceeding of such meeting; and in the event of an equal division at any meeting shall have an additional or casting vote.

21st.—The sense of any General Meeting of the Corporation shall be taken by a show of hands, unless a poll be demanded, in writing, by not less than three persons present at the meeting, in which case the poll should be taken in such manner and at such time as the Chairman of the meeting directs, and the sense of the Corporation as ascertained by the result of such poll shall be deemed a resolution of the General Meeting.

Votes on the occasion of a poll shall be given in manner appearing in the said Schedule.

22nd.—In the constitution to be proposed by the Provisional Committee, an Elective Council shall be substituted for the Provisional Committee as the governing body of the Corporation, but the first Members of that

Council shall be named in the proposed constitution, and all or any Members of the Provisional Committee may be proposed as the first Members of the Council.

23rd.—The Provisional Committee shall remain in office until a Council is substituted for them.

24th.—Subject to such provisions of this Our Charter as define the purposes of the Corporation and the rights of Members, the Corporation may, in General Meeting, from time to time, by passing a Special Resolution in manner hereinafter mentioned, alter the constitution of the Corporation when accepted as aforesaid, or any part thereof, and make new provisions to the exclusion of, or in addition to, all or any of the provisions of such constitution, and any provisions so made, by Special Resolution, shall be deemed to be provisions of the constitution of the Corporation of the same validity as if they had been originally contained in this Charter, and shall be subject in like manner, from time to time, to be altered or modified by any subsequent Special Resolution: Provided always that such alterations and provisions shall not be of any force until the same shall have been approved by us.

25th.—A Resolution of the Corporation shall be deemed to be Special which has been passed at the General Meeting of the Corporation, and confirmed at a subsequent General Meeting held at an interval of not less than 30 days, nor greater than two months from the date of the meeting at which such Resolution was first passed, subject to the conditions following :—

- 1st.* When a poll is demanded the majority at the first meeting must consist of not less than three-fourths of the votes recorded, but a bare majority of the votes recorded will suffice for confirming the resolution.
- 2nd.* Notice of both meetings, and of the object for holding the same, must be given according to the mode in which notices of General Meetings are required to be given by the regulations of the Corporation for the time being in force.

Unless a poll is demanded in writing by at least three Members present at the meeting, a declaration of the Chairman that the Resolution has been carried shall be deemed conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the same.

26th.—The governing body, for the time being, of the Corporation, may apply for a new Charter, or for any modification of this Charter, but such application shall not be made after the opening of the Hall, without the consent of the Corporation, testified by a Special Resolution.

SCHEDULE

REFERRED TO IN THE CHARTER.

 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF SUBSCRIBERS AND MEMBERS.

REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS.

1. A register of Members shall be formed, and every person who has subscribed for, engaged to take, or is otherwise entitled to a permanent seat in the Hall, and whose name is entered on the register of Members, shall be a Member of the Corporation.

2. Permanent seats in the Hall shall be of the descriptions following:—

1st. A private box on the first tier of the Hall, containing ten seats.

2nd. A private box on the second tier of the Hall, containing five seats

3rd. A seat in the amphitheatre of the Hall.

3. A Subscriber of £1,000 shall be entitled to a private box on the first tier, or to two private boxes on the second tier. A Subscriber of £500 shall be entitled to a private box on the second tier. A Subscriber of £100 shall be entitled to a seat in the amphitheatre of the Hall. A Subscriber for a box may elect to take an equivalent number of permanent seats in the amphitheatre instead of a box. Boxes may be divided with the sanction of the governing body of the Corporation, and subject to the provisions of this Our Charter.

4. One person only shall be entitled to be registered as the holder of a seat in the amphitheatre, except in cases where a seat has become vested in the assignees or personal representatives of a former Member. In the case of a box, several persons may, with the sanction of the governing body for the time being of the Corporation, be registered as separate holders of the seats therein, so that not more than one person is registered as the holder of any one seat, and subject to this proviso: That every person registered as the holder of a seat in a box shall be severally liable to pay all the instalments due in respect of such box as well as the instalments due in respect of the seat of which he is registered as holder.

5. Every person who has engaged to take a seat in the Hall before the granting of this Charter, shall, on the payment of the first instalment due from him, be entitled to have his name inserted in the register of Members.

6. The Provisional Committee may take such steps as they may be advised for enforcing the fulfilment of the obligations of persons who have engaged to take, or may hereafter engage to take, seats in the Hall.

7. The right of a Member to his seat shall continue for the whole term for which the site of the Hall is granted.

8. The interest of a Member in the Hall shall be personal estate, and not the nature of real estate.

9. A body Corporate may subscribe for permanent seats in the Hall, and be registered in their Corporate name as a Member.

10. The Commissioners shall be deemed to be entitled to a permanent seat in respect of every £100 advanced by them on account of their guarantee, and may be registered as a Member accordingly. The Commissioners shall not be entitled, individually, to any seats possessed by them in their character of Commissioners.

11. Members will, on the completion of the Hall, be furnished with tickets entitling them, and those claiming seats from them, to go into any part of the Hall, or take any seat that is not appropriated for some special purpose, or to some particular person, where the nature of the entertainment permits, and so far as is consistent with general comfort and convenience, and with the regulations of the Corporation for the time being in force.

12. The register of Members shall state the name and address of each Member and the seat or seats to which he is entitled, and the sum payable in respect of such seat, and the amount paid by the Member. And such register shall be *prima facie* evidence of the matters directed by this Charter to be inserted therein.

13. No notice of any trust, expressed, implied, or constructive, shall be entered on the register, or be receivable by or on behalf of the Corporation.

14. A certificate, under the Common Seal of the Corporation, specifying the seats belonging to any Member, shall be *prima facie* evidence of the title of the Member to such seats, and shall be given to any Member on payment of such sum, not exceeding 1s., as may be determined by the regulations of the Corporation for the time being in force.

CALLS.

15. When a sufficient sum has been subscribed to insure, in the opinion of the Provisional Committee, the completion of the Hall, the Provisional Committee may from time to time make such calls upon the Members in respect of any instalments payable by them, as the Provisional Committee think fit, provided that twenty-one days' notice at least is given of each call, that calls are made at intervals of not less than three months, and are spread over a period of not less than two years, and each Member, or his legal personal representatives, hereinafter included under the term "Member," shall be liable to pay the amount so called for to the persons, and at the times and places appointed by the Provisional Committee.

16. If the call payable by any Member is not paid at the appointed place before, or on the day appointed for payment thereof, the Member shall be liable to pay interest for the same at the rate of £7 in the £100 from the day appointed for the payment thereof, to the time of the actual payment; and it shall be lawful for the Corporation to sue such Member for the amount thereof, in any court of law or equity having competent jurisdiction.

17. In any action or suit brought by the Corporation against any Member to recover any call, or other moneys due from such Member in his character of Member, it shall not be necessary to set forth the special manner, but it shall be sufficient to allege that the defendant is a Member of the Corporation, and is indebted to the Corporation in respect of a call, or other moneys due, whereby an action or suit hath accrued to the Corporation.

18. If any Member fails to pay any call on the day appointed for payment thereof, the Provisional Committee may, at any time thereafter, during such time as the call remains unpaid, serve a notice on him by post, addressed to his registered place of residence, requiring him to pay such call, together with interest, and any expenses that may have accrued by reason of such non-payment.

19. The notice shall name a further day, on or before which such call, and all interest and expenses that have accrued by reason of such non-payment are to be paid. It shall also name the place where payment is to be made. The notice shall also state, that in the event of non-payment at or before the time, and at the place appointed, the seat of the Member will be liable to be forfeited.

20. If the requisitions of any such notice as aforesaid are not complied with, the seat of any Member to whom such notice has been given, may, at any time thereafter, before payment of all calls, interest, and expenses due in respect thereof has been made, be forfeited, by a resolution of the Provisional Committee to that effect.

21. When a Member has forfeited his seat, any payments which may have been made by him in respect thereof shall be deemed to be the property of the Corporation, and may be disposed of in such manner as the Provisional Committee think fit, but the forfeiture of the seat of a Member shall not preclude the Corporation from recovering any moneys due from him to the Corporation at the time of forfeiture.

22. A statement under the seal of the Corporation, and signed by any Member of the Provisional Committee, that the call in respect of a seat was made, and notice thereof given, and that default in payment of the call was made, and that the forfeiture of the seat was made by a resolution of the Provisional Committee to that effect, shall be sufficient evidence of the facts therein stated, as against all persons entitled to such seat; and such statement, and the receipt of the Corporation for the price of such seat, shall constitute a good title to such seat, in favour of any person to whom the Corporation may sell the same, and a certificate of Membership shall be delivered to a purchaser, and thereupon he shall be deemed the holder of such seat, discharged from all calls due prior to such purchase; and he shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase-money, nor shall his title to such seat be affected by any irregularity in the proceedings in reference to such sale.

23. Where a Member has subscribed for a box, or is otherwise entitled to more seats than one in the Hall, all payments made or to be made by him shall be apportioned rateably amongst the several seats to which he is entitled, and shall not be attributed to any particular seat.

TRANSFERS OF SEATS.

24. A permanent seat in the Hall may be transferred by the registered holder thereof, and the transferee shall be registered as a holder of such seat in the place of the transferor. The instrument of transfer of any seat in the Corporation shall be executed both by the transferor and transferee, and the transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of such seat until the name of the transferee is entered in the register book in respect thereof.

25. Seats in the Corporation shall be transferred in the following form, or in such other form as may be prescribed by the regulations of the Corporation for the time being in force.

I, *A.B.*, of _____ in consideration of the sum of _____ pounds, paid to me by *C.D.*, of _____ do hereby transfer to the said *C.D.* the box No. _____ or the seat [or seats] No. _____ of which I am registered as holder in the books of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, to hold unto the said *C.D.*, his executors, administrators, and assigns, subject to the several conditions on which I held the same at the time of the execution hereof; and I the said *C.D.* do hereby agree to take the said [box] or [seat] or [seats] subject to the same conditions. As witness our hands the day of _____

26. The Corporation may decline to register any transfer of seats made by a Member who is indebted to the Corporation.

27. Every transfer of a box or seat shall be stamped as required by law, and the Corporation may charge, in respect of the register of such transfer, any sum not exceeding five shillings, which may be prescribed by the regulations of the Corporation for the time being in force.

28. The transfer books shall be closed at such times, not exceeding in the whole twenty-eight days in a year, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, as may be prescribed by the regulations for the time being of the Corporation.

TRANSMISSION OF SEATS.

29. The executors or administrators of a deceased Member shall be the only persons recognized by the Corporation as having any title to his seat.

30. Any person becoming entitled to a seat in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any Member, or in consequence of the marriage of any female Member, may be registered as a Member upon such evidence being produced as may be required by the governing body for the time being of the Corporation.

VOTES OF MEMBERS.

31. Every Member shall have one vote for every seat of which he is registered as holder.

32. If two or more persons, being the assignees or personal representatives of a former Member, are registered as the joint holders of a seat or seats, the person whose name stands first in the register of Members as one of the holders of such seat or seats, and no other, shall be entitled to vote in respect of the same.

33. No Member shall be entitled to vote at any General Meeting unless all calls due from him have been paid, and no Member shall be entitled to vote in respect of any seat that he has acquired by transfer unless he has been possessed of the seat in respect of which he claims to vote, and shall have been registered as the holder thereof for at least three months previously to the time of holding the meeting at which he proposes to vote.

34. Votes, in the case of individuals, may be given either personally or by proxy, but in the case of a corporation shall be given by proxy.

35. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing, under the hand of the appointer, or if such appointer is a corporation, under their common seal, and shall be attested by one or more witness or witnesses; no person who is not a Member of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences shall be appointed proxy of an individual Member, but in the case of a corporation, any member of such corporation, or any officer thereof, may be appointed a proxy.

36. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be stamped, as required by law, and shall be deposited at the Office of the Corporation not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting at which the person named in such instrument proposes to vote.

37. Any instrument appointing a proxy shall be in such form as may be prescribed by the Provisional Committee or the regulations of the Corporation for the time being.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

38. Any powers by this Schedule conferred on the Provisional Committee may be exercised by the governing body for the time being of the Corporation.

In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent.
Witness Ourself at Our Palace at Westminster, the Eighth day of April,
in the Thirtieth year of Our Reign.

LEASE

TO THE

**CORPORATION OF THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL
OF THE SITE OF THE HALL**

THIS INDENTURE, made the twenty-fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, between the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, herein-after referred to as "The Exhibition Commissioners," a Corporation created by Her Majesty's Letters Patent of the one part, and the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, herein-after referred to as "The Corporation," also a Corporation created by Her Majesty's Letters Patent, of the other part.

WHEREAS by Her Majesty's Letters Patent bearing date the eighth day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, after reciting that it had been represented to Her Majesty by her most dearly beloved son, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, that the building of a hall for the purposes therein-after mentioned would conduce to the advancement of science and art, and reciting that the persons therein-after named, with many others, had subscribed towards the funds for the erection of the Hall in consideration of having granted to them in return for their subscriptions permanent seats in the Hall in manner appearing in the schedule annexed to the said Letters Patent; and reciting that provision was made in the said schedule for registering as members of the Corporation, established by the Letters Patent or Charter now in recital, all such persons as aforesaid and all other persons who might engage to take permanent seats in the Hall; and reciting that the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, in furtherance of the objects of their Letters Patent or Charter, and of the designs of Her Majesty's late most dearly beloved husband the Prince Consort, had agreed to lease to the said Corporation for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, a portion of their estate at South Kensington to be used as a site for the Hall, and had further agreed to guarantee a certain portion of the expense of building the Hall, on condition, amongst other things, that the amount guaranteed should not exceed fifty thousand pounds, and that the Commissioners, so far as their guarantee was not covered by public subscriptions, should be entitled to the same rights as were granted to other subscribers, but not for the individual advantage of any of the members of the Commission, Her Majesty being desirous of promoting the advancement of science and art by the building of the said Hall, did give and grant that the persons named in the said Letters Patent, and all other persons who might become members of the Corporation established thereby, should be a body corporate, by the name of "The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences," having a perpetual succession and a common seal with a capacity to sue and be sued in their corporate name, and to acquire and hold land for the purposes of the said Corporation without license in mortmain. And it was declared (inter alia) by the said Letters Patent

that the purposes of the Corporation should be the building and maintaining of a hall and buildings connected therewith, therein-after included under the term "Hall," on the estate of the Commissioners at South Kensington, and the appropriation of the Hall to the objects therein-after mentioned, (that was to say) congresses, both national and international, for purposes of science and art; performances of music, including performances on the organ; the distribution of prizes by public bodies and societies; conversaciones of societies established for the promotion of science and art; agricultural, horticultural, and the like exhibitions; national and international exhibitions of works of art and industry, including industrial exhibitions by the artizan classes; exhibitions of pictures, sculpture, and other objects of artistic or scientific interest; and generally any other purposes connected with science and art, with power for the Corporation to furnish the Hall in such manner and with such works and objects of scientific and artistic interest as they thought fit, and generally to do all such acts and things, whether such acts and things were or were not of the same character or nature as the acts and things before enumerated, as they thought conducive to the purposes of the Corporation, or for the benefit of the members thereof, having regard to the purposes aforesaid. And it was further declared that, with a view to raise the required funds for the building and maintenance of the Hall, the Corporation might receive subscriptions or donations from any persons or societies desirous of giving the same, and, subject to the rights reserved to members of the Corporation by the Letters Patent or Charter now in recital, might grant to the persons or societies giving such subscriptions or donations such interest in the Hall as the Corporation might deem expedient. And it was further declared that, subject to the rights reserved to the members of the Corporation, the Corporation might let the use of the Hall for a limited period, either wholly or partially, exclusively or reserving certain rights of entry, to any persons for any purposes for which the Corporation might themselves use the Hall. The Corporation might also appropriate, for a limited period, any buildings connected with the Hall, and which might not, for the time being, be required for the purposes thereof, to the use of any society or societies established for purposes similar to those for which the Corporation were themselves established, and upon such terms as the Corporation might think expedient. And it was further declared that no dividend should be payable to any member of the Corporation, and all profits which the Corporation might make by the use of the Hall, or by the sale or letting of any seats which, after the completion of the Hall, might for the time being belong to the Corporation, should be applied in carrying into effect the purposes of the Corporation in such manner as the Corporation might think fit. And whereas the Exhibition Commissioners, by virtue of the advances made by them to the Corporation towards the expense of building the said Hall, and by purchase, are entitled to eight hundred seats in the said Hall. And whereas the Corporation have, in pursuance of their said recited Letters Patent or Charter, erected and built on part of the estate of the Exhibition Commissioners at South Kensington the erections and buildings now known as the "Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences." And whereas the Corporation have applied to the Exhibition Commissioners for the lease of the portion of their said estate at South Kensington herein-after described, and

agreed to be granted; and accordingly the Exhibition Commissioners have agreed to grant the said lease in manner herein-after appearing. NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that in pursuance of the said agreement, and in consideration of the rent herein-after reserved, and the covenants and conditions herein-after contained, the Exhibition Commissioners do hereby demise unto the Corporation all that piece or parcel of land situate, lying, and being in the parish of Saint Margaret, Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, abutting on or towards the north on the Kensington Road, and having a frontage thereto of three hundred and forty feet, or thereabouts; on or towards the east on other land of the Exhibition Commissioners, and having a frontage thereto of two hundred and sixty-eight feet, or thereabouts; on or towards the south on other land of the Exhibition Commissioners agreed to be leased by them to the Royal Horticultural Society, and having a frontage thereto of three hundred and forty-six feet, or thereabouts; and on or towards the west on other land of the Exhibition Commissioners, and having a frontage thereto of three hundred and twelve feet, or thereabouts; which said piece or parcel of land intended to be hereby demised is, with the erections and buildings now standing and being thereon, more particularly delineated and described in the plan hereunto annexed, and therein distinguished by the colour red; together with the erections and buildings now being thereon, and which are known and described as "The Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences." And together also with all other erections and buildings now built on the said piece or parcel of land, or any part thereof. And together with the use, jointly with the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors, assigns, and tenants, of the flue and shaft delineated on the said plan, but reserving to the said Exhibition Commissioners the power to substitute, at their own cost in all respects, for such flue and shaft another flue and shaft in lieu thereof, such flue and shaft to be constructed either on land belonging to the said Exhibition Commissioners or on any convenient part of the land hereby demised; such substituted flue and shaft to be constructed and fit for use prior to the removal of the present flue and shaft by the said Exhibition Commissioners. And together with the free and sole use of the air shafts delineated on the said plan, but reserving to the said Exhibition Commissioners the power, at their own expense, to stop up, alter, and remove the said air shafts, the said Exhibition Commissioners substituting in lieu of the present air shafts other air shafts equally convenient in all respects for the purposes and use of the said Hall and premises hereby demised; such substituted air shafts to be constructed either on land belonging to the said Exhibition Commissioners or on any convenient part of the premises hereby demised, and to be fit for use prior to the removal or stopping up of the present air shafts. And all ways, lights, rights, easements and appurtenances to the said demised premises belonging or appertaining, but so that nothing herein contained, save where otherwise expressly provided, shall prejudice the right to the Commissioners, their successors or assigns, to build upon any adjoining or neighbouring premises belonging, or which may at any time hereafter belong, to the Commissioners. Except and always reserved out of the demise hereby made unto the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns, their eight hundred seats in the said Hall, and all other rights and interests granted or reserved to them in and by the said recited letters

patent of the eighth day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven. And except and always reserved to the said Commissioners, their successors, assigns, and tenants, the free use, jointly with the said Corporation, their successors and assigns, of the water now being, arising, or flowing into the well situate on the south side of the premises hereby demised, with free access for themselves, their workmen and agents, at all convenient times to take and use the same for their own use and benefit. And except and also reserved free liberty and right of way and passage, and of ingress, regress, and egress to or for the said Exhibition Commissioners, their servants and agents, and all persons authorised by them during the continuance of the said term hereby granted, at all convenient times to pass and repass on foot, or with horses and carriages, and all other reasonable means through, in, or upon, across, and along the court-yard of the said premises hereby demised or expressed so to be, to and from any near or adjoining lands, hereditaments, or tenements belonging to the Commissioners, their successors or assigns. Provided always, that the said right of way shall not be exercised during the times of any public performance in the said Hall so as to interfere with the access of the public to and from the same, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the premises hereby demised or expressed so to be except as aforesaid unto the Corporation from the Twenty-fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, yielding and paying therefor yearly during the said term unto the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns, on the twenty-fifth day of March in every year, if and when demanded, the sum of one shilling. And the Corporation do hereby covenant with the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns, in manner following, that is to say, that they, the Corporation, will pay to the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns, if and when demanded, the yearly rent hereby reserved; and also will during the said term pay all taxes, rates, charges, assessments, and impositions whatsoever, whether parliamentary, parochial, or otherwise, affecting, or hereafter to affect, the said premises hereby demised, or any part thereof, or the erections and buildings erected thereon, of the landlords or tenant of the same in respect thereof; and will not, without the previous license for that purpose in writing of the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors or assigns, erect or set up, or suffer to be erected or set up, on any part of the said premises hereby demised, any erection or building other than and except the erections and buildings now being thereon; and will at all times during the said term keep the said erections and buildings in good repair, and the same in such good repair at the end or sooner determination of the said term peaceably surrender and yield up unto the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns; and also will pay a reasonable proportion (to be ascertained by the surveyor for the time being of the Exhibition Commissioners and the said Corporation, their respective successors and assigns, or an umpire to be appointed by the said surveyor in case they cannot agree) of the expense of supporting and repairing all roads, ways, sewers, drains, party walls, water-courses, and easements, used in common by the occupiers of the said premises hereby demised with the occupiers of the adjoining property of the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors or assigns; and also that the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns, shall have free liberty of

