

Constitution of Slingsby Website and Newsletter Group

1) Name and origin

The name of the Group shall be Slingsby Website and Newsletter Group. This unincorporated association was formed in October 2010 by volunteers who came forward in response to the Parish Plan 2010, with initial guidance from Rural Action Yorkshire, Ryedale District Council and the Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme Parish Council.

2) Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the Group shall be to

- a) Develop, introduce and maintain a website for the parish of Slingsby, Fryton and South Holme (hereinafter referred to as the parish)
- b) Produce a newsletter for the parish
- c) Promote use of the website and newsletter for the benefit of the local community
- d) Provide a platform for the development of community-focussed activity within the parish by publication of social and business information
- e) Provide historical and other information promoting the village and offering assistance to residents and visitors to the parish.

3) Powers

In order to achieve its aims and objectives the Group may:

- a) Raise money to meet its operating costs
- b) Open bank accounts
- c) Take out insurance
- d) Organize meetings, courses and events
- e) Work with similar Groups and exchange information and advice with them
- f) Take any appropriate lawful action which will help it achieve its aims and objectives.

4) Membership

- a) Membership of the Group shall be open to any individual over eighteen (without regard to disability, political or religious affiliation, race, gender or sexual orientation) who is normally resident within the parish and who is interested in helping the Group to achieve its aims and is willing to abide by the rules of the Group.

5) Management

- a) The Group shall be administered by a Management Committee of not less than three and not more than 8 individuals elected at the Group's Annual General Meeting (A.G.M)

- b) The Officers of the Group shall be: the Chairperson, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Newsletter Editor and the Webmaster, who shall be elected at the A.G.M and who shall be members of the Management Committee.
- c) The Management Committee may co-opt on to the Committee, up to two individuals, in an advisory and non-voting capacity, that it feels will help fulfil the aims and objectives of the Group.
- d) The Management Committee shall meet at least two times a year.
- e) At least three Management Committee members must be present for a Management Committee meeting to take place.
- f) Voting at Management Committee meetings shall be by a show of hands. If there is a tied vote then the Chairperson shall have a second vote.
- g) The Management Committee shall have the power to remove any member of the Management Committee or of the Group for good and proper reason.
- h) The Management Committee may appoint any other resident of the parish as a Committee member to fill a vacancy, provided that the maximum prescribed is not exceeded.

6) The Duties of the Officers

- a) The duties of the Chairperson shall be to chair meetings of the Committee and the Group, represent the Group at functions/meetings that the Group has been invited to and act as the spokesperson of the Group when necessary.
- b) The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep a membership list, prepare in consultation with the Chairperson the agenda for meetings of the Committee and the Group, take and keep minutes of all meetings, and collect and circulate any relevant information within the Group.
- c) The duties of the Treasurer shall be to supervise the financial affairs of the Group and keep proper accounts that show all monies received and paid out by the Group.
- d) The duties of the Newsletter Editor shall be to carry out all the activities necessary for the regular production of the Newsletter ("The Triangle").
- e) The duties of the Webmaster shall be to carry out all the technical activities necessary to build and maintain the structural elements of the website.

7) Finance

- a) All monies received by or on behalf of the Group shall be applied to further the aims and objectives of the Group and for no other purpose.
- b) Any bank accounts opened for the Group shall be in the name of the Group.
- c) Any cheques issued shall be signed by two duly authorized members of the Management Committee.

- d) The Group shall ensure that its accounts are properly maintained and arrange, at their discretion, independent examination of the annual accounts.
- e) The Group is run on a voluntary basis therefore no wages, salaries or allowances will be paid to Management Committee members. Justified expenses may be reimbursed.

8) Annual General Meeting.

- a) The Group shall hold an Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.), normally in the month of October. All residents of the parish will be invited to attend, and may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be entitled to vote.
- b) All residents of the parish will be given one month's notice of the A.G.M by a notice being placed prominently on the website, in the Newsletter and on the parish notice boards.
- c) The business of the A.G.M. shall include:
 - i. receiving a report from the Chairperson on the Group's activities over the year
 - ii. receiving a report from the Treasurer on the finances of the Group
 - iii. receiving a report from the Newsletter Editor
 - iv. receiving a report from the Webmaster
 - v. electing a new Management Committee
 - vi. considering any other matter as may be decided.
- d) At least 5 members must be present for the Annual General Meeting to take place.

9) Special General Meetings

- a) A Special General Meeting may be called by the Management Committee or called for by 3 residents of the parish to discuss an urgent matter.
- b) All parish residents may attend and, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be entitled to vote.
- c) The Secretary shall give all parish residents fourteen days notice of any Special General Meeting together with notice of the business to be discussed.

10) Amendments to the Constitution

Any changes to this Constitution must be agreed by at least two-thirds of those present and voting at any General Meeting.

11) Dissolution.

The Group may be wound up at any time if agreed by two-thirds of those present and voting at any General Meeting. In the event of winding up any assets remaining after all debts have been paid shall be given to another Group with a similar aim, or be given to a local charity.

12) Adoption of the Constitution.

This Constitution was formally adopted at the first A.G.M. of the Group on 18 October 2011 by the persons whose names, addresses and signatures appear at the foot of this document.

Name: Jon Boots
Address: Bransdale, High Street, Slingsby

Signed.....

Name: Geoff Brooks
Address: The Cottage, The Green, Slingsby

Signed.....

Name: Keith and Carol Buck
Address: Sawpit Cottage, The Green, Slingsby

Signed.....

Name: George Dudzinski
Address: Holme Lea Farm, Green Dyke Lane, Slingsby

Signed.....

Name: Richard Flint
Address: The Yews, Railway Street, Slingsby

Signed.....