

BEDFORD RAMBLING CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. NAME.

The name of the Club shall be "Bedford Rambling Club" hereinafter called "the Club."

2. OBJECTIVES.

To organise regular walks and arrange occasional social events and activities.

To encourage a love of the open air, to provide for healthy enjoyment of leisure, to assist in the preservation of the amenities of the countryside and to promote friendship.

3. MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Membership shall be open to all who support the objectives of the Club.

3.1 Interested persons are welcome to come on two or three walks, after which they will be invited to join the Club. There is a small membership fee to cover insurance, website and the administration costs of the Club.

3.2 New members will be asked to complete a Membership Application Form and provide their personal details. The Club Secretary will hold an up to date Membership list.

3.3 The Committee may unanimously and for good reason refuse membership to, or terminate the membership of any individual provided that the individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Committee, accompanied by a friend or representative, before the final decision is made.

3.4 The annual membership subscription shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. This membership fee shall be payable at the time of a member joining or re-joining the club and is then renewable annually on the 1st January each year.

4. MANAGEMENT & COMMITTEE.

The Management of the Club shall be entrusted to the Club Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee".

4.1 The Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Club as follows:-

Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary, Social Secretary and Membership Secretary plus up to four additional members, all of whom shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 A Vice-Chair and President may also be elected by the membership at the AGM or appointed by the committee at any time.

4.3 The Committee shall have the power to combine, create, suspend or cease posts, fill vacancies or increase its numbers by co-option from the membership at any time.

4.4 The Committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees as required, consisting of committee members, normal club members and non-members as may be considered appropriate. Sub committees will normally report to the club committee.

4.5 In the event of a tied vote at any Committee Meeting or General Meeting the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.

4.6 Officers and Committee Members shall act in an honorary capacity but shall be entitled to be reimbursed for all reasonable out of pocket expenses.

4.7 The committee may at times hold "virtual meetings" or consult on matters by phone or email. Decisions taken in this way will still be considered to be decisions made by the committee.

5. MEETINGS

5.1 Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than two months after the end of the Club's financial year, when the officers of the club shall present a report on the year's work and the Treasurer an audited Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet. (The Auditor shall not be a member of the Committee but shall have the right of access to the Minutes at all reasonable times.)

5.1.1 Nominations for Officers and members of the Committee, together with any motions for inclusion in the Agenda must be sent to the Secretary at least seven days before the date of the meeting. Nominations must be in writing, duly proposed and seconded by two members of the Club, and have the consent of the nominees. Items for inclusion in the agenda should be submitted in writing to the secretary 7 days before the meeting.

5.1.2 Motions of Urgency shall be presented in writing to the Chair prior to the commencement of the meeting; the decision as to their acceptance shall be final.

5.2 Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.

An Extra Ordinary General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee and shall be called within 21 days from the time of receipt of a requisition, signed by not less than 10% of the Club members entitled to vote.

5.3 Committee meetings.

Committee meetings will be arranged by the committee as and when considered necessary.

A Quorum for any Committee meeting shall be 50% of the elected committee members currently in post.

6. FINANCE The financial year of the Club shall be from 1 October to 30th September or as otherwise determined by the Committee.

7. USE OF TECHNOLOGY. The club website, email, online surveys and online voting may be used if and when considered appropriate by the committee. This shall be considered an acceptable substitute for hard copy documents, face to face consultations, physical meetings and voting.

8. DISSOLUTION

If at any Annual General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Club is passed by a majority of the members present and at an Extraordinary General Meeting held not less than 6 weeks later (of which at least 4 weeks written notice has been given to each member) that resolution is confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members voting on it, the Committee must immediately, or at such future date as specified in the resolution, proceed to dissolve the Club. The property and assets of the Club after the discharge of all liabilities shall be given to an organisation or organisations with similar objectives to the Club or to charity. Any liabilities at the time of dissolution shall be the joint responsibility of all Members.

9. CONSTITUTION Any addition or alteration to the Constitution shall be made only at the Annual General Meeting, or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting, of which proper notice has been given to members.

Any addition or alteration shall be effective only if approved by at least two thirds of the members present.

Constitution updated with the agreement of all members present at AGM 11th November 2020