watercourse in, through, and under the said demised premises to carry off the water and sewage from the adjoining or contiguous property; and also will insure and keep insured from loss or damage by fire the said erections and buildings in the sum of one hundred thousand pounds, at least, in one or more of the public fire insurance offices in London or Westminster; and upon the request of the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors or assigns, or their surveyor or agent, from time to time produce and show the receipt for the premium of such insurance for the then current year; and also will, as often as the said erections and buildings, or any of them, shall be destroyed or damaged by fire or other accident, immediately lay out and apply the money to be received by virtue of any such insurance as aforesaid, and also all such other sums of money (if any) as shall be necessary for that purpose in re-building, repairing, and reinstating the same. And the said Corporation do hereby further covenant with the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors and assigns that they the Corporation shall and will use, or permit to be used, the premises hereby demised for such ends, intents, and purposes only as are authorised, directed, and declared in and by the said herein recited letters patent of the eighth day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and for no other intent or purpose whatsoever without the license and consent in writing of the said Exhibition Commissioners. And the Corporation shall not, without the consent in writing of the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors or assigns, assign, underlet, or part with the possession of the said premises or any part thereof, further or otherwise than as authorised or directed by the said recited letters patent of the eighth day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven. Provided always, and it is hereby declared, that if the said yearly rent hereby reserved shall be unpaid for the space of twenty-one days next after payment thereof shall have been demanded, or if any of the covenants herein-before contained on the part of the Corporation shall not be observed and performed according to the true intent and meaning of these presents, or if this indenture, or the term or interest hereby granted, or the premises hereby demised, shall be taken in execution, or attempted to be disposed of by any process of any court of law or equity, or in case the herein-before recited charter of the said Corporation shall be revoked or become invalid, or if the said Corporation shall by any means whatever be dissolved, or in case the management of the said Hall and premises shall by any judgment, order, or decree of any competent court of jurisdiction, or otherwise howsoever, be taken out of the hands of the Corporation, then and in any of the said cases it shall be lawful for the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors or assigns, at any time thereafter into and upon the said demised premises or any part thereof, in the name of the whole, to re-enter, and the same to have again, re-possess, and enjoy as in their first or former state, and thereupon this present demise and the term hereby granted shall cease and determine, without prejudice nevertheless to the rights of the Commissioners, their successors or assigns, for or in respect of any previous breach of any of the covenants herein-before contained on the part of the Corporation. And the Exhibition Commissioners do hereby for themselves, their successors and assigns, covenant with the Corporation that they, the Corporation, paying the said yearly rent if and when demanded, and performing and observing all the covenants herein-before contained,

and on their part to be performed and observed, shall and may peaceably and quietly hold the said premises hereby demised during the said term hereby granted without any eviction or disturbance by the Exhibition Commissioners, their successors or assigns, or any other person or persons lawfully or equitably claiming by, from, or under them. And that they, the Commissioners, their successors and assigns, will not, during the said term hereby granted, erect, or suffer to be erected, upon any adjoining land which may belong to them, any structure or building within fifty feet from any or either of the porches to the said Hall. In witness whereof the said parties hereto have hereunto affixed their common seals the day and year first above written.

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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AN
ACT

To make better Provision for the Maintenance of the
Royal Albert Hall.

[ROYAL ASSENT, 27TH JUNE, 1876.]

WHEREAS by royal charter, under the great seal of the ^{Preamble.} United Kingdom, dated the eighth day of April, in the thirtieth year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (in this Act called "the Corporation") was incorporated for the purpose of building and maintaining a Hall and buildings connected therewith on the estate of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one (in this Act called "the Commissioners") at South Kensington, and of appropriating the Hall to purposes connected with science and art, as therein mentioned, and the Corporation accordingly built the Royal Albert Hall (in this Act called "the Hall"), which was opened on the twenty-ninth day of March one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and has ever since been used for the purposes authorised by the said charter

And whereas the members of the Corporation are registered holders of seats or of boxes containing a certain number of seats in the Hall, which have been allotted to them in proportion to the amount of their subscriptions to the building of the Hall or have been subsequently purchased by them; and the management and maintenance of the Hall is vested in a Council consisting of a president and eighteen ordinary members, who are empowered, amongst other things, to sell or let the boxes or seats which remain at the disposal of the Corporation, either for the full remainder of the period of nine hundred and ninety-nine years for which the Hall is held by the Corporation or for any less period, on such terms as they think fit:

And whereas the Commissioners hired large portions of the Hall during the International Exhibitions, and gave in lieu of rent a sum of three thousand pounds annually for the maintenance of the Hall, which sum is no longer available now that the Exhibitions are discontinued:

And whereas the funds which the Council have at their disposal for maintaining, repairing, and furnishing the Hall, and supporting an adequate staff of officers and servants, are derived chiefly from their receipts for letting the use of the Hall upon particular occasions, and from concerts and other entertainments, and have been found to be wholly insufficient for those purposes, and the Hall must soon be closed unless a fund can be provided for the before-mentioned purposes:

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And whereas it is necessary that the Hall should be maintained and kept in substantial repair, and in a condition for letting:

And whereas a majority of the members are willing that the seats should be charged at a rate not exceeding two pounds per annum for providing a fund for the before-mentioned purposes, and it is expedient that effect should be given to an arrangement of such a nature, but the same cannot be done without the authority of Parliament:

MAY IT THEREFORE PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

That it may be Enacted, and be it Enacted, by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as "The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876."

Interpretation. 2. In this Act the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction, that is to say:

The word "seat" means a permanent seat in the Hall with a registered owner, whether such seat be in the amphitheatre or form one of several seats in a private box;

The word "member" means a member of the Corporation, whether a body corporate or an individual; and in the case of several persons jointly entitled to the same seat, means all such persons collectively;

The word "joint member" means any one of several persons jointly entitled to the same seat.

Trustees for purposes of the Act. 3. The Corporation may appoint any number of persons they think fit as trustees for the purposes of this Act, and may from time to time remove all or any of the persons so appointed, and may from time to time appoint other trustees, either in addition to the then existing trustees, or to supply vacancies occasioned by the removal of trustees, or by death or otherwise; and the trustees for the time being so appointed are in this Act called "The Trustees."

The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876

4. The Council shall in every year, at a general meeting called Annual meeting to be for the purpose at some time in the month of February, lay before held for fixing the members of the Corporation a statement of the sums which the amount to will be required in the following year, for the purpose of efficiently be paid by the keeping the Hall in substantial repair and in a condition for letting, members for and of defraying all rates and taxes thereon; and for providing maintenance of the Hall and keeping up the necessary staff for such purposes; and the of the Hall members present at the meeting shall determine at what sum, and carrying if any, not exceeding two pounds for every seat, the members out the shall be rated for that year for those purposes, and the sum so purposes of the Charter. fixed is in this Act called "the Seat Rate."

5. And whereas, by the charter and constitution of the As to votes of Corporation, every member is entitled to one vote at meetings of members for the Corporation for every seat of which he is registered as holder; certain purposes. and whereas the Commissioners are the registered holders of a very large number of seats: Be it enacted, That on questions with respect to the election of members of the Council, and with respect to the charging of members in any year for the maintenance of the Hall, and defraying the rates and taxes thereon, and with respect to the amount (if any) for each seat to be so charged, the Commissioners shall, upon the questions hereinbefore mentioned, have one vote only for every fifty seats of which they are for the time being the registered holders; and every other member of the Corporation, including such of the Commissioners as are holders of seats in their individual capacity, shall be entitled to one vote for every seat of which he is registered as holder.

6. Subject to the provisions of this Act every member for the Charge upon time being is hereby charged with and made liable for the payment members of £2 to the Corporation of the seat rate in respect of the seat or seats per annum for of which he is the registered holder, and if in any year any member each seat held refuses or for one month after demand made by the Corporation by them. for payment thereof neglects to pay the seat rate in respect of any seat or seats of which he is the registered holder, the Council shall be empowered to let his seat or seats until the full amount of the seat rate for which he is liable be paid, and in the meantime such member shall not be entitled to the use of his seat or seats: Provided always, That when and so soon as the Council shall have received the full amount for which he is liable, they shall forthwith give notice in writing to such member that they have received such amount, and that he is again entitled to the use of his seat or seats.

7. If at the expiration of the year the seat rate of any member Amount due at be not fully paid, either by the member or by sums received by the end of the the Council from the letting of the seat or seats, the amount year to be thereof, or so much thereof as shall then be due, shall be recovered by recoverable by action of debt in any court of competent action. jurisdiction.

The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876

- Recovery of seat rate when ownership of seat is doubtful. **8.** In all cases of doubt as to the person entitled to any seat the person whose name appears in the register of the Corporation as the holder thereof shall, for the purpose of enforcing payment of any sum due in respect of seat rate, be deemed the holder thereof, and the Corporation may accordingly recover payment of the said sum from him, or, in case of his death, from his estate.
- When seat belongs to joint members. **9.** The Corporation may enforce payment of any sum due in respect of a seat rate against any joint member to whom the seat may belong, and any joint member paying the seat rate shall be entitled to be reimbursed so much of the sum paid as is over and above his fair proportion thereof from the other joint members.
- Corporation may refuse to register transfer of seat when seat rate in arrear. **10.** The Corporation may refuse to register the transfer of any seat in respect of which any sums are due on account of seat rate until the same and all sums incurred by them in endeavouring to recover payment thereof have been paid.
- Power to compound for seat rate. **11.** Any member may at any time compound for all sums thereafter to become due in respect of seat rate for any seat or seats belonging to him upon payment of all sums then in arrear in respect of the seat rate for such seat or seats, and of a sum of fifty pounds for such seat, or of a sum equal to the aggregate amount of fifty pounds for each of such seats; and the holder for the time being of the seat or seats in respect of which the composition is made shall not thereafter be chargeable with any seat rate in respect thereof.
- Receipts. **12.** The receipt of the treasurer or collector for any seat rate or composition money shall be a sufficient discharge for the same to the member paying the seat rate or composition money and taking the receipt.
- Annual sums to be carried to separate account and paid to trustees. **13.** All sums under this Act in respect of the seat rate shall be carried to a separate account, to be called "The Special Maintenance Account," and shall be paid by the collector or treasurer to such bank as the trustees from time to time direct, to the credit of the account of the trustees with such bank.
- Application of Special Maintenance Account. **14.** The moneys standing to the credit of the Corporation on the Special Maintenance Account shall be applicable under the direction of the council, but subject to the approval of the trustees, in or towards maintaining, repairing, and furnishing the Hall, defraying all rates and taxes, and providing and keeping up the necessary staff for such purposes.
- When trustees disapprove of application of Special Maintenance Account. **15.** The trustees shall not be bound to pay any money from the Special Maintenance Account for purposes which they

The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876

disapprove of until the matter has been brought before a meeting of the Corporation and an order for the application of the money to those purposes has been passed thereat.

16. All sums received for the composition of annual sums shall be carried to a separate account to be called "The Endowment Fund Account," and shall be paid by the treasurer to the trustees, who shall invest the same in their names in some one or more of the following securities (that is to say):—

Composition to be carried to separate account and invested by trustees.

1. British Government Funds, or East Indian or Colonial Stocks or Securities, or East Indian Railway Guaranteed Stocks.
2. Real Securities in the United Kingdom.
3. Mortgages or debenture stock of any Railway Company in the United Kingdom paying at the time of the investment a dividend upon the ordinary stock of the Company.

17. The trustees may from time to time change any of the securities in or upon which any part of the Endowment Fund is for the time being invested for any other of the stocks, funds, or annuities in or upon which they are by this Act authorised to invest moneys carried to that account, but except for the purpose of such change of securities they shall not call in, sell out, or convert into money any of such securities.

Power to change securities.

18. The trustees shall out of the interest, dividends, and annual income derived from the Endowment Fund Account, as and when the same shall become payable, and so far as the same shall be sufficient for the purpose pay to the credit of their account at the bank to which the sums payable in respect of the seat rate are for the time being payable, such sum for each seat which shall have been compounded for as shall be charged on each seat at the meeting held for that purpose in each year, and the amount of the sums so paid shall be placed to the credit of the Corporation in the Special Maintenance Account, and any surplus income of the Endowment Fund in any year after making such payments shall be invested by the Trustees in augmentation of the capital of the Endowment Fund.

Income of Endowment Fund Account to be carried to Special Maintenance Account.

19. The provisions of the charter and of the constitution made in pursuance thereof with respect to accounts and auditors, so far as they are not inconsistent with this Act, shall apply to all accounts to be kept under the provisions of this Act as if such accounts had, in the manner provided by this Act, been required to be kept by such charter and constitution.

Extending provisions of charter as to accounts and creditors.

The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876

- For indemnity of trustees. **20.** No trustee under this Act shall be responsible for the loss of any money entrusted in the ordinary way of business to any banker, broker, solicitor, or other person, for the purpose of investment, or for the acts, neglects, or defaults of any other trustee under this Act, or of any person bonâ fide entrusted with money to make payments authorised by this Act, but shall be responsible for his own acts, neglects, or defaults only.
- Printed copies of register of seat-holders. **21.** The Corporation shall print correct copies of the register of seat-holders up to the first day of December in every year, and at the expiration of a fortnight from that date shall, on application, supply such printed copies at a price not exceeding two shillings for each copy to every person who is a member of the Corporation.
- Costs of Act. **22.** The costs, charges, and expenses preliminary to, and of and incidental to the preparing, applying for, obtaining, and passing of this Act, shall be paid by the Corporation.

SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER
OF THE
**CORPORATION OF THE HALL OF ARTS AND
SCIENCES**

VICTORIA BY THE GRACE OF GOD of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith. To all whom these presents shall come, Greeting.

1. WHEREAS by Our Royal Charter, under the great seal of the United Kingdom, dated the 8th day of April, in the 30th year of Our Reign, We incorporated the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, hereinafter called the Corporation, for the purpose of building and maintaining on the estate of the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 at South Kensington a Hall and buildings connected therewith, and of appropriating the Hall to purposes connected with Science and Art as therein mentioned, and the Corporation accordingly built the Royal Albert Hall:

2. AND WHEREAS Our dearly-beloved son Albert Edward Prince of Wales is President of the Corporation, and the governing body of the Corporation is a Council of which Our said son as such President is an ex-officio Member:

3. AND WHEREAS the funds derived from the said Hall being insufficient for the maintenance thereof, The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876 was passed in the Session holden in the thirty-ninth and fortieth years of Our reign: And whereas by the said Act the Council were required, in the Month of February in each year, to lay before a General Meeting of the Members of the Corporation a Statement of the sums which would be required in the following year for the maintenance of the Hall, and for other purposes mentioned in the said Act, and the Members of the Corporation present at such Meeting were empowered to determine at what sum, if any, not exceeding £2 for each seat, the Members of the Corporation should be rated for that year for those purposes; and the sum so fixed is in the said Act called "the Seat Rate," and is thereby made recoverable from the Members of the Corporation in the manner therein mentioned:

4. AND WHEREAS in every year since the passing of the said Act, except during certain years in which Exhibitions have been held, it has been necessary to raise the maximum amount of the Seat Rate:

5. AND WHEREAS it has been represented unto Us by Our dearly-beloved Son Albert Edward Prince of Wales that if the purposes to which the Hall may be applied were extended, an income might be raised from

the use of the Hall sufficient for maintaining the Hall, and that benefit would accrue to the public from the user of the Hall for the purpose of well-regulated entertainments and recreation:

6. AND WHEREAS it is provided by Our said Charter that the governing body for the time being of the Corporation may apply for a new Charter or for any modification of Our said Charter, but that such application shall not be made after the opening of the Hall without the consent of the Corporation testified by a Special Resolution as defined in Our said Charter:

7. AND WHEREAS the Council have applied for a modification of Our original Charter, and such application has been consented to by a special resolution of the Corporation passed at a General Meeting of the Corporation held on the 30th day of November, 1886, and confirmed at a General Meeting held on the 12th day of January, 1887:

8. NOW KNOW YE THAT WE, being desirous of promoting the interests of the Corporation, do of Our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, by this Our Supplemental Charter, declare as follows:

9. THE HALL may, in addition to the objects in Our said Charter mentioned, be appropriated to all or any of the following objects (that is to say):

- (A) Public or private meetings of any body of persons;
- (B) Operettas, concerts, balls, or any other than theatrical entertainments for the amusement and recreation of the people;

10. THE COUNCIL may do all or any of the following things, that is to say:

- (A) Let the Hall aforesaid for any of the purposes hereinbefore authorised;
- (B) Arrange with individual Members of the Corporation for the exchange, purchase, renting, or temporary user of their boxes or seats.

11. THE CORPORATION in General Meeting may, by resolution, empower the Council to exclude the Members of the Corporation from the Hall on any occasion on which the Hall is used for private meetings or for entertainments to which the general public cannot obtain admission by payment of money only on a certain number of days not exceeding ten in any one year; but no such resolution to fix such occasions shall be brought forward at any meeting unless notice of the intention so to do shall have been given, with the notice of the meeting at which it is to be proposed, which notice shall state the number of days on which it is proposed to empower the Council to exclude the Members, nor shall any such resolution be carried by a majority of less than two-thirds of the votes of those voting either in person or by proxy thereon.

12. NOTHING in this Our Supplemental Charter contained shall affect the rights or privileges of any Member of the Corporation as subsisting under Our said Original Charter.

13. THIS Our Supplemental Charter shall, so far as is consistent with the terms thereof, be construed as one with Our said Original Charter.

IN WITNESS hereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made patent. Witness Ourselves at Westminster the twenty-fifth day of October, in the fifty-first year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL,



MUIR MACKENZIE.

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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AN

ACT

To make further provision for the maintenance of the Royal Albert Hall to provide for a rate on seats therein and for other purposes.

WHEREAS by Royal Charter under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom dated the eighth day of April in the thirtieth year of the reign of Her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (hereinafter called "the Corporation") was incorporated for the purpose of building and maintaining a hall and buildings connected therewith on the estate of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one at South Kensington and of appropriating the hall to purposes connected with science and art as therein mentioned and the Corporation accordingly built the Royal Albert Hall (in this Act called "the Hall") which was opened on the twenty-ninth day of March one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one and has ever since been used for the purposes authorised by the said Charter and by a supplemental Charter dated the twenty-fifth day of October in the fifty-first year of the reign of Her said most gracious Majesty:

And whereas the members of the Corporation are registered holders of seats or of boxes containing a certain number of seats in the hall which have been allotted to them in proportion to the amount of their subscriptions to the building of the hall or have been subsequently purchased by or have otherwise become vested in them:

And whereas the management and maintenance of the hall is vested in a council consisting of a president and eighteen ordinary members who are empowered amongst other things to sell or let the boxes or seats which remain at the disposal of the Corporation either for the full remainder of the period of nine hundred and ninety-nine years from the twenty-fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven for which the hall is held by the Corporation or for any less period on such terms as they think fit:

And whereas by the Royal Albert Hall Act 1876 (hereinafter called "the Act of 1876") the Corporation were empowered to rate the members in every year at such sum (in the said Act called the "seat rate") not exceeding two pounds for every seat as the members present at a general meeting called for that purpose some time in the month of February in each year should determine:

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

And whereas the funds which the council have at their disposal for maintaining repairing and furnishing the hall and supporting an adequate staff of officers and servants are derived chiefly from their receipts for letting the use of the hall upon particular occasions and from concerts and other entertainments together with such seat rate as aforesaid and are by reason of increased cost of such maintenance repair furnishing and support insufficient for those purposes:

And whereas by the London County Council (Parks &c.) Act 1915 the hall was made subject to certain provisions (from which it had previously been exempt) of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act 1878 and of the Metropolitan Board of Works (Various Powers) Act 1882 relating to means of escape in case of fire and safety of persons resorting thereto as if the hall were a house or place of public resort to which those Acts or either of them applied:

And whereas the London County Council acting in pursuance of the said provisions or some of them have made requirements thereunder on the Corporation which involve the expenditure of large sums of money on the hall:

And whereas the Corporation have no funds at their disposal to enable them to comply with such requirements:

And whereas it is expedient that provision should be made to enable the Corporation to meet the said requirements and that better provision should be made to enable the Corporation to maintain and carry on the hall and to extend the objects to which the hall may be appropriated and that such other provision should be made as is in this Act contained:

And whereas the purposes of this Act cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament:

MAY IT THEREFORE PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY

That it may be enacted and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in the present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows (that is to say):—

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as the Royal Albert Hall Act 1927 and the Royal Albert Hall Act 1876 and this Act may be cited together as the Royal Albert Hall Acts 1876 and 1927.

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

2. In this Act the following words and expressions shall have Interpretation. the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction (that is to say):—

- “ The Charter ” means the Royal Charter of the Corporation of the eighth day of April one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven;
- “ The supplemental Charter ” means the supplemental Charter of the Corporation dated the twenty-fifth day of October one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven;
- “ The Corporation ” means the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences ;
- “ the council ” means the council of the Corporation;
- “ The Act of 1876 ” means the Royal Albert Hall Act 1876;
- “ The trustees ” means the trustees appointed under the Act of 1876 as existing from time to time;
- “ Seat ” means a permanent seat in the hall with a registered owner whether such seat be in the amphitheatre or form one of several seats in a private box;
- “ Seat rate ” means and includes any rate in respect of a seat to which a member shall at any time become liable under this Act or under the Act of 1876 as amended by this Act;
- “ Member ” means a member of the Corporation whether a body corporate or an individual and in the case of several persons jointly entitled to the same seat means all such persons collectively;
- “ Registered holder ” means any person appearing in the register of seatholders kept by the Corporation;
- “ The endowment fund ” and “ the endowment fund account ” mean the endowment fund and the endowment fund account provided for by the Act of 1876;
- “ The special maintenance account ” means the special maintenance account provided for by the Act of 1876.

