



THE FRIENDS OF KINGS NORTON LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the group is the FRIENDS OF KINGS NORTON NATURE RESERVE (hereinafter called the "FKNNR").

2. OBJECTIVES

- (i) To promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Kings Norton Local Nature Reserve
- (ii) To advance the education of the public in conservation, understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the flora and fauna at Kings Norton Nature Reserve
- (iii) To provide Kings Norton Local Nature Reserve with a recreational facility for the benefit of Birmingham residents and visitors.

3. POWERS

To carry out the said objectives the FKNNR may:

- (i) bring together in conference representatives of voluntary organisations, statutory authorities, other relevant bodies and individuals;
- (ii) act in accordance with the requirements and policies set out in the document "Kings Norton Local Nature Reserve – The Management Plan";
- (iii) promote and carry out any work detailed in the Management Plan for the Local Nature Reserve or any other work necessary for the attainment of the said objectives;
- (iv) promote and carry out surveys and investigations and publish the useful results thereof;
- (v) arrange and provide for, or join in, arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures, classes, working parties, seminars and training courses;
- (vi) collect and disseminate information on all materials affecting the said objectives and exchange such information with other bodies having similar objectives;
- (vii) arrange to be written or print, publish, issue and circulate books, papers, etcetera to further the objectives;
- (viii) accept gifts and borrow or raise money for the said objectives on such terms and on such security as shall be thought fit, subject to such consents as may be required by law;
- (ix) seek contributions to the FKNNR by personal or written appeals or grant applications, public meetings or otherwise;
- (x) do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objectives.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Full membership with voting rights shall be open to all individuals over the age of 16. Non-voting membership shall be open to individuals under the age of 16.

All members shall:

- (i) be interested in furthering the work of the FKNNR;
- (ii) pay an annual subscription as decided by the Annual General Meeting;
- (iii) agree to be bound by the Constitution.

5. MANAGEMENT

An Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of the FKNNR. The Executive Committee shall be made up of five Honorary Officers and up to a maximum of ten Ordinary Members. The Honorary Officers shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. A quorum for any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be five persons.

The Honorary Officers shall be elected biennially. One-third of the Executive Committee, other than the Honorary Officers, shall retire annually by seniority of election. Retiring Honorary Officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-election.

The Executive Committee may from time to time appoint sub-committees for such purposes and with such powers as it thinks fit.

6. MEETINGS

- (i) An Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of the FKNNR shall be held, as far as practical, within 12 months of the previous one. Three weeks notice shall be given to all members.
- (ii) The business of the AGM shall include:
 - (a) the election of Honorary Officers and Executive Committee members. (Nominations shall close 24 hours before the opening of the AGM);
 - (b) the presentation of the accounts relating to the previous year;
 - (c) the setting of the membership subscription fees;
 - (d) the election of an auditor;
 - (e) the receipt of reports.
- (iii) A special general meeting can be called by the Executive Committee or by a fifth of the general membership and all members shall be given three weeks notice.
- (iv) No member shall have more than one vote in a meeting.
- (v) There shall be proxy votes and the system adopted for such votes shall be in the format that the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (i) All money raised for the FKNNR shall be used to further the objectives of the FKNNR.
- (ii) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for maintaining accounts of all money raised and all sums disbursed on behalf of the FKNNR.
- (iii) The Executive Committee in the name of the FKNNR shall open bank current and deposit accounts.
- (iv) The Executive Committee shall authorise the Treasurer and two other Executive Committee members to be signatories to the bank accounts. All cheques shall be signed by no less than two of the signatories.
- (v) The Executive Committee shall secure the provision of any insurance arrangements that they may from time to time deem appropriate for the attainment of the objectives of the FKNNR.

(vi) An auditor elected at the AGM shall audit the accounts at least once a year.

8. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may only be changed by a two-third-majority vote of those present at an AGM or at a special general meeting called specifically for such purpose. Amendments must be received within fourteen days of the appropriate meeting and must be sent to the members within seven days of the meeting.

9. DISSOLUTION

The FKNNR may be dissolved by a two-third-majority vote of those present at a special general meeting called for that sole purpose. That meeting shall charge a specific Executive sub-committee with paying any debts and liabilities. All remaining assets shall be given to another organisation or organisations, which have objectives similar t those of the FKNNR.

This Constitution of the Friends of Kings Norton Nature Reserve was approved at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 27th November 2007.

Graham Layton
Secretary

Constitution first approved 17/09/04
Amended 27/11/07