



# **BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 803417

Founded 1950 as Berkhamsted & District Local History Society

## **COLLECTION POLICY**

1. The Berkhamsted Local History and Museum Society adopts as its policy the Museum Association's Code of Practice for Museum Authorities and (as far as is applicable) the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting the Illicit Import Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property 1970.
2. The Society will not acquire any object unless the Trustees or Curator are satisfied that the Society can acquire valid title in good faith to the object in question, or if they have reasonable cause to believe that the recovery of the object involved recent unscientific or intentional destruction of an archaeological site.
3. The Society will acquire items only from within the historic parishes of Berkhamsted, Northchurch, Bourne End, Nettleden with Potten End, including the Ashridge Estate, except for items outside the area which have close association with a person or activity of that area and which illustrate the history of that area.
4. The Society will acquire a representative collection of objects, photographs and pictures illustrating the way of life of the people of the historic parishes of Berkhamsted, Northchurch, Bourne End and Nettleden with Potten End and their immediate surroundings.
5. The Society may acquire a very small collection of items, for display and lecturing purposes only, to illustrate the natural history of the parishes of Berkhamsted, Northchurch, Bourne End and Nettleden with Potten End. Wherever possible such items will be acquired on loan from existing collections and acquisitions will be made in accordance with both the law and ethical codes relating to natural history collecting.
6. The Archivist or Trustees have authority to accept gifts and bequests of items falling within paragraphs 3 and 4 of this policy. The Trustees will not normally accept items falling within those paragraphs offered to them on loan.
7. The Society may very exceptionally acquire items falling outside this Policy, and then bearing in mind the interests of other public museums. Such acquisitions will be approved in advance by the Trustees.

September 2011