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act every member for Rate on seats. the time being is hereby charged with and made liable for the payment to the Corporation for a period of six years from the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven of a seat rate of three pounds in each such year in respect of each seat of which he is the registered holder and section 4 (Annual meeting to be held for fixing the amount to be paid by the members

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

for maintenance of the hall and carrying out the purposes of the Charter) of the Act of 1876 shall during the said period cease to have effect.

(2) After the expiration of the said period of six years the provisions of section 4 (Annual meeting to be held for fixing the amount to be paid by the members for maintenance of the hall and carrying out the purposes of the Charter) of the Act of 1876 shall be read and have effect as if "three pounds" had been inserted therein in lieu of "two pounds" and section 5 (As to votes of members for certain purposes) and section 13 (Annual sums to be carried to separate account and paid to trustees) of the Act of 1876 shall extend and apply accordingly.

(3) The provisions of section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the Act of 1876 shall be read and have effect as if wherever "fifty pounds" occurs therein "seventy-five pounds" had been inserted therein.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in the Charter the Corporation shall after the expiration of the said period of six years pay out of any moneys which at the date of such expiration shall stand to the credit of or shall be in the hands of the Corporation to the holders of seats whose names appear at the expiration of the said period on the register of seatholders kept by the Corporation rateably in proportion to the amounts of seat rates paid in respect of such seats during such six years a sum equal to sixty-five per centum of the amount which if the members had been entitled to profits would have been divisible among the members as profits (which amount is in this section referred to as "profits") in respect of such period of six years Provided that—

- (i) the sum to be paid to any member by the Corporation under the provisions of this subsection shall not exceed the sum of one pound for each year in such period of six years for each seat in respect of which such member is registered as aforesaid;
- (ii) no sum shall be payable thereunder to holders of seats in respect of which a composition has previously to the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six been paid under the provisions of section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the Act of 1876;
- (iii) if any sum paid under the foregoing provisions of this subsection shall not amount to one pound for each year in the said period of six years for each seat in respect of which such payment is to be made the Corporation shall after the expiration of the year next following the said period apply as aforesaid out of any moneys which at

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

the expiration of such following year shall stand to the credit of or shall be in the hands of the Corporation a sum up to but not exceeding sixty-five per centum of the profits in respect of such following year in or towards paying rateably as aforesaid to the holders of each seat whose names appear on the said register at the expiration of such following year any amount by which the sum paid under the said foregoing provisions shall have fallen short of one pound for each year in the said period of six years for each such seat.

(5) The Corporation shall obtain from the auditors of the Corporation a certificate of the amount of the profits and such certificate shall be final and conclusive for the purposes of this section.

(6) If in any year any member refuses or for one month after demand made by the council for payment thereof neglects to pay the seat rate in respect of any seat of which he is the registered holder the council may let such seat until the full amount of the seat rate for which such member is liable be paid, and in the meantime such member shall not be entitled to use his seat:

Provided always that when and so soon as the council shall have received the full amount for which such member is liable they shall forthwith give notice in writing to him that they have received such amount and that he is again entitled to the use of his seat.

4. If at the expiration of any year the seat rate payable by any member for that year be not fully paid either by the member or by sums received by the council from the letting of the seat of such member the amount of such seat rate or so much thereof as shall then be due shall be recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Amount due
at end of year
to be
recovered by
action.

5.—(1) All sums received by way of seat rate shall be paid by the treasurer or collector of the Corporation to such bank as the trustees from time to time direct to the credit of the account of the trustees with such bank.

Application
of seat rate.

(2) The trustees shall in each year during the said period of six years from the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven apply out of the sums so received as aforesaid a sum equal to two pounds in respect of each seat in respect of which seat rate has been paid in that year in and towards meeting the cost of complying with any requirements in relation to the hall made by any public body in pursuance of any statutory authority in that behalf or any extraordinary or other capital expenditure in relation to the hall and may if they think fit

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

accumulate any sums so applicable as aforesaid in or towards the formation of a capital fund for meeting any such cost or expenditure and the trustees may accumulate in augmentation of such fund any of the income produced by such fund and may apply towards such purposes or any of them any moneys forming the said fund or any of the income produced by the fund.

(3) Any moneys forming any part of such fund or which would under the foregoing provisions of this section be applicable to such fund and any of the income produced by such fund so far as the same shall not be required for any of the aforesaid purposes and the balance of any sums received in respect of seat rate for any year which remains after setting aside the sum so to be set aside to such fund as aforesaid shall be carried to the credit of and deemed to form part of the special maintenance account.

Payments
from
endowment
fund.

6.—(1) The trustees shall out of the interest dividends and annual income derived from the endowment fund so far as the same shall be sufficient for the purposes mentioned in this section pay to the credit of their account at their bankers for each seat in respect of which a composition shall have been paid before the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six under the provisions of section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the Act of 1876—

- (a) in each year during the period of six years from the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven the sum of two pounds for each such seat;
- (b) in each year after the expiration of such six years such sum for each such seat (up to but not exceeding two pounds) as shall have been charged on each seat at the meeting held for that purpose in such year as provided by the Act of 1876 as amended by this Act;

and the amount of the sums so paid by the trustees as aforesaid shall be placed to the credit of the Corporation in the special maintenance account.

(2) The trustees shall so far as aforesaid during the said period of six years in each year after the year in which a composition shall have been paid in respect of any seat under the provisions of section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the Act of 1876 as amended by this Act apply a sum of two pounds in respect of each such seat to the purposes referred to in the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "Application of seat rate" and shall so far as aforesaid in each such year during the said period pay the sum of one pound and in each year after the expiration of such period the amount of the seat rate for that year in respect of each such seat to the credit of the special maintenance account.

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

(3) Any surplus income of the endowment fund remaining in any year after making the payments in this section before referred to shall be invested by the trustees in augmentation of the capital of the endowment fund.

7. All moneys which are by this Act to be paid or carried to the credit of or deemed to form part of the special maintenance account shall be applicable for the same purposes in every respect as those to which moneys standing to the credit of the Corporation in the special maintenance account are applicable under or by virtue of the Act of 1876. As to moneys paid to special maintenance account.

8. The provisions of the following sections of the Act of 1876 shall extend and apply for the purposes of this Act (that is to say):— Application of sections of Act of 1876.

Section 6 (Charge upon members for two pounds per annum in respect of each seat held by them);

Section 8 (Recovery of seat rate when ownership of seat is doubtful);

Section 9 (When seat belongs to joint members);

Section 10 (Corporation may refuse to register transfer of seat when seat rate in arrear);

Section 12 (Receipts);

Section 19 (Extending provisions of Charter as to accounts and auditors);

Section 20 (For indemnity of trustees);

and for the purpose of such application the said sections shall be read and construed as if any seat rate authorised by this Act or by the Act of 1876 as amended by this Act were the seat rate referred to in those sections respectively.

9. The Corporation may borrow on mortgage of the seat rate and other the income revenues and property of the Corporation provided that no greater principal sum than one hundred thousand pounds shall be owing by the Corporation on mortgage at any one time. Corporation may borrow.

10. Every mortgage on the security of the seat rate or income revenues or other property of the Corporation shall be under the common seal of the Corporation and may be according to the form set out in Part I of the schedule to this Act or to the like effect. Form of mortgage.

11. A person lending money to the Corporation shall not be bound to inquire whether the money is wanted or more than is Protection of lenders from inquiry.

The Royal Albert-Hall Act, 1927

wanted is raised or as to the observance by the Corporation of any of the provisions of this Act or be bound to see to the application or be answerable for any loss misapplication or non-application of the money lent or of any part thereof.

Corporation not to regard trusts.

12. The Corporation shall not be bound to see to the execution of any trusts whether express or implied or constructive to which any loan or security for a loan given by them under the authority of this Act may be subject but the receipt of the person in whose name any loan or security for loan stands shall from time to time be a sufficient discharge to the Corporation in respect thereof notwithstanding any trusts to which such loan or security may be subject and whether or not the Corporation have had express or implied notice of any such trust or of any charge or incumbrance upon or transfer of such loan or security or any part thereof or interest thereon and the Corporation shall not be bound to see to the application of the money paid on any such receipt or be answerable or accountable for any loss misapplication or non-application of any such money.

Appointment of receiver.

13.—(1) Any mortgagee of the Corporation may enforce the payment of arrears of interest or principal or principal and interest due on his mortgage by the appointment of a receiver. In order to authorise the appointment of a receiver in respect of arrears of principal the amount owing to the mortgagees by whom the application for a receiver is made shall not be less than one thousand pounds in the whole.

(2) The application for the appointment of a receiver shall be made to the High Court.

Transfers of mortgages.

14. Any person entitled to any mortgage made by the Corporation under this Act may transfer his right and interest therein to any other person and every such transfer shall be by deed duly stamped wherein the consideration shall be truly stated and every such transfer may be according to the form in Part II of the schedule to this Act or to the like effect.

Fund for repayment of borrowed moneys.

15.—(1) In order to discharge any principal moneys borrowed under the powers of this Act the Corporation shall in every year in which any such principal moneys shall remain outstanding appropriate and set apart out of the seat rate or other income or revenues of the Corporation such a sum as the council may in such year determine not being less in any year than one-thirtieth part of such principal moneys as may be outstanding and the Corporation shall in each such year pay over to the trustees the sum so appropriated and set apart.

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

(2) All moneys so appropriated and set apart and any income resulting therefrom shall be applied by the trustees in or towards the formation of a sinking fund for paying off such principal moneys.

(3) The trustees shall invest all moneys forming any part of any such sinking fund and any income resulting therefrom in their names in some one or more of the securities mentioned in section 16 (Composition to be carried to separate account and invested by trustees) of the Act of 1876.

(4) The provisions of section 17 (Power to change securities) of the Act of 1876 shall apply to any securities in which moneys forming such sinking fund are invested as if they were securities referred to in that section.

16. Notwithstanding anything in the Charter or in article 9 of the supplemental Charter the hall may be appropriated to the purposes of and used for theatrical entertainments and operatic performances: Amending
supplemental
Charter.

Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the operation of the Theatres Act 1843.

17. On any occasion (other than any occasion on which members may be excluded from the hall under the provisions of the section of this Act of which the marginal note is "As to occasions on which members may be excluded from the hall") on which the hall shall be appropriated to or used for any purpose for which it is necessary or convenient to erect a floor over the amphitheatre stalls therein a floor may be erected thereover and the holders of such amphitheatre stalls shall and that notwithstanding any provisions of the Charter for any occasion on which a floor shall be so erected not be entitled to the use of such stalls but on each such occasion the holder of any such stall shall be entitled to free admission to the hall and to all rights and privileges (other than the use of his stall) to which he would have been entitled as such holder but for the provisions of this section. Provided that on no occasion shall such floor remain over the amphitheatre stalls for a longer period than six weeks unless with the consent in writing of the holders of a majority of such stalls. As to
amphitheatre
stalls on
certain
occasions.

18. Notwithstanding anything contained in article 11 of the supplemental Charter the occasions on which the Corporation in general meeting may under the provisions of that article by resolution empower the council to exclude the members from the hall shall include occasions on which the hall is used for balls for the purposes of which a floor is erected over the amphitheatre stalls or other entertainments (not being (a) balls for the purposes As to
occasions on
which members
may be
excluded from
the hall.

The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927

of which a floor is not so erected as aforesaid or (b) boxing entertainments) whether the general public can or cannot obtain admission to such balls or entertainments by payment of money.

Limiting period of letting use of main hall. 19. The Corporation shall not let the use of the main hall for any continuous period exceeding one year.

Repeals. 20. The following sections of the Act of 1876 are hereby repealed:—

Section 7 (Amount due at the end of the year to be recovered by action);

Section 18 (Income of endowment fund account to be carried to special maintenance account).

Exemption of compounded seatholders. 21. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act of 1876 or in this Act—

(a) no seat rate shall be chargeable for any seat in respect of which a composition was made before the first day of January one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six under the provisions of section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the Act of 1876;

(b) in any case in which a composition is after the passing of this Act made under the provisions of the said section 11 as amended by this Act no seat rate shall be chargeable for any seat in respect of which such composition is made for any year after the year in which the composition is made.

Costs of Act. 22. All costs charges and expenses of and incident to the preparing for obtaining and passing of this Act or otherwise in relation thereto shall be paid by the Corporation.

The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876

The SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act

PART I.

FORM OF MORTGAGE.

By virtue of the Royal Albert Hall Act 1927 the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences in consideration of the sum of
 paid to the treasurer of the said Corporation by
 of do grant and assign unto the said
 his executors administrators and assigns the seat rate payable by virtue
 of the said Act and all other the income revenues and property of the
 Corporation To hold to the said his executors
 administrators and assigns from this day until the said sum of
 with interest at per centum per annum for
 the same shall be fully paid and satisfied the principal sum to be repaid
 at the end of years from the date hereof.

Given under our corporate seal this day of
 one thousand nine hundred and twenty-

PART II.

FORM OF TRANSFER OF MORTGAGE.

I of in consideration
 of the sum of paid to me by
 do hereby transfer to the said his executors
 administrators and assigns a mortgage made by the Corporation of the
 Hall of Arts and Sciences to bearing date the
 day of for securing the sum of
 and interest and all my right estate and interest in and to
 the money thereby secured and in and to the seat rate income revenues
 and property of the Corporation thereby assigned.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this
 day of One thousand nine hundred and

SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER

OF THE

CORPORATION OF THE HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India

TO ALL TO WHOM, THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME
GREETING:—

WHEREAS Our Royal Predecessor Queen Victoria by Royal Charter under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom dated the 8th April in the 30th year of Her Reign incorporated the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, hereafter called the Corporation, for the purpose of building and maintaining on the estate of the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 at South Kensington a Hall and buildings connected therewith and of appropriating the Hall to purposes connected with Science and Art as therein mentioned and the Corporation accordingly built the Royal Albert Hall

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the constitution provided for by the said Charter (hereafter called the constitution) the governing body of the Corporation is an elective Council

AND WHEREAS it has been presented to Us that it is expedient that the governing body of the Corporation should include members appointed by bodies other than the Corporation

AND WHEREAS it is provided by the said Charter that the governing body for the time being of the Corporation may apply for a new Charter or for any modification of the said Charter but that such application shall not be made after the opening of the Hall without the consent of the Corporation testified by a Special Resolution as defined in Our said Charter

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation (being the governing body as aforesaid) has applied for a modification of the said Charter and such application has been consented to by a Special Resolution of the Corporation passed at a general meeting of the Corporation held on the third day of April 1928 and confirmed at a general meeting held on the sixteenth day of May 1928

NOW KNOW THAT WE being desirous of promoting the purposes of the Corporation do of our special grace certain knowledge and mere motion by this Our Supplemental Charter declare as follows:

1.—IN the constitution the governing body of the Corporation shall be a Council consisting of elective members together with five appointed members.

2.—THE appointed members shall be appointed in manner following, that is to say, one by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), one by the President of the Board of Education, one by the Governors of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, one by the Council of the Royal College of Music, and one by the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851. In the case of the three last named the appointed member shall be a member of the appointing body.

3.—EACH of the appointed members shall hold office for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

4.—AN appointed member shall not be required to be a seatholder or otherwise to be qualified as a member of the Corporation.

5.—THIS Our Supplemental Charter shall so far as is consistent with the terms thereof be construed as one with the said Original Charter.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the seventh day of December in the nineteenth year of Our Reign

BY WARRANT UNDER THE KING'S SIGN MANUAL,



SCHUSTER.

Royal Albert Hall Act, 1951

14 & 15 GEO. 6 Ch. xviii

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Short and collective titles.
2. Interpretation.
3. Capital expenditure.
4. Capital contribution.
5. Increase of borrowing powers.
6. Power to mortgage capital contribution.
7. Amending section 16 of 1876 Act.
8. Amendment of provision for composition of seat rate.
9. Amendment of provisions as to use of hall and exclusion of members.
10. As to lease of hall.
11. Repeal of section 15 of 1927 Act.
12. Costs of Act.



CHAPTER xviii

An Act to make better provision for the structural improvement repair and maintenance of the Royal Albert Hall to provide additional capital funds and borrowing powers for the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences to amend and extend the existing provisions as to seat rates and seatholders and the use and letting of the hall and for other purposes. [22nd June 1951.]

WHEREAS—

(1) The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (hereinafter called “the Corporation”) was incorporated by royal charter dated the eighth day of April eighteen hundred and sixty-six (hereinafter called “the original charter”) for the purpose of building and maintaining a hall and buildings connected therewith on the estate of the commissioners for the exhibition of 1851 (hereinafter called “the exhibition commissioners”) at South Kensington and appropriating the hall to purposes connected with science and art as therein mentioned and the Corporation accordingly built the Royal Albert Hall (hereinafter called “the hall”) which was opened on the twenty-ninth day of March eighteen hundred and seventy-one and is the largest hall in the country and capable of accommodating 7438 people:

(2) The membership of the Corporation consists of the registered holders of permanent seats in the amphitheatre of the hall or of private boxes containing a certain number of seats or of seats in such boxes such seats having been allotted to them in proportion to the amount of subscriptions paid by them towards the building of the hall or having been subsequently purchased by them. The seatholders now number 370 holding 1297 seats:

(3) The exhibition commissioners subscribed large sums towards the building of the hall in respect of which they held rights to seats which they have since surrendered. They also made a free grant to the Corporation of a lease of the site of the hall for a term of 999 years from the twenty-fifth day of March eighteen hundred and sixty-seven at a nominal rent:

(4) The said lease included covenants by the Corporation to keep the hall in good repair and not to use it or permit its use for any ends, intents or purposes except such as were authorised by the original charter without the consent in writing of the commissioners and a right of entry for the exhibition commissioners in the event of breach of any of the covenants on the part of the Corporation contained in the lease:

(5) The original charter provided for the drawing up and sanctioning of a constitution for the Corporation and under such constitution the management of the hall was vested in an elective council consisting of a president and eighteen ordinary members. A supplemental charter dated the seventh day of December nineteen hundred and twenty-eight provided for the addition to the council of five appointed members appointed respectively by the parties therein mentioned. The members of the council all serve in an honorary capacity:

(6) The original charter provided that no dividend should be payable to any member of the Corporation and all profits which the Corporation might make by the use of the hall or by the sale or letting of any seats belonging to the Corporation for the time being after completion of the hall should be applied in carrying into effect the purposes of the Corporation. The constitution provided that the boxes or seats in the hall remaining at the disposal of the Corporation might be sold or let by the council either for the remainder of the term of the said lease or for any less period on such terms as the council might think fit:

(7) The purposes for which the hall was authorised by the original charter to be used were the following:—

- (a) congresses both national and international for purposes of science and art;
- (b) performances of music including performances on the organ;
- (c) the distribution of prizes by public bodies and societies;
- (d) conversaziones of societies established for the promotion of science and art;
- (e) agricultural horticultural and the like exhibitions;
- (f) national and international exhibitions of works of art and industry including industrial exhibitions by the artisan classes;

- (g) exhibitions of pictures sculpture and other objects of artistic or scientific interest;
- (h) generally any other purposes connected with science and art:

The original charter empowered the Corporation subject to the rights reserved to the members of the Corporation to let the use of the hall "for a limited period" for any purposes for which the Corporation might themselves use the hall:

(8) By a supplemental charter dated the twenty-fifth day of October eighteen hundred and eighty-seven (hereinafter called "the 1887 charter") the said purposes were supplemented under article 9 by the following purposes:—

- (a) public or private meetings of any body of persons;
- (b) operettas concerts balls or any "other than theatrical" entertainments for the amusement and recreation of the people;

and the council of the Corporation was authorised under article 10 to let the hall for any of those purposes and also to arrange with individual members of the Corporation for the exchange purchase renting or temporary user of their boxes or seats:

(9) The 1887 charter provided under article 11 that the Corporation in general meeting might by resolution after notice and with the support of a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes of those voting empower the council to exclude the members of the Corporation from the hall on a certain number of days not exceeding ten in any one year on any occasion on which the hall should be used for private meetings or entertainments to which the general public should be unable to obtain admission by payment of money only:

(10) The Royal Albert Hall Act 1876 (hereinafter called "the 39 & 40 Vict. 1876 Act") after reciting that the funds at the disposal of the council for maintaining repairing and furnishing the hall and supporting an adequate staff of officers and servants were wholly insufficient for those purposes and that a majority of the members were willing that the seats should be charged at a rate not exceeding two pounds per annum for providing a fund for those purposes empowered the Corporation to rate the members in every year at such sum (in the said Act called "the seat rate") not exceeding two pounds for every seat as the members present at a general meeting called for that purpose some time in the month of February in each year should determine.

The 1876 Act further provided that any member might at any time compound for all sums thereafter to become due in respect of seat rate for any seat or seats belonging to him upon payment

of all sums then in arrear for seat rate thereon and a sum of fifty pounds for each of such seats. The holder for the time being of a seat in respect of which such composition was made was thereafter to be exempt from seat rate thereon:

All sums received for seat rate under the 1876 Act were to be carried to a "special maintenance" account and paid into a bank to credit of trustees appointed under the Act and moneys on the special maintenance account were to be applicable under the direction of the council in or towards maintaining repairing and furnishing the hall defraying all rates and taxes and providing and keeping up the necessary staff for such purposes but if disapproved by the trustees then only by order of a meeting of the Corporation.

