

Constitution of Wheatsheaf Hall Community Association

Adopted at the first Annual General Meeting, or launch meeting, of the Wheatsheaf Hall Community Centre held at Wheatsheaf Hall on 28th April 2010. Amended at the Annual General Meeting on 21 May 2014.

The Constitution of:

Wheatsheaf Hall Community Association

PART ONE

- 1 The Association's name is WHEATSHEAF HALL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.
- 2 The Objects for which the Association is established are:
 - i. To further or benefit the residents of the London Borough of Lambeth without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.
- 3 In furtherance of the Objects of the Association, the Association shall have the following powers:
 - i. To carry on any other business which in the opinion of the Management Committee of the Association may seem capable of being conveniently carried out in connection with or as ancillary to any of the above businesses or to be calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value of or render profitable any of the property of the Association or to further any of its Objects.
 - ii. To build, construct, maintain or enlarge, pull down, remove or replace any buildings, works, plant, and machinery necessary or convenient for the business of the Association or to join with any person, firm or Association in doing any of the things aforesaid.
 - iii. To maintain the fabric of the Wheatsheaf Community Centre so that it continues to be in a serviceable state, this to be done sympathetically with its Grade II Listing status.
 - iv. To purchase, take on lease, exchange, hire or otherwise acquire for any estate or interest any real or personal property and any rights or privileges which the Association may think necessary or convenient for the purposes of its business.
 - v. To establish, undertake and execute any trusts which may lawfully be undertaken by the Association and are directly ancillary to its Objects.
 - vi. To invest the monies of the Association not immediately required for the furtherance of its Objects in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit, subject nevertheless to such conditions (if any) and such consents (if any) as may for the time being be imposed or required by law and subject also as hereinafter provided.

- vii. To subscribe and make contributions to or otherwise support any charitable institutions or associations formed for any of the purposes included in the Objects.
 - viii. To do all such other lawful things as may be conducive or incidental to the attainment of the above Objects. Provided that: in case the Association shall take or hold any property which may be subject to any trusts, the Association shall only deal with or invest the same in such manner as is allowed by law having regard to such trusts; and the Associations Objects shall not extend to the regulation of relations between workers and employers or organisations of workers and organisations of employers.
- 4 The income and property of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects of the Association as set forth in this Constitution. The Management Committee undertakes to ensure no profit from the Association is paid or transferred directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to the Members of the Association. Provided that: nothing herein shall prevent the payment, in good faith, of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the Association or to any Member of the Association, in return for any services actually rendered to the Association, nor prevent the payment of interest at a reasonable and proper rent for the premises let by any Member to the Association, but so that no Member shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Association or any office of the Association paid by fees, and that no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be given by the Association to any Member except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses and interest at the rate aforesaid on money lent, or reasonable and proper rent for premises let to the Association.

PART TWO

MEMBERSHIP

- 5 The Association is established for the purposes outlined in the Objects.
- 6 Membership is open to all persons living or working in the London Borough of Lambeth, irrespective of age, sex, sexuality, gender, religious or political beliefs.
- 7 A Member may at any time withdraw from the Association by giving at least seven clear days' notice to the Association. Membership shall not be transferrable and shall cease on death.
- 8 The Management Committee may, at its discretion, terminate the membership of any Member, but the requirements of natural justice shall be respected and a Member shall be entitled to be heard in his own defence by the Management Committee.
- 9 All membership applications must be agreed by the Management Committee.
- 10 Membership of the Association must be agreed for at least one month before members can vote or stand for the Management Committee in Annual General Meetings or General Meetings of the Association.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 11 The Association shall in each calendar year 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; and not more than 15 months shall elapse between the date of one Annual General Meeting of the Association and the next.
- 12 All General Meetings other than the Annual General Meetings shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings.
- 13 The Management Committee may call Extraordinary General Meetings.
- 14 The Members of the Association may require that the Management Committee convenes an Extraordinary General Meeting by petition signed by a minimum of 10% of its membership.
- 15 If at any time there are not within the United Kingdom enough Management Committee members to form a quorum, any Management Committee member or any two Members of the Association may convene such an Extraordinary General Meeting in the same manner as nearly as possible as that in which meetings may be convened by the Management Committee.
- 16 The quorum for the Management Committee shall be one third of its elected members present and voting.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 17 An Annual General Meeting and any meeting called for the passing of a special resolution or an elective resolution shall be called by 21 days' notice in writing at least and a meeting of the Association other than an Annual General Meeting or a meeting for the passing of a special resolution or an elective resolution shall be called by 14 days' notice in writing at the least. Either notice shall be exclusive of the day on which it is given and of the day for which it is given, and shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting and in case of special business the general nature of the business, and shall be given to the Members and to the Auditor, in the manner hereinafter mentioned in or in such other manner as may be prescribed by the Association in the General Meeting: provided that a meeting of the Association shall, notwithstanding that it is called by shorter notice than that specified in this Article, be deemed to have been duly called if it is so agreed:
 - i. In the case of a meeting called as the Annual General Meeting, by all the Members entitled to attend and vote thereat; and
 - ii. In the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the Members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together representing not less than 75% of the total voting rights at that meeting of all the Members.
- 18 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 19 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting of the Association unless a quorum is present. The quorum for General Meetings of the Association shall be 25 members present and voting.

- 20 If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present (save for any period allotted for the taking of any poll), the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such other time as the Management Committee members may determine.
- 21 The Chair, if any, of the Management Committee or in his absence some other Management Committee member nominated by the Management Committee members shall preside as chair of the meeting, but if neither the Chair nor such other Management Committee member (if any) be present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the Management Committee members present shall elect one of their number to be Chair and, if there is only one Management Committee member present and willing to act, s/he shall be Chair.
- 22 If no Management Committee member is willing to act as Chair, or if no Management Committee member is present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be Chair.
- 23 A Management Committee member shall, notwithstanding that he is not a Member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and participate in any online electronic debate or forum associated with such a meeting.
- 24 The Chair may adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. When a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, at least 7 Clear Days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give any such notice.
- 25 A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting shall be decided on a poll taken of those attending personally or by proxy.
- 26 A poll shall be taken as the Chair directs within 7 days of the date of the General Meeting and in accordance with any standing rules for the conduct of polls laid down by the Board from time to time and s/he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- 27 In the case of an equality of votes the Chair shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote s/he may have.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

- 28 The London Borough of Lambeth has a diverse, multi-cultural population containing people with a variety of abilities. This Association recognises that all sections of the community have a positive contribution to make to the life of the borough. This Association will represent the interests of all local residents to the best of its ability.

- 29 We will make steps to make our Association as representative of the local community as possible. We will ensure that our meetings and any other Association activities are accessible and welcoming to all local residents.
- 30 All individual members of the Association will be responsible for helping the Association to meet these aims.
- 31 Any resident who feels that they have not been treated fairly and equally by the Association can raise this in the first instance with the Management Committee. If the complainant feels that the Management Committee has not dealt with the complaint satisfactorily, they should appeal to their local councillor who may take up investigation into the matter.