Sums received for composition of seat rates were to be carried to an "endowment fund" account and invested by the trustees. The income of the endowment fund was to be applied towards payment to the special maintenance account of sums equal to and in place of the seat rates from time to time payable on seats in respect of which seat rate had been compounded for and any surplus over such payments was to be invested by the trustees in augmentation of the fund. The number of seats in respect of which the seat rate has been the subject of composition is 35 leaving 1262 uncompounded for:

17 & 18 Geo. 5.
c. lxxiv.

(11) The Royal Albert Hall Act 1927 (hereinafter called "the 1927 Act") after reciting that the funds at the disposal of the council for the purposes recited in the 1876 Act were again insufficient by reason of increased cost of those purposes and that the expenditure of large sums of money on the hall had become necessary in order to comply with the requirements of the London County Council relating to means of escape in case of fire and safety of persons resorting to the hall and that the Corporation had no funds to enable them to comply with such requirements included provisions to the following effect:—

- (a) imposing on every member for the time being of the Corporation a compulsory seat rate in place of the seat rate under the 1876 Act for a period of six years from the first day of January nineteen hundred and twenty-seven and as from the expiration of that period increasing to three pounds the maximum sum of two pounds chargeable in any year for seat rate under the 1876 Act;
- (b) substituting seventy-five pounds in place of the fifty pounds payable under the 1876 Act for composition of the seat rate in respect of a seat;
- (c) providing that for any seat in respect of which composition is made for the seat rate no seat rate shall be chargeable for any year after the year in which the composition is made;

- (d) repealing the provision in the 1876 Act as to application of the income of the endowment fund but re-enacting it in substance subject to a maximum limit of two pounds in any year upon the payment out of such income to the Special maintenance account in place of the seat rate charged for that year on any seat in respect of which the seat rate has been compounded for;
- (e) empowering the Corporation to borrow on mortgage of the seat rate and other the income revenues and property of the Corporation provided that no greater sum than one hundred thousand pounds shall be owing by the Corporation on mortgage at any one time and requiring the Corporation in every year to appropriate and pay out of the seat rate or other income or revenues of the Corporation a sum not less than one-thirtieth part of the principal outstanding to a sinking fund in the hands of the trustees in order to discharge the borrowed moneys;
- (f) providing that notwithstanding anything in the original charter or in article 9 of the 1887 charter the hall may be used for theatrical entertainments and operatic performances but without affecting the operation of the Theatres Act 1843;
- (g) providing under sections 17 and 18 as follows:—
- (i) that the occasions on which the Corporation in general meeting may under article 11 of the 1887 charter by resolution empower the council to exclude the members of the Corporation from the hall shall be extended so as to include firstly occasions on which the hall is used for balls for the purposes of which a floor is erected over the amphitheatre stalls and secondly occasions when it is used for other entertainments (not being (a) balls for the purposes of which a floor is not so erected or (b) boxing entertainments) whether or not the general public can obtain admission thereto by payment of money;
- (ii) that on occasions (other than those to which the said extension applies) on which the hall is used for any purpose for which it is necessary or convenient to erect a floor over the amphitheatre stalls a floor may be erected thereover and the holders of such amphitheatre stalls shall be disentitled to use such stalls but entitled to free admission to the hall and to all rights and privileges as such holders other than the use of their stalls The floor

6 & 7 Vict.
c. 68.

may not remain over the amphitheatre stalls longer than six weeks unless with the consent in writing of the holders of a majority of such stalls;

(h) prohibiting the Corporation from letting the main hall for any continuous period exceeding one year:

(12) After eighty years of existence and constant use the hall is urgently in need of large structural and other repairs and improvements to render it safe and commodious for those who resort to it and properly equipped for the many uses to which it is and may be put Heavy expenditure mainly of a capital nature is involved for which the present funds and resources of the Corporation and present possibilities of revenue from use or letting of the hall are insufficient to provide:

(13) In order to enable the financial resources of the Corporation to be augmented to the necessary extent and to give the Corporation increased means of earning revenue it is expedient that further powers should be conferred upon the Corporation and the council and further provision should be made with respect to the use and letting of the hall and the rights of seatholders therein as in this Act set forth:

(14) The purposes of this Act cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:—

Short and
collective
titles.

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Royal Albert Hall Act 1951.

(2) The Royal Albert Hall Acts 1876 and 1927 and this Act may be cited together as the Royal Albert Hall Acts 1876 to 1951.

Interpreta-
tion.

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires—

“The capital contribution” has the meaning assigned to that expression by section 4 (Capital contribution) of this Act;

“The capital expenditure account” and “capital expenditure” have the respective meanings assigned to those expressions in section 3 (Capital expenditure) of this Act;

“The Corporation” means the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences;

“The council” means the council of the Corporation;

“The 1876 Act” means the Royal Albert Hall Act 1876;

- “The 1887 charter” means the supplemental charter of the Corporation dated the twenty-fifth day of October eighteen hundred and eighty-seven;
- “The exhibition commissioners” means the commissioners for the exhibition of 1851;
- “The great floor” means the floor which by section 17 (As to amphitheatre stalls on certain occasions) of the 1927 Act is authorised to be erected in the hall over the amphitheatre stalls on the occasions there mentioned;
- “The hall” means the Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences at South Kensington (constructed in pursuance of the provisions of the original charter and commonly known as “the Royal Albert Hall”) as for the time being existing;
- “The lease” means the lease dated the twenty-fifth day of March eighteen hundred and seventy-two of the site of the hall from the exhibition commissioners to the Corporation;
- “Member” means a person who is for the time being a member of the Corporation whether a body corporate or an individual and in the case of several persons jointly entitled to the same seat means all such persons collectively;
- “The 1927 Act” means the Royal Albert Hall Act 1927;
- “The original charter” means the royal charter dated the eighth day of April eighteen hundred and sixty-six by which the Corporation was incorporated;
- “Seat” means a permanent seat in the hall with a registered holder whether such seat be in the amphitheatre or form one of several seats in a private box;
- “Seat rate” means and includes any rate in respect of a seat to which a member is for the time being liable.

3.—(1) All expenditure of a capital nature which the Corporation shall incur on and after the passing of this Act in relation to improvements of or additions to the hall shall be charged to the capital expenditure account in the books of the Corporation.

(2) All expenditure for the time being chargeable to such capital expenditure account is in this Act referred to as “capital expenditure”.

4.—(1) In order to meet capital expenditure and to enable the Corporation to provide sufficient security for the borrowing of money to meet such expenditure the Corporation shall levy collect and receive the capital contribution charged by this section.

(2) There shall be charged upon and in respect of every seat a capital contribution of two hundred and eighty pounds. Such capital contribution shall be payable by yearly instalments of seven pounds on the first day of January in every year for the period of forty years commencing on the first day of January nineteen hundred and fifty-two. Every member is hereby made liable for the payment of such yearly instalment in respect of each seat of which he is the registered holder on the first day of January in any year within the said period.

(3) The sums so charged shall be received and held by the Corporation as capital funds for all purposes and shall be applicable solely to capital purposes of the Corporation. They are in this Act together referred to as "the capital contribution" and the payments made by the members in respect thereof shall be treated for all purposes as outgoings of a capital nature.

(4) If at any time any member refuses or for three months after demand made by the Corporation for payment thereof neglects to pay the amount of capital contribution for which he is liable in respect of the seat or seats of which he is the registered holder the amount thereof or so much thereof as shall then be due shall be recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(5) Any member may at any time compound for all further instalments of capital contribution thereafter to become due in respect of each seat belonging to him (whether or not he compounds or has compounded for seat rate in respect thereof) upon payment of all instalments (if any) then in arrear in respect of the capital contribution for each such seat and of a further lump sum of two hundred pounds for each such seat and no further instalments of capital contribution shall be payable after such payment or payments as aforesaid in respect of such seat or seats. All sums received by the Corporation in respect of the compounding of capital contribution in pursuance of the provisions of this subsection shall be applied either to repayment of moneys borrowed by the Corporation or to meeting capital expenditure.

(6) The provisions of the following sections of the 1876 Act shall extend and apply for the purposes of this Act with the substitution of the expression "the capital contribution" for the expression "seat rate" and "a" "the" or "any seat rate" (that is to say):—

- Section 8 (Recovery of seat rate when ownership of seat is doubtful);
- Section 9 (When seat belongs to joint members);
- Section 10 (Corporation may refuse to register transfer of seat when seat rate in arrear);
- Section 12 (Receipts).

5. In section 9 (Corporation may borrow) of the 1927 Act for "one hundred thousand pounds" there shall be substituted "five hundred thousand pounds". Increase of borrowing powers.

6.—(1) The Corporation may mortgage the capital contribution as the security or part of the security for any loan (in this section referred to as a "Royal Albert Hall loan") which the Corporation may borrow and apply to the following purposes or any of them (that is to say):— Power to mortgage capital contribution.

- (a) Repayment of the principal of any loan owing by the Corporation at the passing of this Act;
- (b) Meeting capital expenditure;
- (c) Repayment of the principal of any Royal Albert Hall loan.

(2) In relation to any Royal Albert Hall loan the following provisions of the 1927 Act shall apply subject to any necessary modifications or adaptations (that is to say):—

- Section 10 (Form of mortgage);
- Section 11 (Protection of lenders from inquiry);
- Section 12 (Corporation not to regard trusts);
- Section 13 (Appointment of receiver);
- Section 14 (Transfer of mortgages);
- The schedule.

7. In section 16 (Composition to be carried to separate account and invested by trustees) of the 1876 Act for the words from "their names in" to the end of the section there shall be substituted the words "securities in which trustees are for the time being authorised by law to invest trust moneys". Amending section 16 of 1876 Act.

8. In section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the 1876 Act as amended by subsection (3) of section 3 (Rate on seats) of the 1927 Act for "seventy-five pounds" there shall be substituted "one hundred pounds". Amendment of provision for composition of seat rate.

9. Notwithstanding anything in the original charter or the 1887 charter or the 1927 Act the following provisions shall have effect:— Amendment of provisions as to use of hall and exclusion of members.

- (1) The occasions on which the council may be empowered in pursuance of the provisions of article 11 of the 1887 charter to exclude the members from the hall (on days not exceeding ten in any one year) shall not be restricted to the occasions mentioned in that article as varied by section 18 (As to occasions on which members may be excluded from the hall) of the 1927 Act but shall comprise any occasions on which the hall is let for any purposes for which the Corporation is empowered to let the hall; and

- (2) In addition to the occasions on which the council are empowered as mentioned in paragraph (1) of this section to exclude the members from the hall the council may exclude the members therefrom on any further occasions not exceeding eight in any year being occasions on which the hall is let for a ball on the great floor or for a dance in the arena or for a conference reunion prize-giving or other affair (not being a public meeting) organised by an association society university union or other body and designed for a specialised audience.

As to lease
of hall.

10. Nothing contained in the lease shall operate or have effect or be deemed to operate or have effect so as to prohibit prevent or interfere with or require the consent of the exhibition commissioners (or other the persons entitled for the time being to the reversion to the premises demised by the lease) to the letting of the hall or any part thereof or the mortgaging of the hall or the using or permitting the use of the hall or any part thereof for any purpose if such letting mortgaging use or permission is authorised by the original charter or the 1887 charter (as amended by the 1927 Act and this Act) or by any provision contained in the Royal Albert Hall Acts 1876 to 1951.

Repeal of
section 15
of 1927 Act.

11. Section 15 (Fund for repayment of borrowed moneys) of the 1927 Act is hereby repealed.

Costs of Act.

12. The costs charges and expenses preliminary to and of and incidental to the preparing applying for obtaining and passing of this Act shall be paid by the Corporation.

**THE BRITISH MUSEUM (TRANSITIONAL
PROVISIONS) ORDER 1965**

Made - - - 16th August 1965

Coming into Operation 17th August 1965

The Treasury, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by paragraph 2 (2) of Schedule 2 to the British Museum Act 1963(a) and for the purpose of giving effect to the determinations contained in the Report dated the 24th June 1965 of the Committee constituted under paragraph 2 (1) of the said Schedule, hereby make the following Order:—

1. The freehold land and buildings at Tring known as 4 and 7 Park Street, Tring (Title Number HD8391) vested in the Trustees of the British Museum shall vest in the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) absolutely.

2. Any copyright vested in the Trustees of the British Museum and subsisting in any material in which copyright can subsist concerning zoology, entomology, palaeontology (including anthropology), mineralogy, botany and any other natural history subject shall vest in the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) absolutely.

3. The Trustees of the British Museum shall hold for the benefit of the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) the investments and

(a) 1963 c. 24.

moneys held by them on the trusts declared by clause 15 of the Will of the late N. Charles Rothschild and the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) shall apply the income thereof in accordance with the trusts imposed by the said Will.

4. The Trustees of the British Museum shall hold for the benefit of the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) one third of the investments and moneys held by them on the trusts declared in respect of the residuary bequest made to them in the Will of the late Dr. Birch dated 17th January 1766 and the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) shall apply the income thereof in accordance with the trusts imposed by the said Will.

5. The Trustees of the British Museum shall hold for the benefit of the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) the investments and moneys held by them upon the trusts declared by a Codicil dated the 14th November 1835 to the Will of the late George Swiney and the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) shall apply the income thereof in accordance with the trusts imposed by the said Will and Codicil, and the power of appointment to the Swiney Lectureship in Geology established under the said Codicil shall be transferred from the Trustees of the British Museum to the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) and shall be exercisable by them subject to the conditions (as varied by Ordinance No. 141 made by the Commissioners under the Universities (Scotland) Act 1889 on the 29th March 1895) contained in the said Will and Codicil.

6. The Trustees of the British Museum shall hold one third of the Museum Invested Fund for the benefit of the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) who shall apply the income thereof towards payment of the salaries and allowances assigned to their officers and servants.

7. Clause 4 of the Indenture made the 26th May 1920 between Alice Mary Godman, Eva Mary Godman and Catherine Edith Godman of the one part and James William Lowther, Lewis, Viscount Harcourt, the said Eva Mary Godman, Sidney Frederic Harmer and Charles Edward

Fagan of the other part shall have effect as if paragraphs (a) and (b) thereof were deleted and the following substituted therefor:—

“(a) The person who shall for the time being and from time to time be the Speaker of the House of Commons or should the Speaker decline the Office his place shall be taken by a Trustee of the British Museum (Natural History) who shall be elected or appointed by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History)

(b) Two other persons one of whom shall always be a Trustee of the British Museum (Natural History) to be elected by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History).....”.

8. Clause 7 of the Trust Deed made the 29th June 1904 between Constance Sladen, Tempest Anderson, Thomas Bailey Saunders, Henry Bury, Henry Woodward, George Bond Howes and William Abbott Herdman shall have effect as if the expression “(3) The Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History);” were substituted for the expression “(3) The Trustees of the British Museum;”.

9. Clause 1 of the Trust Deed made the 27th May 1951 between Edward Alfred Cockayne, the Trustees of the British Museum, Gavin Rylands de Beer, Thomas Wooddisse and Richard John Drumm shall have effect as if paragraph (b) thereof was deleted and the following substituted therefor:—

“(b) ‘the Museum Trustees’ means the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History);”

and the proviso to Clause 7 (8) thereof shall have effect as if the expression “(Natural History)” was inserted after the expression “a Trustee of the British Museum”.

10. The Trust Deed made the 11th September 1950 between David Meredith Seares Watson, Gavin Rylands de Beer, Cyril Winthrop Mackworth-Praed, Francis Oswin Cave and James David Macdonald shall have effect as if the words “the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History)” were substituted for the words “The Trustees of the British Museum” wherever they occur except in Recital (4).

11. The power of appointment of a Member of the governing body of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences conferred upon the Trustees of the British Museum by the Supplemental Charter granted by His late Majesty King George V on the 7th day of December in the 19th year of his Reign shall be exercisable by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History).

12. The Bye-laws of the National Central Library shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(a) paragraph (2) of Bye-law 3 shall be deleted and the following substituted therefor—

“ (2) (i) Two persons appointed from time to time by the Trustees of the British Museum who shall be Trustees or senior officials of the British Museum;

(ii) One person appointed from time to time by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) who shall be a Trustee or a senior official of the British Museum (Natural History) ”;

(b) paragraph (2) of Bye-law 6 shall be deleted and the following substituted therefor—

“ (2) (i) Not more than two persons appointed by the Trustees of the British Museum;

(ii) Not more than one person appointed by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History).”

13. Any chattels (including without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing any office, scientific, photographic or other equipment, furniture, pictures, drawings and illustrative matter, photographic negatives and prints, records, documents, papers, stocks of publications and vehicles) which at the commencement of the British Museum Act 1963 were vested in the Trustees of the British Museum and ordinarily situate at the Natural History Museum at South Kensington shall (subject to the like trusts or conditions, if any, on which they were held by the Trustees of the British Museum) vest in the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History).

14. The Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

15. This Order may be cited as the British Museum (Transitional Provisions) Order 1965, and shall come into operation on the 17th August 1965.

16th August 1965.

Ifor Davies,
George Lawson,
Two of the Lords Commissioners
of Her Majesty's Treasury.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.





Royal Albert Hall Act 1966

CHAPTER x

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Short and collective titles.
2. Interpretation.
3. Annual contribution.
4. Recovery of annual contribution when ownership of seat is doubtful.
5. When seat belongs to joint members.
6. Corporation may refuse to register transfer of seat when annual contribution in arrear.
7. Receipts.
8. Annual contribution account.
9. Application of annual contribution account.
10. Transfer of existing accounts.
11. As to borrowing powers of Corporation.
12. Saving for existing mortgages.
13. Exemption of compounded seatholders.
14. Power to exclude members from hall.
15. Power for council to prohibit sale of tickets in hall or in vicinity thereof.
16. Modification of certain provisions of constitution.

CH. x *Royal Albert Hall Act 1966*

Section

17. As to joint holding of seats.
18. Repeals.
19. Costs of Act.

SCHEDULES:

Schedule 1—

Part I—Modification of provisions of constitution.

Part II—Additional provisions to be included in constitution.

Schedule 2—

The constitution as amended and altered by this Act.

ELIZABETH II**1966 CHAPTER X**

An Act to make better provision for the improvement, repair, maintenance and equipment of the Royal Albert Hall; to provide additional funds for the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences and to extend the powers of that Corporation as to the application of their existing funds; to amend and extend the existing provisions as to seat rates and seatholders and the use and letting of the hall; and for other purposes.

[3rd August 1966]

WHEREAS—

(1) The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (hereinafter called “the Corporation”) was incorporated by Royal Charter dated the 8th April, 1866 (hereinafter called “the original charter”) for the purpose of building and maintaining a hall and buildings connected therewith on the estate of the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 (hereinafter called “the exhibition commissioners”) at South Kensington and appropriating the hall to purposes connected with science and art as therein mentioned; and the Corporation accordingly built the Royal Albert Hall (hereinafter called “the hall”) which was opened on the 29th March, 1871, and is the largest hall in the country and capable of accommodating 7,438 people:

(2) The membership of the Corporation consists of the registered holders of permanent seats in the amphitheatre of the hall or of private boxes containing a certain number of seats or of seats in such boxes such seats having been allotted to them in proportion to the amount of subscriptions paid by them towards the building of the hall or having been subsequently purchased by them. The seatholders now number 365 holding 1,287 seats:

(3) The exhibition commissioners subscribed large sums towards the building of the hall in respect of which they held rights to seats which they have since surrendered. They also made a free grant to the Corporation of a lease of the site of the hall for a term of 999 years from the 25th March, 1867, at a nominal rent:

(4) The said lease included covenants by the Corporation to keep the hall in good repair and not to use it or permit its use for any ends, intents or purposes except such as were authorised by the original charter without the consent in writing of the commissioners and a right of entry for the exhibition commissioners in the event of breach of any of the covenants on the part of the Corporation contained in the lease:

(5) The original charter provided for the drawing up and sanctioning of a constitution for the Corporation and under such constitution the management of the hall was vested in an elective council consisting of a president and eighteen ordinary members. A supplemental charter dated the 7th December, 1928, provided for the addition to the council of five appointed members appointed respectively by the parties therein mentioned. The members of the council all serve in an honorary capacity:

(6) The original charter provided that no dividend should be payable to any member of the Corporation and all profits which the Corporation might make by the use of the hall or by the sale or letting of any seats belonging to the Corporation for the time being after completion of the hall should be applied in carrying into effect the purposes of the Corporation. The constitution provided that the boxes or seats in the hall remaining at the disposal of the Corporation might be sold or let by the council either for the remainder of the term of the said lease or for any less period on such terms as the council might think fit:

(7) The purposes for which the hall was authorised by the original charter to be used were the following:—

- (a) congresses both national and international for purposes of science and art;
- (b) performances of music including performances on the organ;

- (c) the distribution of prizes by public bodies and societies;
- (d) conversaciones of societies established for the promotion of science and art;
- (e) agricultural, horticultural and the like exhibitions;
- (f) national and international exhibitions of works of art and industry including industrial exhibitions by the artisan classes;
- (g) exhibitions of pictures, sculpture and other objects of artistic or scientific interest;
- (h) generally any other purposes connected with science and art:

The original charter empowered the Corporation subject to the rights reserved to the members of the Corporation to let the use of the hall "for a limited period" for any purposes for which the Corporation might themselves use the hall:

(8) By a supplemental charter dated the 25th October, 1887 (hereinafter called "the charter of 1887"), the said purposes were supplemented under article 9 by the following purposes:—

- (a) public or private meetings of any body of persons;
- (b) operettas, concerts, balls or any "other than theatrical" entertainments for the amusement and recreation of the people;

and the council of the Corporation was authorised under article 10 to let the hall for any of those purposes and also to arrange with individual members of the Corporation for the exchange purchase renting or temporary user of their boxes or seats:

(9) The charter of 1887 provided under article 11 that the Corporation in general meeting might by resolution after notice and with the support of a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes of those voting empower the council to exclude the members of the Corporation from the hall on a certain number of days not exceeding ten in any one year on any occasion on which the hall should be used for private meetings or entertainments to which the general public should be unable to obtain admission by payment of money only:

(10) The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1876 (hereinafter called "the Act of 1876"), after reciting that the funds at the disposal of the council for maintaining, repairing and furnishing the hall and supporting an adequate staff of officers and servants were wholly insufficient for those purposes and that a majority of the members were willing that the seats should be charged at a rate not exceeding two pounds per annum for providing a fund for those purposes empowered the Corporation to rate the members ^{1876 c. lvi.}

in every year at such sum (in the said Act called "the seat rate") not exceeding two pounds for every seat as the members present at a general meeting called for that purpose some time in the month of February in each year should determine:

The Act of 1876 further provided that any member might at any time compound for all sums thereafter to become due in respect of seat rate for any seat or seats belonging to him upon payment of all sums then in arrear for seat rate thereon and a sum of fifty pounds for each of such seats. The holder for the time being of a seat in respect of which such composition was made was thereafter to be exempt from seat rate thereon:

All sums received for seat rate under the Act of 1876 were to be carried to a "special maintenance" account and paid into a bank to credit of trustees appointed under the Act; and moneys on the special maintenance account were to be applicable under the direction of the council in or towards maintaining, repairing and furnishing the hall, defraying all rates and taxes and providing and keeping up the necessary staff for such purposes but if disapproved by the trustees then only by order of a meeting of the Corporation:

Sums received for composition of seat rates were to be carried to an "endowment fund" account and invested by the trustees. The income of the endowment fund was to be applied towards payment to the special maintenance account of sums equal to and in place of the seat rates from time to time payable on seats in respect of which seat rate had been compounded for and any surplus over such payments was to be invested by the trustees in augmentation of the fund. The number of seats in respect of which the seat rate has been the subject of composition is thirty-nine leaving 1,248 uncompounded for:

1927 c. lxxiv.

(11) The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927 (hereinafter called "the Act of 1927") after reciting that the funds at the disposal of the council for the purposes recited in the Act of 1876 were again insufficient by reason of increased cost of those purposes and that the expenditure of large sums of money on the hall had become necessary in order to comply with the requirements of the London County Council relating to means of escape in case of fire and safety of persons resorting to the hall and that the Corporation had no funds to enable them to comply with such requirements included (inter alia) provisions to the following effect:—

- (a) imposing on every member for the time being of the Corporation a compulsory seat rate in place of the seat rate under the Act of 1876 for a period of six years from the 1st January, 1927; and as from the expiration of that period increasing to three pounds the maximum sum of two pounds chargeable in any year for seat rate under the Act of 1876;

- (b) substituting seventy-five pounds in place of the fifty pounds payable under the Act of 1876 for composition of the seat rate in respect of a seat;
- (c) providing that for any seat in respect of which composition is made for the seat rate no seat rate shall be chargeable for any year after the year in which the composition is made;
- (d) repealing the provision in the Act of 1876 as to application of the income of the endowment fund but re-enacting it in substance subject to a maximum limit of two pounds in any year upon the payment out of such income to the special maintenance account in place of the seat rate charged for that year on any seat in respect of which the seat rate has been compounded for;
- (e) providing that notwithstanding anything in the original charter or in article 9 of the charter of 1887 the hall may be used for theatrical entertainments and operatic performances but without affecting the operation of the Theatres Act, 1843; 1843 c. 68.
- (f) providing under sections 17 and 18 as follows:—
- (i) that the occasions on which the Corporation in general meeting may under article 11 of the charter of 1887 by resolution empower the council to exclude the members of the Corporation from the hall shall be extended so as to include firstly occasions on which the hall is used for balls for the purposes of which a floor is erected over the amphitheatre stalls and secondly occasions when it is used for other entertainments (not being (a) balls for the purposes of which a floor is not so erected or (b) boxing entertainments) whether or not the general public can obtain admission thereto by payment of money;
- (ii) that on occasions (other than those to which the said extension applies) on which the hall is used for any purpose for which it is necessary or convenient to erect a floor over the amphitheatre stalls a floor may be erected thereover and the holders of such amphitheatre stalls shall be disentitled to use such stalls but entitled to free admission to the hall and to all rights and privileges as such holders other than the use of their stalls. The floor may not remain over the amphitheatre stalls longer than six weeks unless with the consent in writing of the holders of a majority of such stalls;

(g) prohibiting the Corporation from letting the main hall for any continuous period exceeding one year:

1951 c. xviii.

(12) The Royal Albert Hall Act, 1951 (hereinafter called "the Act of 1951") after reciting that after eighty years of existence and constant use the hall was urgently in need of large structural and other repairs and improvements to render it safe and commodious for those who resorted to it and properly equipped for the many uses to which it was and might be put, and that heavy expenditure mainly of a capital nature was involved for which the funds and resources of the Corporation and possibilities of revenue from use or letting of the hall were insufficient to provide, included (inter alia) provisions to the following effect:—

- (a) imposing a capital contribution charged upon and in respect of every seat of two hundred and eighty pounds payable by yearly instalments of seven pounds for a period of forty years, the sums so charged when received by the Corporation being applicable solely to capital purposes;
- (b) providing that the occasions on which the council might be empowered to exclude members from the hall pursuant to the provisions of article 11 of the charter of 1887 should comprise all occasions on which the hall was let for any purposes for which the Corporation was empowered to let the hall and that in addition the council might exclude the members from the hall on certain further occasions not exceeding eight in number:

(13) The present funds and resources of the Corporation and present possibilities of revenue from the use or letting of the hall are insufficient to meet the expenditure of the Corporation essential for the preservation, repair, maintenance, equipping and management of the hall:

(14) In order to enable the present funds of the Corporation to be used to the best advantage and the financial resources of the Corporation to be augmented to the necessary extent and to give the Corporation increased means of earning revenue it is expedient that further powers should be conferred upon the Corporation and the council and that further provision should be made with respect to the use and letting of the hall and the rights of seatholders therein as in this Act set forth:

(15) The purposes of this Act cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted, by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and

with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Royal Albert Hall Act 1966. Short and collective titles.

(2) The Royal Albert Hall Acts, 1876 to 1951, and this Act may be cited together as the Royal Albert Hall Acts, 1876 to 1966.

2.—(1) In this Act, unless the subject or context otherwise requires— Interpretation.

“ the Act of 1876 ” means the Royal Albert Hall Act, 1876; 1876 c. lvi.

“ the Act of 1927 ” means the Royal Albert Hall Act, 1927; 1927 c. lxxiv.

“ the Act of 1951 ” means the Royal Albert Hall Act, 1951; 1951 c. xviii.

“ the annual contribution ” has the meaning assigned to that expression by section 3 (Annual contribution) of this Act;

“ the charter of 1887 ” means the supplemental charter of the Corporation dated the 25th October, 1887;

“ the constitution ” means the constitution of the Corporation provided for by the original charter;

“ the Corporation ” means the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences;

“ the council ” means the council of the Corporation;

“ the endowment fund account ” means the endowment fund account provided for by the Act of 1876;

“ the hall ” means the Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences at South Kensington (constructed in pursuance of the provisions of the original charter and commonly known as “ the Royal Albert Hall ”) as for the time being existing;

“ member ” means a person who is for the time being a member of the Corporation whether a body corporate or an individual and in the case of several persons jointly entitled to the same seat means all such persons collectively;

“ the original charter ” means the Royal Charter dated the 8th April, 1866, by which the Corporation was incorporated;

“ seat ” means a permanent seat in the hall with a registered holder whether such seat be in the amphitheatre or form one of several seats in a private box;

“the special maintenance account” means the special maintenance account provided for by the Act of 1876;

“the Treasury Mortgages” means the mortgage dated the 15th day of March, 1954, and issued by the Corporation to the Solicitor for the Affairs of Her Majesty’s Treasury as nominee of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury as amended by an agreement made the 1st day of September, 1955, and made between the said commissioners of the one part and the Corporation of the other part;

“the Westminster Mortgages” means the mortgage dated the 13th day of August, 1954, and made between the Corporation of the one part and the Westminster Bank Limited of the other part and the further charge dated the 27th day of October, 1964, and made between the Corporation of the one part and the Westminster Bank Limited of the other part.

(2) Except where the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Act to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as applied, extended, amended or varied by, or by virtue of, any subsequent enactment, including this Act.

Annual
contribution.

3.—(1) (a) The council shall in every year not later than the 31st July determine what sum will be required in that year for the general purposes of the hall and shall determine at what sum, not being less than ten pounds for every seat, the members shall be rated for that year for those purposes and the sum so determined is in this Act called “the annual contribution”:

Provided that for the period of six years beginning on the 1st January, 1966, the annual contribution shall not exceed thirty-six pounds for every seat and for each succeeding period of six years shall not exceed such amount for every seat as shall from time to time be determined for each such period of six years at a general meeting of the Corporation to be held for the purpose by a resolution approved by not less than three-quarters of the votes of the members attending in person or by proxy and voting.

(b) The council shall not determine an annual contribution exceeding ten pounds for every seat except with the consent of two-thirds of the votes of the members either voting in a poll taken by means of postal voting papers or attending in person or by proxy and voting at a general meeting of the Corporation to be held for the purpose.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this section, every member for the time being is hereby charged with and made liable for the payment to the Corporation of the annual contribution in respect of the seat or seats of which he is the registered holder.

(3) If in any year any member refuses, or for one month after demand has been made by the council for payment thereof neglects, to pay the annual contribution in respect of any seat of which he is the registered holder, such member shall not be entitled to use such seat or to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation or in any poll of the members until the full amount of the annual contribution for which such member is liable be paid:

Provided that when and as soon as the council shall have received the full amount for which such member is liable, they shall forthwith give notice in writing to him that they have received such an amount and that he is again entitled to the use of his seat and to vote.

(4) If at any time any member refuses, or for three months after demand has been made by the Corporation for payment thereof neglects, to pay the amount of any annual contribution for which he is liable, the amount thereof, or so much as shall then be due, shall be recoverable by action of debt in any court of competent jurisdiction.

4. In all cases of doubt as to the person entitled to any seat, the person whose name appears in the register of the Corporation as the holder thereof shall, for the purpose of enforcing payment of any sum due in respect of annual contribution, be deemed the holder thereof and the Corporation may accordingly recover payment of the said sum from him, or, in case of his death, from his estate. Recovery of annual contribution when ownership of seat is doubtful.

5. The Corporation may enforce payment of any sum due in respect of an annual contribution against any one or more of the joint members to whom the seat may belong. Any joint member paying the annual contribution shall, subject to any agreement between the joint holders to the contrary, be entitled to be reimbursed so much of the sum paid as is in excess of his fair proportion thereof from the other joint members. When seat belongs to joint members.

6. The Corporation may refuse to register the transfer of any seat in respect of which any sum is due on account of annual contribution until the same and all sums incurred by them in endeavouring to recover payment thereof have been paid. Corporation may refuse to register transfer of seat when annual contribution in arrear.

7. The receipt of the secretary or other officer of the Corporation duly authorised by the council in that behalf for any annual contribution shall be a sufficient discharge for the same to the member paying the annual contribution and taking the receipt. Receipts.

8. All sums received under this Act in respect of the annual contribution shall be carried to a separate account to be called "the annual contribution account" and shall be paid to such bank as the council from time to time direct to the credit of the account of the Corporation with that bank. Annual contribution account.

Application of annual contribution account.

9. The moneys standing to the credit of the Corporation on the annual contribution account shall be applicable under the direction of the council in or towards maintaining, repairing and furnishing the hall, defraying all rates and taxes, and providing and keeping up the necessary staff for such purposes and for such other purposes as the council shall from time to time determine.

Transfer of existing accounts.

10. All sums of money and investments forming part of the special maintenance account and the endowment fund account on the passing of this Act shall be transferred to and form part of the annual contribution account and shall be applicable for the purposes specified in section 9 (Application of annual contribution account) of this Act.

As to borrowing powers of Corporation.

11. Section 9 (Corporation may borrow) and section 10 (Form of mortgage) of and the schedule to the Act of 1927 shall have effect as if for references therein to the seat rate there were substituted references to the annual contribution.

Saving for existing mortgages.

12.—(1) The Treasury Mortgages and the Westminster Mortgages shall be read and have effect as if in lieu of the references therein to the seat rate and the capital contribution respectively there were substituted references to the equivalent proportion of the annual contribution and accordingly all moneys secured by the Treasury Mortgages and the Westminster Mortgages on the seat rate and the capital contribution respectively shall be secured to the like extent on the equivalent proportion of the annual contribution.

(2) In this section “the equivalent proportion” means in relation to the Treasury Mortgages the amount of three pounds for every seat and in relation to the Westminster Mortgages means the amount of seven pounds for every seat.

Exemption of compounded seatholders.

13.—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, no annual contribution shall be chargeable for any seat in respect of which a composition was made before the passing of this Act under the provisions of section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate) of the Act of 1876, save to the extent that any annual contribution determined by the council under section 3 (Annual contribution) of this Act exceeds the sum of three pounds per annum and the member shall be charged and made liable in respect of such seat only for the payment of the amount by which the said annual contribution exceeds three pounds.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, until the 31st December, 1992, no annual contribution shall be chargeable for any seat in respect of which a composition was made before the passing of this Act under the provisions of section 4 (Capital contribution) of the Act of 1951 save to the extent that any annual contribution determined by the council as aforesaid

exceeds the sum of seven pounds per annum and the members shall be charged and made liable in respect of such seat only for the payment of the amount by which the said annual contribution exceeds seven pounds.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, until the 31st December, 1992, no annual contribution shall be chargeable for any seat in respect of which compositions were made before the passing of this Act under the said section 11 of the Act of 1876 and under the said section 4 of the Act of 1951 save to the extent that any annual contribution determined by the council as aforesaid exceeds the sum of ten pounds per annum and the member shall be charged and made liable in respect of such seat only for the payment of the amount by which the said annual contribution exceeds ten pounds.

14.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in the original charter, the charter of 1887, the Act of 1927 or the Act of 1951, the following provisions shall have effect:—

Power to exclude members from hall.

- (a) The council may from time to time by resolution exclude the members from the hall on any day or days not exceeding seventy-five in any year on which the hall is let for any purpose for which the Corporation is empowered to let the hall other than a concert, a recital or a boxing or wrestling entertainment:
- (b) In addition, the council may from time to time by resolution exclude the members from the hall—
 - (i) on any day or days not exceeding twelve in any year on which the hall is let for any purpose for which the Corporation is empowered to let the hall;
 - (ii) from one-third of the functions included in any series of six or more functions which are consecutive and substantially identical:

Provided that the council shall not under the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection exclude the members from more than one-half of the functions included in any such series as is referred to in sub-paragraph (ii) of the said paragraph (b).

(2) Any additional rent received in respect of the letting of the hall on any occasion on which the members are excluded from the hall pursuant to paragraph (a) or sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of this section which is attributable to such exclusion shall be applied by the council in or towards the reduction of the annual contribution.

15.—(1) Byelaws made by the council pursuant to clause 11 (General powers of the Council) of the constitution may include byelaws prohibiting the sale by or on behalf of members in the hall or in the vicinity thereof of tickets for seats.

Power for council to prohibit sale of tickets in hall or in vicinity thereof.

(2) Byelaws made pursuant to this section may provide for imposing upon any member a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds for the breach or non-observance of such byelaws.

(3) Every fine imposed by any byelaw made pursuant to this section shall be paid to the council and shall be recoverable by action of debt in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(4) If any member refuses, or for one month after demand made by the council for payment thereof neglects, to pay a fine imposed by the council under any byelaw made pursuant to this section such member shall not be entitled to use any seat of which he is the registered holder or to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation or in any poll of the members until the full amount of such fine for which he is liable be paid.

Modification of certain provisions of constitution.

16.—(1) Notwithstanding anything in the original charter—

(a) the provisions of the constitution mentioned in column (1) of Part I of Schedule 1 to this Act shall have effect subject to the modifications mentioned in column (2) of the said schedule; and

(b) the constitution shall have effect as if there were included therein the additional provisions mentioned in Part II of the said schedule.

(2) The constitution as altered and amended by the foregoing provisions of this section shall as from the passing of this Act be deemed to be as set out in Schedule 2 to this Act.

As to joint holding of seats.

17. Notwithstanding anything in the original charter, one or more persons may be registered as the holder or holders of any seat, whether in the amphitheatre or in a box.

Repeals.

18.—(1) The following enactments are hereby repealed:—

The Act of 1876—

Section 3 (Trustees for purposes of the Act);

Section 4 (Annual meeting to be held for fixing the amount to be paid by the members for maintenance of the Hall and carrying out the purposes of the Charter);

Section 5 (As to votes of members for certain purposes);

Section 6 (Charge upon members of £2 per annum for each seat held by them);

Section 8 (Recovery of seat rate when ownership of seat is doubtful);

Section 9 (When seat belongs to joint members);

Section 10 (Corporation may refuse to register transfer of seat when seat rate in arrear);

Section 11 (Power to compound for seat rate);

Section 12 (Receipts);

- Section 13 (Annual sums to be carried to separate account and paid to trustees);
- Section 14 (Application of special maintenance account);
- Section 15 (When trustees disapprove of application of special maintenance account);
- Section 16 (Composition to be carried to separate account and invested by trustees);
- Section 17 (Power to change securities);
- Section 20 (For indemnity of trustees);

The Act of 1927—

- Section 3 (Rate on seats);
- Section 4 (Amount due at end of year to be recovered by action);
- Section 5 (Application of seat rate);
- Section 6 (Payments from endowment fund);
- Section 7 (As to moneys paid to special maintenance account);
- Section 8 (Application of sections of Act of 1876);
- Section 21 (Exemption of compounded seatholders);

The Act of 1951—

- Section 4 (Capital contribution);
- Section 6 (Power to mortgage capital contribution);
- Section 7 (Amending section 16 of 1876 Act);
- Section 8 (Amendment of provisions for composition of seat rate).

(2) The following paragraphs of the schedule to the original charter are hereby repealed:—

- Paragraph 4 (which relates to the registration of holders of seats);
- Paragraph 33 (which relates to the qualification of members to vote);
- Paragraph 34 (which relates to the manner in which votes of members may be given);
- Paragraph 35 (which relates to the appointment of proxies);
- Paragraph 36 (which relates to the stamping and deposit of instruments appointing proxies);
- Paragraph 37 (which relates to the form of instruments appointing proxies).

19. The costs, charges and expenses preliminary to and of and **Costs of Act.** incidental to the preparing, applying for, obtaining and passing of this Act shall be paid by the Corporation.

Section 16.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

PART I

MODIFICATION OF PROVISIONS OF CONSTITUTION

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 4 (Who eligible to Council)	<p>For clause 4 there shall be substituted the following clause:—</p> <p>“ 4. Any individual member of the Corporation holding one or more seats and any member or director or other officer of any corporation or society holding not less than five seats in the Hall shall be eligible as a member of the Council; provided that not more than two members, directors or officers of any such corporation or society shall be eligible, as such, to be members of the Council at any one time.”</p>
Clause 5 (Election of President)	<p>After the first paragraph there shall be inserted the following paragraph:—</p> <p>“ No person other than a retiring President shall, unless recommended by the Council, be eligible for election as President at any General Meeting unless, not less than seven, nor more than twenty-one days before the date of the meeting, there shall have been left at the office of the Corporation notice in writing, signed by not less than ten Members duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given, of their intention to propose such person for election and also notice in writing signed by such person of his willingness to be elected.”</p>
Clause 6 (Election of the Council)	<p>At the end of the third paragraph there shall be inserted the following paragraphs:—</p> <p>“ The notice of the Annual General Meeting shall specify the names of the ordinary Members of the Council retiring at that meeting.</p> <p>No person other than a Member of the Council retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Council, be eligible for election as a Member of the Council at any Annual General Meeting unless, not less than seven, nor more than twenty-one, days before the date appointed for the meeting, there shall have been left at the office of the Corporation notice in writing, signed by three Members duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given, of their intention to propose such person for election, and also notice in writing signed by that person of his willingness to be elected.”</p>

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 20 (The Annual General Meeting)	<p>In the first paragraph for the first sentence there shall be substituted the following words:—</p> <p>“ The Corporation shall in each year on or before the 31st July hold a general meeting as its Annual General Meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Council shall appoint.”</p> <p>In the third paragraph the words “ in one or more of the London daily newspapers ” shall be omitted; for the word “ seven ” there shall be substituted the words “ twenty-one ”; and the words from “ and any such special notice ” to the end of the clause shall be omitted.</p>
Clause 21 (Special General Meetings)	<p>In the fourth paragraph the words “ in one or more of the London daily newspapers ” shall be omitted; for the word “ seven ” there shall be substituted the word “ fourteen ”; and the words from “ and any such special notice ” to the end of the clause shall be omitted.</p>
Clause 22 (Proceedings at General Meetings)	<p>For the last three paragraphs there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:—</p> <p>“ The Chairman of any meeting at which a quorum is present may regulate the proceedings of the meeting and may, and shall if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.</p> <p>At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) is demanded—</p> <p>(a) by the chairman; or</p> <p>(b) by at least five members present in person or by proxy; or</p> <p>(c) by any member or members present in person or by proxy holding not less than twenty seats in the hall.</p> <p>Unless a poll be so demanded, a declaration by the chairman that the resolution has on a show of hands been carried, or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of the proceedings of the Corporation shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.</p>

SCH. 1
—cont.

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 22 (cont.)	<p>The demand for a poll may be withdrawn.</p> <p>Except as hereinafter provided, if a poll is duly demanded it shall be taken in such manner as the chairman directs and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.</p> <p>In the case of an equality of votes whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded, shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.</p> <p>A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on the question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith.</p> <p>A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time as the chairman of the meeting directs and any business other than that upon which a poll has been demanded may be proceeded with pending the taking of the poll.</p> <p>A poll may be taken by means of postal voting papers, and shall be a poll of all members who at the time of the despatch of such papers shall be entitled to receive notice of a general meeting of the Corporation. The form and contents of the voting papers, the arrangements for the despatch and return thereof, for the counting of votes and for the custody of the voting papers and all other matters relating to the conduct of the poll shall be as may be prescribed by byelaws made pursuant to clause 11 (General powers of the Council) of this Constitution."</p>
Clause 24 (Joint Seatholders)	<p>For clause 24 there shall be substituted the following clause:—</p> <p>"24. In the case of two or more persons registered as joint holders of a seat or seats, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders; and for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the register of Members."</p>
Clause 25 (Vote, how given)	<p>For clause 25 there shall be substituted the following clause:—</p> <p>"25. On a poll, other than a poll taken by means of postal voting papers, votes may be given either personally or by proxy."</p>
Clause 26 (Proxies, form of)	<p>For clause 26 there shall be substituted the following clause:—</p> <p>"26.—(1) The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the</p>

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 26 (cont.)	<p>appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing, or, if the appointor is a corporation, either under seal, or under the hand of an officer or attorney duly authorised. A proxy need not be a member of the Corporation.</p> <p>(2) The instrument appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed or a notarially certified copy of that power or authority shall be deposited at the office of the Corporation, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting, at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote, or, in the case of a poll (other than a poll taken by means of postal voting papers), not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, and in default the instrument of proxy shall not be treated as valid.</p> <p>(3) An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form or a form as near thereto as circumstances admit:—</p> <p>‘ I/We , of , in the county of , being a member/members of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, hereby appoint , of , or failing him, , of , as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the [annual or special as the case may be] general meeting of the Corporation, to be held on the day of , 19 , and at any adjournment thereof. Signed this day of 19 .</p> <p>(4) Where it is desired to afford members an opportunity of voting for or against a resolution the instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form or a form as near thereto as circumstances admit:—</p> <p>‘ I/We , of , in the county of , being a member/members of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, hereby appoint , of , or failing him , of , as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our</p>

SCH. 1
—cont.

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 26 (cont.)	<p>behalf at the [annual or special, as the case may be] general meeting of the Corporation, to be held on the _____, 19____, day of _____, and at any adjournment thereof.</p> <p>Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____.</p> <p>This form is to be used <u>in favour of</u> the resolution <u>against</u> the resolution.</p> <p>Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy will vote as he thinks fit.</p> <p>*Strike out whichever is not desired.*</p> <p>(5) The instrument appointing a proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll.</p> <p>(6) A vote given in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the previous death or insanity of the principal or revocation of the proxy or of the authority under which the proxy was executed, or the transfer of the seat in respect of which the proxy is given, provided that no intimation in writing of such death, insanity, revocation or transfer as aforesaid shall have been received by the Corporation at the office before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the proxy is used.</p> <p>(7) Any corporation which is a member of the Corporation may by resolution of its directors or other governing body authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Corporation and the person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation which he represents as that corporation could exercise if it were an individual member of the Corporation."</p>
Clause 27 (Council to keep accounts)	For the word "credits" there shall be substituted the word "assets".
Clause 28 (Annual Statement of Accounts)	<p>The words "made up to a date not more than three months before such meeting" shall be omitted; and for the last paragraph there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—</p> <p>"A copy of every balance-sheet and of every statement of income and expenditure which is to be laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting shall not less than fourteen days before the date of the meeting be sent to every member: Provided that this clause shall not require a copy of the balance-sheet or the statement of income and expenditure to be sent to any person of whose address the Corporation is not aware or to more than one of the joint holders of any seat."</p>

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 29 (Appointment of Auditors)	<p>In the first paragraph, for the words "Three Auditors" there shall be substituted the words "An auditor or auditors".</p> <p>For the second paragraph there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:—</p> <p>"The auditor shall be an accountant or firm of accountants:</p> <p>Provided that no person shall be qualified to audit the accounts unless he is a member or, in the case of a firm, all the partners therein are members, of one or more of the following bodies:—</p> <p>The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales;</p> <p>The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland;</p> <p>The Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants;</p> <p>The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland;</p> <p>Any other body of accountants established in the United Kingdom and for the time being recognised for the purposes of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 161 of the Companies Act, 1948, by the Board of Trade."</p>
Clause 30 (Audit of Accounts)	<p>In the first paragraph the words "and the correctness of the balance sheet ascertained" shall be omitted; and after the word "balance-sheet" there shall be inserted the words "and of the statement of income and expenditure".</p> <p>For the second paragraph there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:—</p> <p>"The auditors shall make a report to the members on the accounts examined by them, and on every balance-sheet and every statement of income and expenditure laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting during their tenure of office.</p> <p>The auditor's report shall be laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting and shall be open to inspection by any member.</p> <p>The report shall state whether the balance-sheet and statement of income and expenditure are properly drawn up in accordance with the requirements of this Constitution, and whether, in the opinion of the auditors, they give a true and fair view—</p> <p>(a) in the case of the balance-sheet, of the state of the Corporation's affairs as at the end of its financial year, and</p> <p>(b) in the case of the statement of income and expenditure, of the income and expenditure of the Corporation for its financial year."</p>

SCH. 1
—cont.

1948 c. 38.

SCH. 1
—cont.

Provisions of constitution (1)	Modifications (2)
Clause 31 (Books of Account)	The words from “ and shall be open ” to the end of the clause shall be omitted.
Clause 32 (Service of notices)	For clause 32 there shall be substituted the following clause:— “ A notice may be given by the Corporation to any member either personally or by sending it by post to him to his registered address or, if he has no registered address within the United Kingdom, to the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied by him to the Corporation for the giving of notice to him. Where a notice is sent by post service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected at the expiration of twenty-four hours after the letter containing the same is posted.”
Clause 33 (Notice of joint seatholders)	For clause 33 there shall be substituted the following clause:— “ A notice may be given by the Corporation to the joint holders of any seat by giving the notice to the joint holder first named in the register of members in respect of the seat.”
Clause 34 (Service by post)	Clause 34 shall be omitted.

PART II

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN CONSTITUTION

Notice of
General
Meetings.

21A. Notice of every general meeting shall be given in any manner hereinafter authorised to—

- (a) every member except those members who (having no registered address within the United Kingdom) have not supplied to the Corporation an address within the United Kingdom for the giving of notices to them;
- (b) every person upon whom the ownership of a seat devolves by reason of his being a legal personal representative or a trustee in bankruptcy of a member where the member but for his death or bankruptcy would be entitled to receive notice of the meeting; and
- (c) the auditor or auditors for the time being of the Corporation.

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of general meetings.

Notice to
personal
representatives,
etc.

33A. A notice may be given by the Corporation to the persons entitled to a seat in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a

member by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to them by name, or by the title of representatives of the deceased, or trustee of the bankrupt, or by any like description, at the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied for the purpose by the persons claiming to be so entitled, or, until such address has been so supplied, by giving the notice in any manner in which the same might have been given if the death or bankruptcy had not occurred.

SCH. 1
—cont.

SCHEDULE 2

Section 16.

THE CONSTITUTION AS AMENDED AND ALTERED BY THIS ACT

WHEREAS by Royal Charter under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, dated the 8th day of April, in the Thirtieth year of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (hereinafter called "The Corporation") were incorporated for the purpose of building and maintaining a Hall and Buildings connected therewith, on the Estate of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, at South Kensington, and of appropriating the Hall to the purposes therein mentioned.

AND WHEREAS it was provided by the said Charter that with a view to raise the required funds for the building and maintenance of the said Hall the Corporation might receive subscriptions or donations from any persons or societies desirous of giving the same; and subject to the rights reserved to Members of the Corporation by the said Charter, might grant to the persons or societies giving such subscriptions or donations such interests in the Hall as the Corporation might deem expedient.

AND WHEREAS it was provided by the said Charter that the Governing Body of the said Corporation, until a Council should be substituted for them as hereinafter mentioned, should be a Provisional Committee consisting of the persons therein mentioned, and that within twelve months, at the furthest, after the opening of the Hall, the Provisional Committee should call a General Meeting of the Corporation, by advertisement published in some London newspaper; and on the occasion of such meeting, should propose to the Corporation a Form of Constitution, containing such provisions as might be deemed expedient in relation to the Government of the Corporation, and to the management of the Hall, and generally to the regulation of all matters whatever (whether of the same description or not as those thereinbefore specified) which the Provisional Committee might deem it expedient to provide for in such Constitution, with as ample a power in the Corporation of making regulations for the administration of their affairs (subject only to those provisions of the Charter which defined the purpose of the Corporation and the right of Members) as if the Corporation were the absolute and uncontrolled owners of the property belonging to them. And it was by the said Charter also provided that the Form of Constitution proposed by the Provisional Committee, or any modification thereof, when accepted by the Corporation, and approved by Her Majesty, should be as valid as if contained in the said Charter, and that the acceptance by the Corporation

SCH. 2
—cont.

of any such Constitution as aforesaid should be certified by a Resolution passed by a majority of the Members of the said Corporation present personally, or by proxy, at the General Meeting summoned as aforesaid by the Provisional Committee. And it was by the said Charter also provided that in the Constitution to be proposed by the Provisional Committee an Elective Council should be substituted for the Provisional Committee as the Governing Body of the Corporation, but that the first Members of that Council should be named in the proposed Constitution, and that all or any Members of the Provisional Committee might be proposed as the first Members of the Council.

AND WHEREAS the Hall was opened on the 29th day of March, 1871.

AND WHEREAS at a General Meeting of the Corporation summoned by advertisement in the manner in the said Charter prescribed, and held on the 25th day of March, 1872, the Provisional Committee proposed to the Corporation the Form of Constitution hereinafter set forth, and such Form of Constitution was accepted by the Corporation, subject to the approval of Her Majesty, and such acceptance was, in conformity with the said Charter, certified by a Resolution passed by a majority of Members of the Corporation present, personally or by proxy, at such meeting.

NOW THEREFORE the said Corporation do by this present writing, sealed with their Common Seal, declare that the Form of Constitution hereinafter set forth (which said Form of Constitution is intended to be by them humbly submitted for the approval of Her Majesty, and is subject to such approval) contains the provisions which they deem expedient for the Government of the Corporation and the Management of the Hall, and the regulation of all matters whatsoever relating thereto, and is, and shall be the Constitution of the Corporation. That is to say—

THE COUNCIL.

Constitution
of the Council

1. The government of the Corporation, and the direction of its concerns, shall be entrusted to a Council, consisting of the President for the time being of the Corporation as an ex-officio member, and of eighteen ordinary Members.

First President
of the
Corporation.

2. The first President of the Corporation shall be His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., and no person shall be eligible to the office of President unless he is a member of the Corporation.

First Members
of the Council.

3. The first ordinary Members of the Council shall be His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, K.G.; The Earl Granville, K.G.; The Earl Faversham; The Right Honourable Lord Clarence Edward Paget, K.C.B.; Major-General Sir Thomas Myddelton Biddulph, K.C.B.; Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P.; Mr. Edgar Alfred Bowring, C.B., M.P.; Mr. Edward Lyall Brandreth; Mr. Henry Cole, C.B.; Mr. Warren Delarue, F.R.S.; Captain John Frecheville Dykes Donnelly, R.E. (Secretary); Mr. John Fowler; Mr. Charles James Freake; Mr. John Hawkshaw, F.R.S. (Treasurer); Mr. Henry Arthur Hunt, C.B.; Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., M.P.; Mr. Henry Cadogan Rothery; and Major-General Henry Young Darracott Scott, C.B.

4. Any individual member of the Corporation holding one or more seats and any member or director or other officer of any corporation or society holding not less than five seats in the Hall shall be eligible as a member of the Council; provided that not more than two members, directors or officers of any such corporation or society shall be eligible, as such, to be members of the Council at any one time. SCH. 2
—cont.
Who eligible
to Council.

5. The President shall be elected by resolution at the Annual General Meeting, and shall hold his office for a year, but shall be re-eligible. Election of
President.

No person other than a retiring President shall, unless recommended by the Council, be eligible for election as President at any General Meeting unless, not less than seven, nor more than twenty-one days before the date of the meeting, there shall have been left at the office of the Corporation notice in writing, signed by not less than ten Members duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given, of their intention to propose such person for election and also notice in writing signed by such person of his willingness to be elected.

The President shall in each year appoint four of the ordinary Members of the Council to be Vice-Presidents for that year, and may fill up any vacancy arising in such office during the course of the year.

If any vacancy occurs in the office of President before the expiration of his term of office, the Council shall, as soon as possible, summon a General Meeting of the Corporation for the purpose of filling up such vacancy.

6. At the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 1873, six of the original ordinary Members of the Council shall retire from office; at the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 1874, six other of the original ordinary Members of the Council shall retire from office; and at the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 1875, the remaining six original ordinary Members shall retire from office. Election of the
Council.

The Council shall determine among themselves which of their number shall be those to retire at the Annual General Meetings to be held in the years 1873 and 1874. At every subsequent Annual General Meeting the six ordinary Members of the Council who have been longest in office shall retire. Retiring ordinary Members of the Council shall be re-eligible at the meeting at which they retire, or at any subsequent meeting.

The Corporation at the General Meeting at which any Members of the Council retire in manner aforesaid shall fill up the vacated offices by electing by resolution a like number of persons.

The notice of the Annual General Meeting shall specify the names of the ordinary Members of the Council retiring at that meeting.

No person other than a Member of the Council retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Council, be eligible for election as a Member of the Council at any Annual General Meeting unless, not less than seven, nor more than twenty-one days before

- SCN. 2
—cont.
- the date appointed for the meeting, there shall have been left at the office of the Corporation notice in writing, signed by three Members duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given, of their intention to propose such person for election, and also notice in writing signed by that person of his willingness to be elected.
- If at any meeting at which an election of Members of the Council ought to take place, no such election is made by reason of a quorum not being present or otherwise, the meeting shall stand adjourned to such day, not being later than the fourteenth day from the day of adjournment, as the Council may appoint; and if at such adjourned meeting no election takes place, the former Members of the Council shall continue to act until new Members are appointed in the following year or years.
- Resignation of Members of Council.
7. Any Member of the Council may resign his office by giving written notice to the Secretary of his desire to do so, and his resignation shall date from the time in that behalf specified in such notice; or, if no such time is specified, from the date of the notice.
- Power for Council to fill up casual vacancies.
8. Any casual vacancy occurring in the Council by reason of the death or resignation of any of the ordinary Members shall be filled up by the Council. Any Member appointed to fill any such vacancy shall, for the purpose of retirement from office, and for all other purposes, be deemed to occupy the position of the person to whose place he has been appointed.
- Power to remove Members of Council.
9. The Corporation in General Meeting may, by a Resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the votes recorded at the meeting, remove any Member of the Council before the expiration of his period of office, and may, by an ordinary Resolution, appoint another person in his stead. The person so appointed shall hold office during such time only as the Member of the Council in whose place he is appointed would have held the same if he had not been removed.
- Offices to be Honorary.
10. The offices of President and Member of the Council shall be honorary.
- POWERS OF THE COUNCIL.
- General powers of the Council.
11. The Council may exercise all such powers of the Corporation as are not by the said Charter or by this Constitution required to be exercised by the Corporation in General Meeting, subject nevertheless to the provisions of the said Charter and of this Constitution, and to such regulations (not being inconsistent with the said Charter and Constitution) as may be prescribed by the Corporation in General Meeting; but no regulation made by the Corporation in General Meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Council which would have been valid if such regulation had not been passed.
- In particular the Council shall have power to do all or any of the following things, that is to say:—
- (1) They may furnish and decorate the Hall in such manner and with such works of scientific and artistic interest as they think fit, within the limits of the funds at the disposal of the Corporation.

- (2) They may, subject to the rights reserved to the Members of the Corporation, let the use of the Hall for a limited period, either wholly or partially, exclusively, or reserving certain rights of entry to any persons for any purposes for which the Corporation might themselves use the Hall. They may also appropriate, for a limited period, any buildings connected with the Hall, and which may not for the time being be required for the purposes thereof, to the use of any society or societies established for purposes similar to those for which the Corporation are themselves established, and upon such terms as the Council may think expedient. SCH. 2
—cont.
- (3) They may, subject to the provisions of the Charter, undertake such musical or other performances, lectures, or other entertainments, on account of and at the risk of the Corporation, and may make such regulations for the admission of the public by payment, and enter into such engagements and generally take such steps for carrying out their undertakings as they think fit.
- (4) They may sell or let the boxes or seats in the Hall which remain at the disposal of the Corporation, either for the full remainder of the period of nine hundred and ninety-nine years for which the Hall is held by the Corporation, or for any less period, on such terms as they think fit.
- (5) They may from time to time appoint a General Manager and all such other salaried officers, clerks, servants, and persons as may be necessary for transacting the business of the Corporation; may determine their number, duties and salaries, and may remove such persons whenever they think fit.
- (6) They may from time to time make, revoke, and alter bye-laws for regulating the mode of nominating and proposing Members of the Council, the conduct of business at meetings of the Corporation, the use of the Hall, and such other matters whether of the same character or not as the foregoing, as they may deem expedient to be regulated by bye-laws. Any bye-laws so made shall be valid until the next ensuing General Meeting, at which Meeting they shall be submitted for the approval of the Corporation.

12. The continuing Members of the Council may act, notwithstanding any vacancy in their number. Continuing
Members of
Council may
act.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

13. The Council may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn, and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit, with this qualification, that no business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Council unless at least five Members be present. Meetings of
Council.

The President, Secretary, or any three Members of the Council, may at any time call a meeting of the Council.

CH. X

Royal Albert Hall Act 1966

- SCH. 2
—cont.
- Chairman. 14. The President, or, in case of his absence, the senior Vice-President present, or, if there be no Vice-President present, some other Member of the Council, to be elected by the meeting, shall be the Chairman at all meetings of the Council.
- Votes. 15. The decision of the majority of Members voting at a meeting of the Council on any question shall be considered as the decision of the meeting on that question, and the Chairman shall be entitled to vote, and in case of an equality of votes, to give a casting vote.
- Minutes. 16. Notes of the proceedings of every meeting of the Council shall be taken by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary, and minutes thereof shall afterwards be copied fairly into a Minute-book to be kept for that purpose. The first business at every meeting of the Council shall be to read the minutes of the last previous meeting, and the Chairman shall sign the same.
- Committees. 17. The Council may delegate any of their powers to committees consisting of such Member or Members of their body as they think fit; any committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations that may be imposed on them by the Council.
- A committee may elect a Chairman of their meetings; if no such Chairman is elected, or if he is not present at the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Members present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of such meeting.
- A committee may meet and adjourn as they think proper; questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Members present, and in case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- Proceedings of Council not to be invalidated by irregularity in election. 18. All acts done by any meeting of the Council, or of a committee of the Council, or by any person acting as a Member of the Council, shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any Member of the Council or person acting as aforesaid, or that he was disqualified, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified to be such Member.
- Clause 19 of the Constitution of the Royal Albert Hall altered at General Meeting, 13th July, 1875, and Confirmed by Royal Warrant, 17th November, 1875.*
- Treasurer. 19. A Treasurer of the Corporation shall be elected by the Corporation yearly at the Annual General Meeting from amongst the Members for the time being of the Council. His office shall be honorary, and he shall on vacating his office be re-eligible.
- TREASURER.
- The Annual General Meeting. 20. The Corporation shall in each year on or before the 31st July hold a General Meeting as its Annual General Meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year and shall specify the meeting as
- GENERAL MEETINGS.

such in the notices calling it. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Council shall appoint. At this meeting the Council shall present and cause to be read a Report of their proceedings, and of the general concerns of the Corporation during the preceding year; vacancies in the Council shall be filled up, and any other business relating to the affairs of the Corporation may be transacted.

SCH. 2
—cont.

For the purposes of this Constitution, the expression “a year”, and words having reference to a year, shall mean the interval between the Annual General Meetings held in two successive years, whether such interval be or be not in fact greater or less than a year.

Notice of the time and place of the Annual General Meeting shall be given twenty-one clear days at least before holding a meeting.

21. The Council may, whenever they think fit, and they shall upon a requisition in writing signed by not less than twenty Members of the Corporation, call a Special General Meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration special matters relating to the business of the Corporation.

Special General Meetings.

Every such requisition shall express the object of the meeting proposed to be called, and shall be left at the Offices of the Corporation, addressed to the Secretary.

Upon receipt of such requisition, it shall be the duty of the Council to call a Special General Meeting, to be held within twenty-one days thereafter.

Notice of the time of holding a Special General Meeting, and a general description of the business to be transacted thereat, shall be given fourteen clear days at least before the meeting.

21A. Notice of every general meeting shall be given in any manner hereinafter authorised to—

Notice of General Meetings.

- (a) every member except those members who (having no registered address within the United Kingdom) have not supplied to the Corporation an address within the United Kingdom for the giving of notices to them;
- (b) every person upon whom the ownership of a seat devolves by reason of his being a legal personal representative or a trustee in bankruptcy of a member where the member but for his death or bankruptcy would be entitled to receive notice of the meeting; and
- (c) the auditor or auditors for the time being of the Corporation.

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of general meetings.

22. No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting, except the reading of the Annual Report presented by the Council, unless a quorum of Members is present at the commencement of such business, and such quorum shall consist of not fewer than ten Members present in person.

Proceedings at General Meetings.

SCH. 2
—cont.

If, within one hour from the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum of Members is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of the Members, shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned to such day, not being later than the fourteenth day from the day of adjournment, as the Chairman of the Council may appoint; and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum of Members is not present, it shall be adjourned *sine die*.

The President of the Corporation, or, in case of his absence, the senior Vice-President present, or, if there be no Vice-President present, some person chosen by the meeting shall preside as Chairman at every General Meeting of the Corporation.

The Chairman of any meeting at which a quorum is present may regulate the proceedings of the meeting and may, and shall if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) is demanded—

- (a) by the chairman; or
- (b) by at least five members present in person or by proxy; or
- (c) by any member or members present in person or by proxy holding not less than twenty seats in the Hall.

Unless a poll be so demanded, a declaration by the chairman that the resolution has on a show of hands been carried, or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of the proceedings of the Corporation shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.

The demand for a poll may be withdrawn.

Except as hereinafter provided, if a poll is duly demanded it shall be taken in such manner as the chairman directs and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

In the case of an equality of votes whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded, shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on the question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith.

A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time as the chairman of the meeting directs and any business other than that upon which a poll has been demanded may be proceeded with pending the taking of the poll.

A poll may be taken by means of postal voting papers, and shall be a poll of all members who at the time of the despatch of such papers shall be entitled to receive notice of a general meeting of the Corporation. The form and contents of the voting papers, the arrangements for the despatch and return thereof, for the counting of votes and for the custody of the voting papers and all other matters relating to the conduct of the poll shall be as may be prescribed by byelaws made pursuant to clause 11 (General powers of the Council) of this Constitution.

Sch. 2
—cont.

VOTES OF MEMBERS.

23. Every Member shall have one vote for every seat of which he is registered as holder. Number of
Votes.

24. In the case of two or more persons registered as joint holders of a seat or seats, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders; and for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the register of Members. Joint
Seatholders.

25. On a poll, other than a poll taken by means of postal voting papers, votes may be given either personally or by proxy. Vote, how
given.

26.—(1) The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing, or, if the appointor is a corporation, either under seal, or under the hand of an officer or attorney duly authorised. A proxy need not be a member of the Corporation. Proxies, form
of.

(2) The instrument appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed or a notarially certified copy of that power or authority shall be deposited at the office of the Corporation, not less than forty-eight hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting, at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote, or, in the case of a poll (other than a poll taken by means of postal voting papers), not less than forty-eight hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, and in default the instrument of proxy shall not be treated as valid.

(3) An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form or a form as near thereto as circumstances admit:—

“ I/We _____,
of _____,
in the county of _____, being a member/members
of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, hereby
appoint _____,
of _____,
or failing him, _____,
of _____,
as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the
[annual or special, as the case may be] general meeting of the
Corporation, to be held on the _____ day of _____, 19 _____,
and at any adjournment thereof.
Signed this _____ day of _____, 19 _____ ”.

SCH. 2
—cont.

(4) Where it is desired to afford members an opportunity of voting for or against a resolution the instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form or a form as near thereto as circumstances admit:—

“ I/We _____ ,
of _____ ,
in the county of _____ , being a member/members
of the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, hereby
appoint _____ ,
of _____ ,
or failing him, _____ ,
of _____ ,
as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the
[annual or special, as the case may be] general meeting of the
Corporation, to be held on the _____ day of _____ , 19 _____ ,
and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed this _____ day of _____ , 19 _____ .

This form is to be used _____ ^{*in favour of} the resolution.
_____ _{against}

Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy will vote as he thinks fit.

*Strike out whichever is not desired.”

(5) The instrument appointing a proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll.

(6) A vote given in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the previous death or insanity of the principal or revocation of the proxy or of the authority under which the proxy was executed, or the transfer of the seat in respect of which the proxy is given, provided that no intimation in writing of such death, insanity, revocation or transfer as aforesaid shall have been received by the Corporation at the office before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the proxy is used.

(7) Any corporation which is a member of the Corporation may by resolution of its directors or other governing body authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Corporation and the person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation which he represents as that corporation could exercise if it were an individual member of the Corporation.

ACCOUNTS.

Council to
keep Accounts.

27. The Council shall cause true accounts to be kept of the property of the Corporation, of the sums of money received and expended by the Corporation, of the matters in respect of which such receipt and expenditure take place, and of the assets and liabilities of the Corporation.

Annual
Statement of
Accounts.

28. The Council shall lay before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting a statement of the income and expenditure for the past year.

A balance-sheet shall be made out in every year, and laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting, and such balance-sheet shall contain a summary of the property and liabilities of the Corporation, arranged under convenient heads.

SCR. 2
—cont.

A copy of every balance-sheet and of every statement of income and expenditure which is to be laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting shall not less than fourteen days before the date of the meeting be sent to every member: Provided that this clause shall not require a copy of the balance-sheet or the statement of income and expenditure to be sent to any person of whose address the Corporation is not aware or to more than one of the joint holders of any seat.

29. An auditor or auditors shall be elected by the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting in each year to act for the ensuing year. The Auditors shall not be Members of the Council, but may be Members of the Corporation; and in the case of any Auditor dying, resigning, or becoming incapable of performing his duties during the course of the year, the Council shall have power to appoint another in his place. Retiring Auditors shall be re-eligible.

Appointment
of Auditors.

The auditor shall be an accountant or firm of accountants:

Provided that no person shall be qualified to audit the accounts unless he is a member or, in the case of a firm, all the partners therein are members, of one or more of the following bodies:—

- The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales;
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland;
- The Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants;
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland;

Any other body of accountants established in the United Kingdom and for the time being recognised for the purposes of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 161 of the Companies Act, 1948, by the Board of Trade.

1948 c. 38.

30. Once at the least in every year the accounts of the Corporation shall be examined by the Auditors. The Auditors shall be supplied with a copy of the balance-sheet, and of the statement of income and expenditure, and it shall be their duty to examine the same, with the accounts and vouchers relating thereto. The Auditors shall have a list delivered to them of all books kept by the Corporation, and shall at all reasonable times have access to the books and accounts of the Corporation.

Audit of
Accounts.

The Auditors shall make a report to the members on the accounts examined by them, and on every balance-sheet and every statement of income and expenditure laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting during their tenure of office.

The Auditor's report shall be laid before the Corporation at the Annual General Meeting and shall be open to inspection by any member.

SCH. 2
—cont.

The report shall state whether the balance-sheet and statement of income and expenditure are properly drawn up in accordance with the requirements of this Constitution, and whether, in the opinion of the Auditors, they give a true and fair view—

- (a) in the case of the balance-sheet, of the state of the Corporation's affairs as at the end of its financial year; and
- (b) in the case of the statement of income and expenditure, of the income and expenditure of the Corporation for its financial year.

Books of
Account.

31. The books of account of the Corporation shall be kept at the offices of the Corporation.

NOTICES.

Service of
notices.

32. A notice may be given by the Corporation to any member either personally or by sending it by post to him to his registered address or, if he has no registered address within the United Kingdom, to the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied by him to the Corporation for the giving of notice to him. Where a notice is sent by post service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected at the expiration of twenty-four hours after the letter containing the same is posted.

Notice of
joint
seatholders.

33. A notice may be given by the Corporation to the joint holders of any seat by giving the notice to the joint holder first named in the register of members in respect of the seat.

Notice to
personal
representatives,
etc.

33A. A notice may be given by the Corporation to the persons entitled to a seat in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to them by name, or by the title of representatives of the deceased, or trustee of the bankrupt, or by any like description, at the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied for the purpose by the persons claiming to be so entitled, or, until such address has been so supplied, by giving the notice in any manner in which the same might have been given if the death or bankruptcy had not occurred.

GENERAL.

Constitution
supplemental
to Charter.

35. This Constitution shall be deemed to be supplemental to, and not in derogation of, the Charter of the Corporation; and such Charter shall remain in full force, and this Constitution may be altered in manner provided by the said Charter.

2000 No. 891**CHARITIES****The Charities (Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences)
Order 2000**

Made - - - - - *26th March 2000*

Coming into force *9th April 2000*

Whereas the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales have, in pursuance of section 17(1) of the Charities Act 1993(a), settled the Scheme set out in the Appendix to this Order with a view to its being given effect under that section:

And whereas the Scheme does not alter any statutory provision contained in or having effect under any public general Act of Parliament:

And whereas a draft of this Order has been laid before Parliament, the period of forty days mentioned in section 6(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946(b) has expired and neither House of Parliament has within that period resolved that the Order not be made:

Now, therefore, in pursuance of section 17(2) of the Charities Act 1993, the Secretary of State hereby makes the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Charities (Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences) Order 2000 and shall come into force on the fourteenth day after the day on which it is made.
2. The Scheme set out in the Appendix to this Order shall have effect.

Home Office
26th March 2000

Jack Straw
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

(a) 1993 c. 10.
(b) 1946 c. 36.

APPENDIX

SCHEME FOR THE ALTERATION OF PROVISIONS GOVERNING THE CHARITY
KNOWN AS THE CORPORATION OF THE HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES SITUATE
IN GREATER LONDON

Whereas the Charity known as The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (“the Corporation”) is now regulated by:

- (1) a Royal Charter dated 8th April 1866 and Supplemental Charters dated 25th October 1887 and 7th December 1928 (“the Charters”);
- (2) The Royal Albert Hall Acts 1876 to 1966 (“the Acts”)(a); and
- (3) The British Museum (Transitional Provisions) Order 1965:

And whereas the Trustees of the Corporation consider that they are no longer able to further the purposes of the Corporation in the manner contemplated by the Charters and the Acts:

And whereas the Trustees of the Corporation have on behalf of the Corporation made application to the Charity Commissioners for a Scheme for the administration thereof:

And whereas it appears to the Charity Commissioners that a Scheme should be established for the administration of the Corporation but that it is necessary for the Scheme to make provision which goes beyond the powers exercisable by them apart from section 17 of the Charities Act 1993:

And whereas in pursuance of section 20 of the Charities Act 1993 public notice of the Charity Commissioners’ proposals for this Scheme has been given and no representations have been received in respect thereof:

Now, therefore, the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (“the Commissioners”) in pursuance of section 17(1) of the Charities Act 1993 hereby settle the following Scheme:

SCHEME

Provisions ceasing to have effect

1. The provisions of section 9 of the Royal Albert Hall Act 1927 and section 5 of the Royal Albert Hall Act 1951 shall cease to have effect.

Power to borrow

2. The Corporation shall have power to borrow.

Power to mortgage or charge

3. The Corporation shall have power to mortgage or charge:
 - (a) the income revenues and property of the Corporation, and
 - (b) the land of the Corporation:
 - (i) by way of security for the repayment of a loan subject to the provisions of section 38 of the Charities Act 1993; and
 - (ii) by way of security otherwise than for the repayment of a loan provided that before doing so it obtains and considers proper advice on the matters mentioned in section 38(3) of the Charities Act 1993. For these purposes, “proper advice” means written advice which complies with section 38(4) of that Act.

Questions under the Scheme

4. The Commissioners may decide any question put to them concerning:
 - (a) the interpretation of this Scheme; or
 - (b) the propriety or validity of anything done or intended to be done under it.

Scaled by Order of the Commissioners this 10th day of November 2000.



(a) 1876 c. lvi, 1927 c. lxxiv, 1951 c. xviii, 1966 c. x.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order gives effect to a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners for the Charity known as the Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (“the *Corporation*”) which is regulated by a Royal Charter of 1866, Supplemental Charters of 1887 and 1928, the Royal Albert Hall Acts 1876 to 1966, and the British Museum (Transitional Provisions) Order 1965.

The Scheme alters some of the statutory provisions governing the *Corporation* with the effect that the *Corporation* shall have *greater* power to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its property.

THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

BYE-LAW

No person being a member or acting on behalf of a member shall sell or attempt to sell in the hall or in the vicinity thereof any ticket for a seat (or seats).

Breach or non-observance of this Bye-Law shall render the member liable to pay to the council a fine of £25.

All tickets for seats are issued subject to this Bye-Law.

In this Bye-Law the expressions "member" "the hall" "seat" "the Corporation" and "the council" have the meanings respectively assigned to them by section 2(1) of the Royal Albert Hall Act 1966.

NOTICE

1. The above Bye-Law was made pursuant to section 15 of the Royal Albert Hall Act 1966, sub-sections (3) and (4) whereof provide as follows:—

"(3) Every fine imposed by any Bye-Law made pursuant to this section shall be paid to the council and shall be recoverable by action of debt in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(4) If any member refuses, or for one month after demand made by the council for payment thereof neglects, to pay a fine imposed by the council under any Bye-Law made pursuant to this section such member shall not be entitled to use any seat of which he is the registered holder or to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation or in any poll of the members until the full amount of such fine for which he is liable be paid."

2. Any person (not being a member) who sells or attempts to sell or purchases or attempts to purchase in the Royal Albert Hall or in the vicinity thereof any ticket for a seat (or seats) except through a Box Office provided by the Corporation will be required to leave forthwith.

By Order of the Council,
M. Herrod,
Secretary.

FEBRUARY 1967.

THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL**BYELAW**

Bye-law made by the Council on 28 February 1985, pursuant to Paragraph 11 (6) of the Constitution.

No person who has attained the age of 65 years shall be eligible for election or appointment as an Ordinary Member of the Council.

No member of the Council may be re-elected an Ordinary Member of the Council if he has attained the age of 75 years and any Member elected or re-elected an Ordinary Member of the Council after the date hereof shall retire on or before the date on which he attains the age of 75 years.


The President shall not be eligible for election or re-election to that office if he has attained the age of 75 years.

* * *

BYELAW AS ABOVE

APPROVED AT A.G.M.

ON 30.5.85

 30/5/85.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL

BYELAW

BYELAW MADE BY THE COUNCIL ON 28TH OCTOBER 1999, PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 11(6) OF THE CONSTITUTION

SUBJECT TO THE DUE APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE CONSTITUTION, WHICH STATES:

"THE PRESIDENT SHALL BE ELECTED BY RESOLUTION AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, AND SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A YEAR, BUT SHALL BE RE-ELIGIBLE"

THE PRESIDENT MAY HENCEFORTH SERVE IN THAT OFFICE FOR A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING SIX ANNUAL TERMS.

THE BYELAW WAS APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION ON 25TH MAY 2000


VAUGHAN REES OBE
JUNE 2000

ROYAL ALBERT HALL

BYELAW

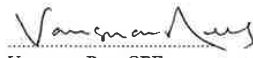
BYELAW MADE BY THE COUNCIL ON 28TH OCTOBER 1999, PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 11(6) OF THE CONSTITUTION

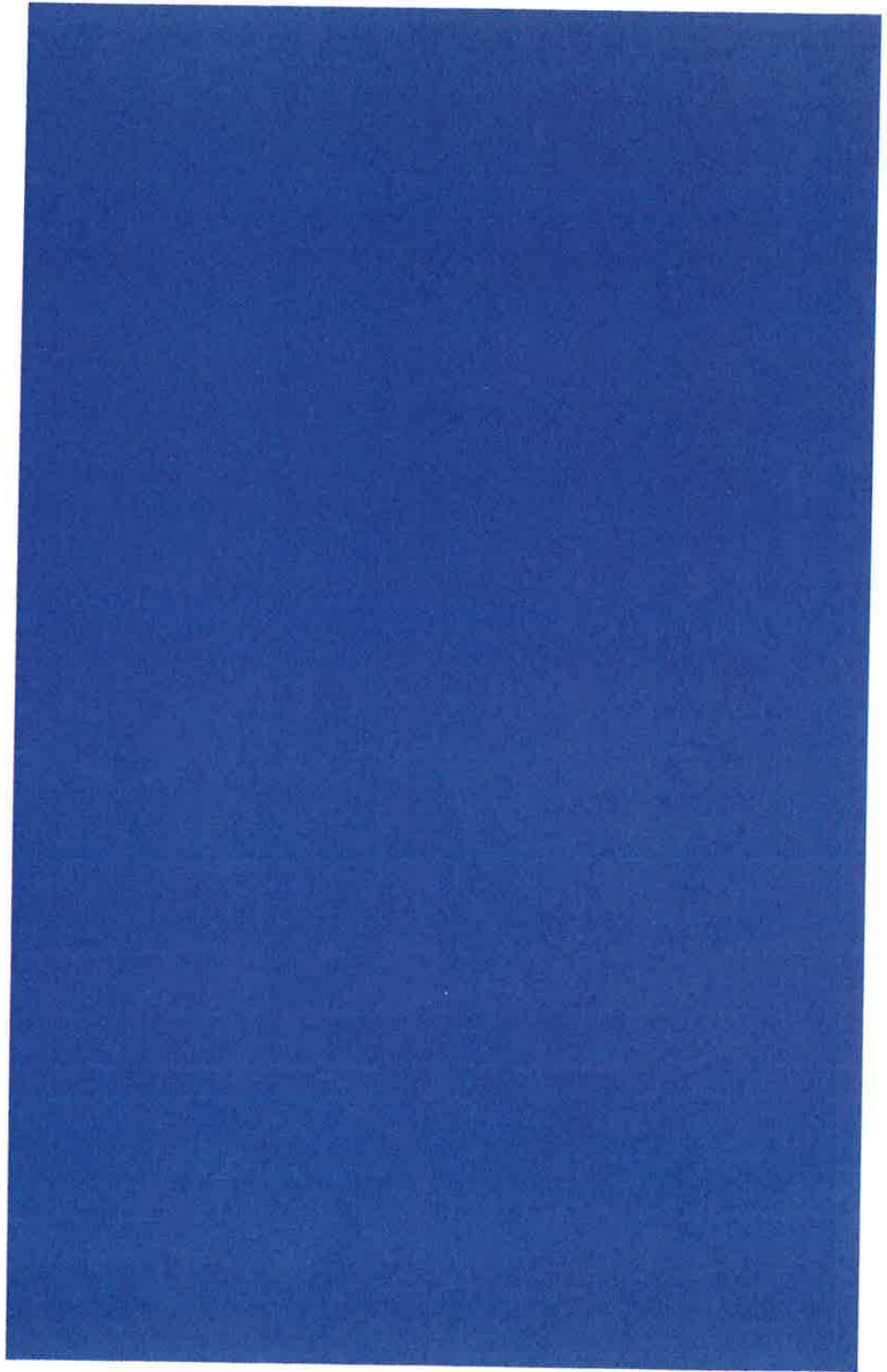
"THE COUNCIL MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL AS BEING AN HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CORPORATION, IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THAT INDIVIDUAL TO THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

NOTES:

- (i) HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS WOULD NOT, BY VIRTUE OF THAT DESIGNATION, BECOME MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION; SHALL NOT BE QUALIFIED TO ACT AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (OTHER THAN THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE OTHERWISE ELECTED OR APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF COUNCIL); AND WOULD NOT, BY VIRTUE OF THAT DESIGNATION, BE ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL OR GENERAL MEETINGS UNLESS BY INVITATION.
- (ii) HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS WILL BE DESIGNATED BY THE COUNCIL ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT, THAT RECOMMENDATION HAVING BEEN ENDORSED BY THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE."

THE BYELAW WAS APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION ON 25TH MAY 2000


VAUGHAN REES OBE
JUNE 2000



AGM Agenda Item 2

Bye-law to enable service of notices electronically

Bye-law made by the Council on 30 March 2023, pursuant to Paragraph 11(6) of the Constitution

- 1) In this bye-law:
“meeting” means an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting of the Members;
- 2) In exercising its powers under paragraphs 20 and 21 of the Constitution to appoint an Annual General Meeting or to call a Special General Meeting, the Council may serve notice of the meeting by electronic means. Where a notice is served by such means it shall be deemed to have been delivered at the time and day sent.

.....
Susan Gent
Secretary to the Corporation
18 May 2023

**IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF LORDS
SESSION 2023-24**

ROYAL ALBERT HALL BILL

Witness Statement of Ian McCulloch

EXHIBIT 10

**Copy of the 1865 prospectus to potential subscribers for
access to seats in the proposed Royal Albert Hall**

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

CENTRAL HALL OF ARTS AND
SCIENCES.

PATRONESS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT.

H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

1865.

Central Hall of Arts and Sciences.

PATRONESS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

VICE-PATRONS.

H.R.H. Prince Alfred, K.G.	The Lord Stanley, M.P.	Names of Vice-Patrons.
H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge, K.G.	The Lord Portman.	
H.S.H. The Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar.	The Lord Dufferin and Clandeboye, K.P.	
His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.	The Lord Overstone.	
His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin.	The Lord Llanover.	
The Duke of St. Albans.	The Lord Taunton.	
The Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Chancellor of the University of Cambridge.	The Lord Stanley of Alderley.	
The Duke of Rutland.	General the Hon. C. Grey.	
The Duke of Buccleuch, K.G.	The Hon. A. Kinnaid, M.P.	
The Duke of Wellington, K.G.	The Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart., M.P., G.C.B.	
The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.	The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P.	
The Duke of Sutherland, K.G.	The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.	
The Marquess of Lansdowne.	The Right Hon. W. Cowper, M.P.	
The Marquess of Salisbury, K.G.	The Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, M.P.	
The Earl of Derby, K.G., Chancellor of the University of Oxford.	The Right Hon. R. Lowe, M.P.	
The Earl Cowper.	The Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, F.R.S.	
The Earl Stanhope, President of the Society of Antiquaries.	Sir Stafford H. Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P.	
The Earl of Hardwicke.	Colonel Sir Thomas Troubridge, Bart., C.B.	
The Earl De La Warr.	Colonel Sir Charles Russell, Bart., M.P.	
The Earl Spencer, K.G.	Sir Edward Kerrison, Bart., President of the Royal Agricultural Society.	
The Earl of Clarendon, K.G.	Sir Anthony de Rothschild, Bart.	
The Earl of Carnarvon.	Sir E. Antrobus, Bart.	
The Earl of Rosse, K.P., D.C.L., Chancellor of Dublin University.	General Sir John F. Burgoyne, Bart., G.C.B.	
The Earl Grey, K.G.	Sir S. Morton Peto, Bart., M.P.	
The Earl de Grey and Ripon.	Sir C. Wentworth Dilke, Bart., M.P.	
The Earl Granville, K.G., Chancellor of the University of London.	Sir Charles Lyell, Bart.	
The Earl Cowley, G.C.B.	Sir R. Murchison, K.C.B., D.C.L., President of the Royal Geographical Society.	
The Lord Henry G. Lennox, M.P.	Sir David Brewster, K.H., D.C.L., Principal of the University of Edinburgh.	
The Viscount Sydney.	Sir Arthur Buller, M.P.	
The Viscount Torrington.	Sir C. L. Eastlake, President of the Royal Academy.	
The Viscount Eversley.	Sir Hugh M'Calmont Cairns, M.P.	
The Viscount Hawarden.	Sir Roundell Palmer, M.P.	
The Lord Bishop of London.	The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (Ex officio).	
The Lord Bishop of Winchester.	The Chairman of Council of the Society of Arts (Ex officio).	
The Lord Bishop of St. David's.	The President of the Sacred Harmonic Society (Ex officio).	
The Lord Bishop of St. Asaph.	The Treasurer of the Sacred Harmonic Society (Ex officio).	
The Lord Bishop of Lichfield.	Sir Thomas Phillips, Q.C.	
The Lord Bishop of Oxford.	Kirkman D. Hodgson, Esq., M.P., Governor of the Bank of England.	
The Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells.		
The Lord Bishop of Worcester.		
The Lord Bishop of Ely.		
The Lord Eustace Cecil, M.P.		

Major-General E. Sabine, D.C.L., President of the Royal Society.

Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.

Alexander Barker, Esq.

G. C. T. Bartley, Esq.

James Bateman, Esq., F.R.S.

Thomas Bazley, Esq., M.P.

J. J. Blandy, Esq.

W. H. Bodkin, Esq., Assistant Judge.

Edgar A. Bowring, Esq., C.B.

Rev. R. Brooke, M.A.

C. Minton Campbell, Esq.

John Clutton, Esq.

Henry Cole, Esq., C.B.

Thomas Dyer Edwardes, Esq.

Alfred J. Elkington, Esq.

Thomas Fairbairn, Esq.

W. Fairbairn, Esq., F.R.S.

M. Faraday, Esq., F.R.S., D.C.L.

John Fowler, Esq.

C. J. Freake, Esq.

Thomas Field Gibson, Esq.

G. J. Göschen, Esq., M.P.

Peter Graham, Esq.

Professor Graham, F.R.S., Master of the Mint.

Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P.

Edward Hamilton, Esq., M.P.

W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President of the Geological Society.

Thomson Hankey, Esq., M.P.

Michael Daintree Hollins, Esq.

C. Wren Hoskyns, Esq.

Henry A. Hunt, Esq.

T. Marr Johnson, Esq.

John Kelk, Esq., M.P.

A. H. Layard, Esq., M.P.

William Leaf, Esq.

Thomas Lloyd, Esq.

J. R. MacLean, Esq., President of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

M. H. Marsh, Esq., M.P.

Dudley Coutts Marjoribanks, Esq., M.P.

Charles Mills, Esq., M.P.

G. Moffatt, Esq., M.P.

R. Napier, Esq., President of the Mechanical Engineers of England.

Professor Owen, F.R.S.

A. Panizzi, Esq.

T. Gambier Parry, Esq.

G. Peabody, Esq.

John Pender, Esq., M.P.

The Rev. William Rogers, Rector of Bishopsgate.

Henry Cadogan Rothery, Esq., F.L.S.

Mr. Alderman Salomons, M.P.

Titus Salt, Esq.

W. Wilson Saunders, Esq., F.R.S.

Henry D. Seymour, Esq., M.P.

The Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair.

Col. Sykes, M.P., President of the Statistical Society.

Frederick Tayler, Esq., President of the Society of Painters in Water-Colours.

Henry Thring, Esq.

William Tite, Esq., M.P.

John Webb, Esq.

Joseph Whitworth, Esq.

Alderman and Colonel Wilson.

Edward Wood, Esq.

M. Digby Wyatt, Esq.

Meeting of Promoters.

1. On Wednesday, the 6th of July 1865, a meeting was held at Marlborough House, under the Presidency of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with a view of promoting the erection of a Great Central Hall, the want of which for various purposes connected with Science and Art has been long felt.

Appointment of Provisional Committee.

2. The meeting having unanimously recognised the expediency of erecting the proposed Hall, appointed a Provisional Committee with full powers to consider and adopt such measures as might appear to them best calculated to carry into effect the proposed undertaking.

Provisional Committee:—

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

His Royal Highness The Prince Alfred, K.G.

The Earl of Derby, K.G.

The Earl Granville, K.G.

Lieut.-General The Hon. C. Grey.

The Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, M.P.

The Right Hon. R. Lowe, M.P.

Sir S. Morton Peto, Bart., M.P.

Thos. Baring, Esq., M.P.

Edgar A. Bowring, Esq., C.B.

Henry Cole, Esq., C.B.

Henry Thring, Esq.

Meeting of Provisional Committee and appointment of Secretary.

3. The Provisional Committee met at Marlborough House on Thursday, the 13th of July, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in the chair, and appointed Lieut.-Colonel Scott, R.E., Secretary.

4. The Committee agreed to the issue of an explanatory Statement, which is as follows :—

Issue of explanatory Statement.

STATEMENT.

5. Shortly after the closing of the Great Exhibition of 1851, numerous representations were made to the Commissioners of that Exhibition, on the part of Chambers of Commerce, Learned Societies, and other bodies of persons interested in Science or the Arts, of the want that was felt throughout England, and especially in the chief commercial cities, of a Central Institution in London for the promotion of Scientific and Artistic knowledge as applicable to productive industry.

Representations of want of Central Institution.

6. The Commissioners were deeply impressed with the representations so made, and announced in their Second Report to the Crown, that they had devoted the surplus funds of the Great Exhibition to the purchase of an estate at South Kensington, with a view of providing a common centre of union for the various departments of Science and Art connected with industrial education.

Commissioners provide Site for Institution.

7. A site for a Central Institution having been found, numerous plans for effecting the desired object were suggested and prepared under the direction of the Prince Consort, and in all those plans such a Hall as that which it is now proposed to erect formed a prominent and essential feature. The death of the Prince Consort in December, 1861, arrested the steps which were in contemplation, but it is now proposed to revive a portion of his project, and to seek the means of erecting a Hall on a scale commensurate with the wants of the Country.

Hall originally contemplated, and this portion of Scheme for Institution now revived.

8. The management of the Hall, when erected, will be invested in a governing Body acting under the authority of a Royal Charter.

Management of Hall.

9. The Hall will be available for the following objects :—

Enumeration of objects of Hall.

- a. Congresses, both National and International, for purposes of Science and Art.
- b. Performances of Music, both choral and instrumental, including performances on the Organ similar to those now given in various large provincial towns, such as Liverpool and Birmingham.
- c. The Distribution of Prizes by Public Bodies and Societies.
- d. Conversazioni of Societies established for the promotion of Science and Art.
- e. Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibitions.
- f. National and International Exhibitions of Works of Art and Industry, including Industrial Exhibitions by the working classes similar to those recently held successfully in various parts of London.
- g. Exhibitions of Pictures, Sculpture, and other objects of Artistic or Scientific interest.
- h. Any other purposes connected with Science and Art.

10. A plan and section of the Hall are annexed (Plan No. 1). The Hall consists of an arena, an amphitheatre, and two tiers of private boxes. Above the boxes there will be a spacious corridor lighted from the top, affording room for the exhibition of Pictures and Sculpture. Access to and egress from the Building will be amply provided for by numerous separate entrances and staircases. Chambers and offices for the convenience of Societies and persons using the Hall will be also provided as indicated in the Plan.

Plan of Hall.

11. The site of the Hall is on land belonging to the Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851, at the North side of the Horticultural Gardens, and is delineated on Plan No. 2.

Site of Hall.

- General situation of Hall in respect of the rest of Metropolis.
12. Plan No. 3 represents the situation of the Hall in relation to the rest of the Metropolis. The thick black line denotes the Metropolitan Railway, which will place South Kensington in communication with all parts of London, and with the country. The completed portion is indicated by a continuous line, and that which is in progress by a dotted line. The Station is shown on Plans 2 and 3 in the immediate neighbourhood of the Horticultural Gardens, and a plan is under consideration for connecting it with the Hall by a covered passage.
- Free grant of Site, Valued at £60,000.
13. A grant of the Site for the Hall for a term of 999 years will be made by the Commissioners at a nominal rent. This grant represents a contribution of £60,000 to the Hall.
- Cost of Hall.
14. The total cost of erecting the Hall, exclusive of the value of the site, but including fittings and internal and external decorations, is estimated at the sum of £200,000.
- Guarantee of £50,000 by Commissioners.
15. The Commissioners undertake, in addition to the grant of the site, to guarantee one-fourth part of the above sum of £200,000, and out of such guarantee to advance a sum not exceeding £2,000 for preliminary expenses.
- Conditions of Grant and Guarantee.
16. The grant, however, of the Lease and of the guarantee, is conditional on the public engaging before the 1st May 1867 to invest in the scheme such an amount as will be sufficient, inclusive of the Commissioners' guarantee, to insure the completion of the building, externally and internally, including fittings, to the satisfaction of the Commissioners' Surveyor, and the payment of every expense connected with it.
- Application of Subscriptions beyond £150,000.
17. Any sum which may be subscribed by the public between the limits of £150,000 and £200,000 will go in diminution of the Commissioners' guarantee; and further, any sum not exceeding £20,000 which may be subscribed after the Commissioners have been discharged from their guarantee, and the building has been completed, will be invested for the permanent maintenance of the Hall.
- Sum required to be raised by Subscription.
18. A sum of £150,000 is therefore the amount required to be raised by subscription before the public will be entitled to claim the benefit of the offer made by the Commissioners.
- Different Classes of Subscribers and their Privileges.
19. Three classes of Subscribers will be admitted:—
- A Subscriber of £1,000 will be entitled to a private box containing ten seats in the First Tier, in the situation marked purple in the Plan and Section.
- A Subscriber of £500 will be entitled to a private box containing five seats, in the Second Tier, in the situation marked blue in the Section.
- Or a Subscriber will be entitled to reserved seats on the payment of £100 for each sitting, in the Amphitheatre, in the part coloured red on the Plan and Section.
- Duration of Interests of Subscribers.
20. The interest of Subscribers will continue during the whole term for which the site of the Hall is granted; in other words, it will be practically perpetual.
- Calls.
21. No calls will be made on any Subscriber for the payment of any instalment of his subscription until a sufficient amount has been subscribed to insure the completion of the building. Calls will then be made at intervals of not less than three months and be spread over a period of two years.
- Transferability of Interests of Subscribers and Votes of Subscribers.
22. The interest of every class of Subscriber will be transferable at the will of the holder, and a Subscriber may let his seat for any particular occasion or occasions. Subscribers will, on the completion of the Hall, have one vote in its management for every seat held by them.

23. Where the nature of the entertainment permits, and so far as is consistent with general comfort and convenience, Subscribers will be furnished with tickets entitling them, and those claiming seats from them, to go into any part of the Hall, or take any seat that is not appropriated for some special purpose or to some particular person.

Subscribers may circulate in Hall.

24. The Hall will contain about 5,600 persons. A sale of the boxes and of the seats set apart for Subscribers will produce £250,000. The remaining seats in the building will be at the disposal of the governing body.

Capacity of Hall and unappropriated Seats.

25. Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales have announced their intention of taking boxes. The Society of Arts, the Sacred Harmonic Society, the Royal Horticultural Society, and other Societies, as well as many eminent persons, have declared their intention of connecting themselves with the Hall.

Boxes taken by Queen and Prince of Wales.

26. The want of a building large enough for the effective display of industrial and other like exhibitions has of late years been greatly felt in the metropolis, while the success that has attended large musical performances at numerous other places augurs well for the popularity of similar entertainments in London. The proposed Hall will occupy, free of expense, one of the best sites in the metropolis, and will be eminently adapted for exhibitions and musical performances on a grand scale. There seems, then, little reason to doubt that the purchase of boxes or seats in the Hall may be looked upon as the acquisition of a property from the use of which constant enjoyment and instruction may be derived, and which, in a pecuniary point of view, will prove a remunerative investment, to be realised either partially by the letting of seats, or wholly by the sale of the entire interest of the purchaser.

Prospect of Benefits to be derived from the Hall.

Letters and Communications may be addressed to—

Lieut.-Col. SCOTT, R.E.

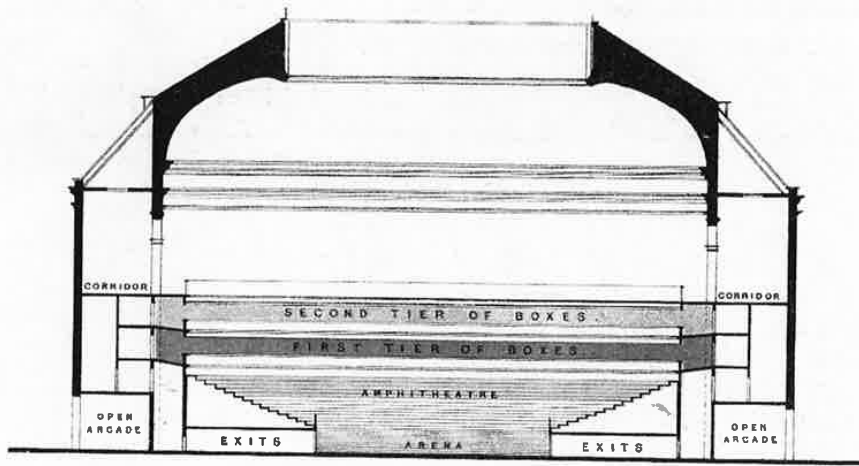
Secretary to the Provisional Committee,
Central Hall of Arts and Sciences,
Temporary Offices,

Exhibition Road, South Kensington, W.

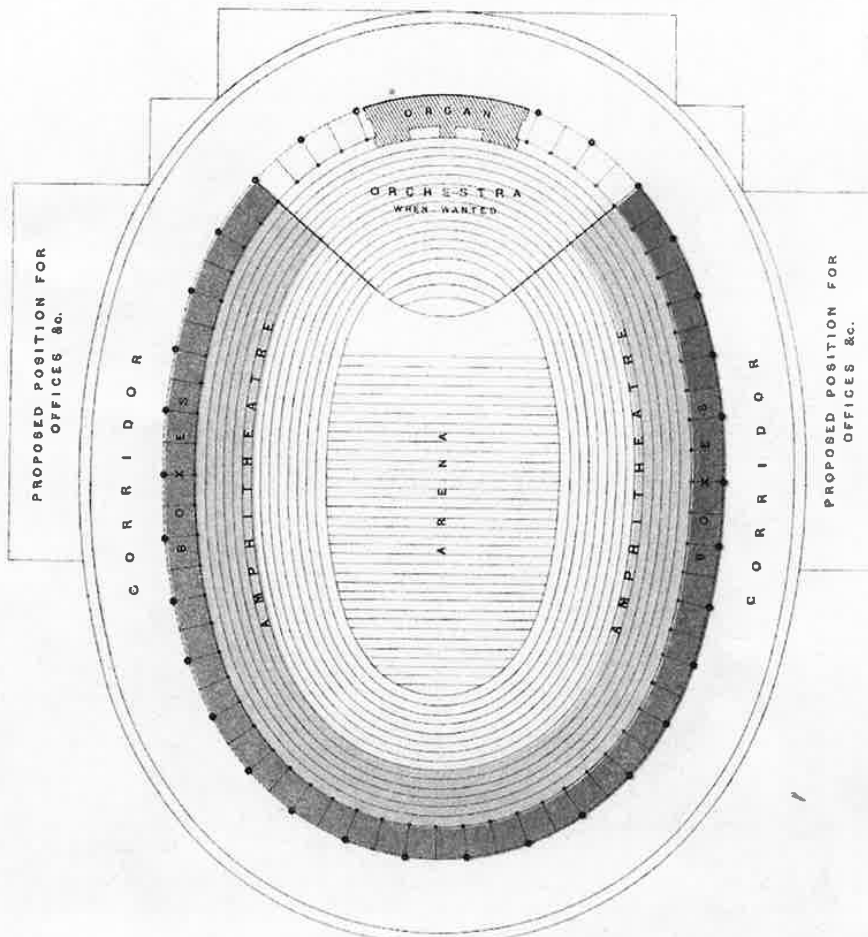
Plan N° 1.

CENTRAL HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES. SOUTH KENSINGTON.

PLAN AND SECTION OF HALL.



CROSS SECTION.

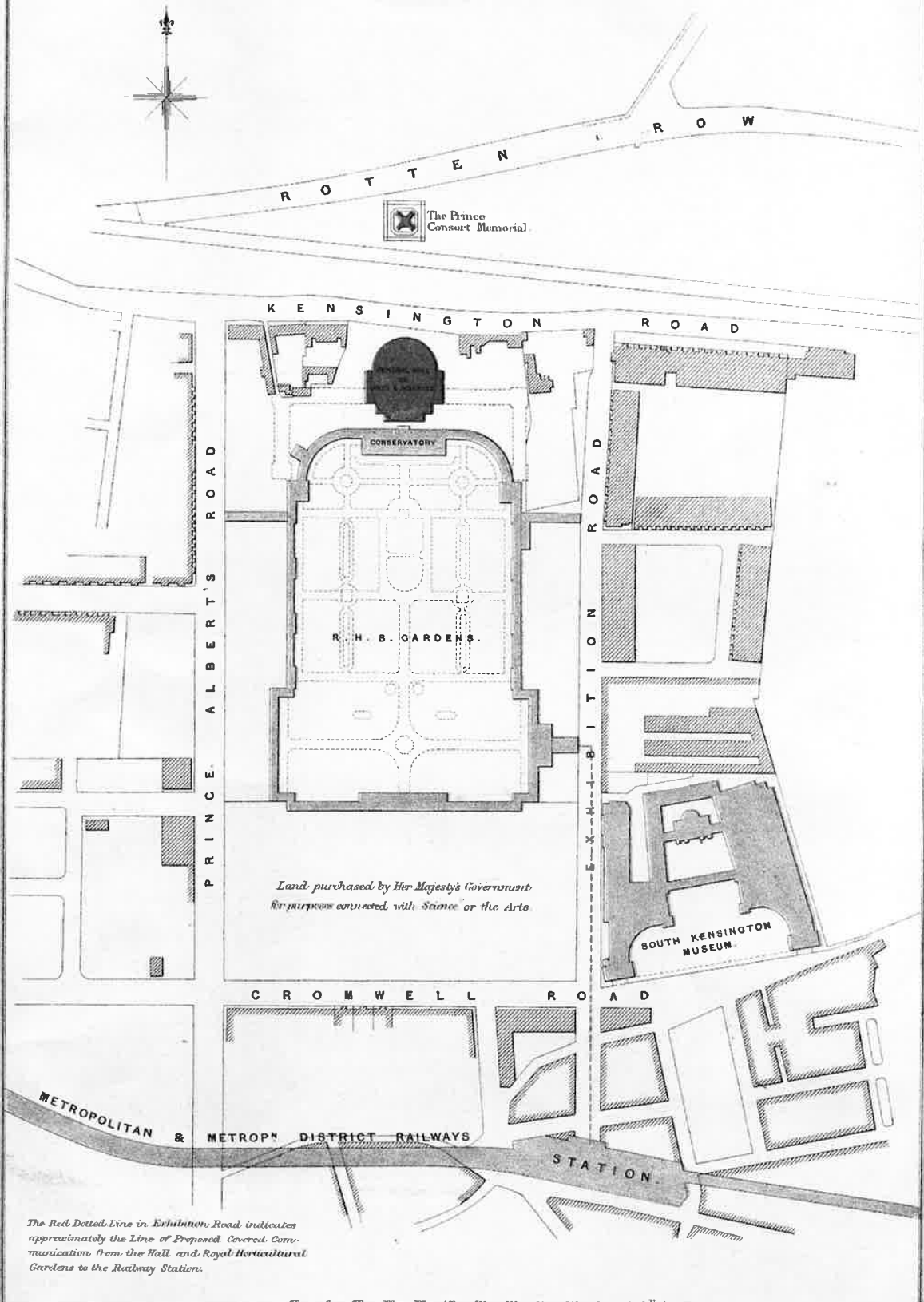


PLAN AT LEVEL OF CORRIDOR
THE UPPER OR SECOND TIER OF BOXES NOT SHOWN.

Scale of Feet.
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150 Feet

**CENTRAL HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.
SOUTH KENSINGTON.**

GENERAL PLAN SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE HALL.



The Red Dotted Line in Exhibition Road indicates approximately the Line of Proposed Covered Communication from the Hall and Royal Horticultural Gardens to the Railway Station.