

The Constitution of Grenfell Road Allotments

The Name of the Association shall be; Grenfell Road Allotments Association.

Objectives of the Association shall be:

1. To promote the interests of the members with regard to the proper cultivation, good management and enjoyment of allotments and leisure gardens.
2. To maintain and improve facilities which will protect members and the site against damage, trespass and theft.
3. To conduct negotiations with the local council and wherever possible co-operate with them, other groups and organisations and individuals in furtherance of these objectives and to endeavour to encourage community involvement.
4. To promote a greater understanding of allotment gardening among the local community and beyond.
5. To purchase, on a co-operative basis, supplies for the use of the members.
6. To manage and supervise Allotments for the benefit of the Members of the organisation in accordance with the Association's General Rules and Missive of Let.
7. To foster good relations with residential neighbours, and local statutory & non statutory bodies.

Nota Bene In pursuit of these Objects, the Association shall be non-political, non-sectarian and non-racial.

Membership of the Association will be subject to the discretion of the Committee:

Will be plot holders and Home Growers who have paid the annual subscription.

1. Home Growers are not eligible to stand for election to the management committee and cannot vote on matters relating solely to the allotments.
2. The use of the term member within this constitution shall mean a fully paid up member (if two people are named only one may be accepted as a full member).
3. Applicants from residents within the Grenfell Road area will have priority for vacant plots.
4. On becoming a member, the member will be issued with the constitution and rules of the Association.
5. Plot holder members will pay a deposit for their key, which will be refunded on returning the key.
6. Members changing their contact details must immediately notify the Secretary, Chairman or rent collector in writing.

Management Committee

1. The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a committee of members elected at a pre arranged Meeting.
2. Any member with at least two years membership may be eligible for election providing they have a proposer and seconder who are both members of the Association.
3. The committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, vice secretary, Treasurer and vice Treasurer plus a minimum of 4 other members.
4. No member shall hold more than one post on the Committee.
5. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members to fill vacancies which arise between meetings.
6. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt up to a maximum of four additional non-voting members for specific tasks.
7. The Committee shall have powers to deal with any matters not specifically provided for in any agreement in force between the Association and its members or in the interpretation of the rules of the Association and members shall be bound by its decision.
8. 50% of the committee shall form a quorum.

The Chairman (or in their absence another Committee member appointed for the purpose of the meeting) shall:

1. Chair all meetings of the Association and its Committee and will have a casting vote.
2. The Committee shall meet to discuss issues relating to the Association, no less than three times each year.
3. A committee meeting may be called by the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer or Secretary giving committee members (where possible) at least 14 days notice.

The Secretary shall:

1. Record the minutes of each meeting which after approval will be available to all members for inspection on the notice boards around the site within 14 days of the meeting taking place
2. The Secretary or other appointed committee member shall send any member qualifying for possible expulsion, written notice of the complaint and request attendance at a meeting with the Committee

The Committee shall:

1. Have the power to expel any member who offends against the Constitution of the Association or whose conduct in the opinion of the Committee renders the member unfit to remain a member.
2. Committee members must declare any interest in any agenda item.
3. No member may be expelled from the Association without having an opportunity to appear before the Committee to answer the complaint. If they do not attend the hearing, the Committee may still discuss the case and come to a decision about its validity.
4. Members may only be expelled if it is the decision of a majority vote by the Committee.

Grenfell Road Allotment meetings

1. A Meeting shall be held each Month arranged by the Chairman/Vice Chairman of Grenfell Road Allotments.
2. At least 15 days advance notification of the date of any meeting shall be circulated to the members via the notice boards on site and on social media.
3. Items for the agenda of any Meeting shall be communicated to the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the General meeting giving sufficient time in advance to allow preparation for the meeting.
4. At the Meeting Chairman's, Secretary's and Treasures reports shall be presented.
5. The quorum at any General Meeting shall be five Allotment members excluding committee members.
6. In the event of a quorum not being present at a general meeting then the meeting shall be adjourned to a date and time specified by the Committee not less than fourteen days later, in order to circulate the new date.
7. In the event of a quorum not being present at the adjourned meeting the members present shall be deemed a quorum for the meeting.
8. Any member shall be entitled to invite guests to the association meetings provided that no person whose application for membership has been declined or who has been expelled from the Association is invited.
9. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be called on receipt in writing to the Secretary signed by at least 10 members and stating the reason for the request. The meeting will be held within 1 calendar month of the Secretary receiving the request.

Finance:

1. Every member of the Association shall pay an annual subscription to be fixed annually and payable on or before the last day in October.
2. Failure to pay the annual subscription by 1st November will lead to the membership being terminated without further notice unless the Committee is informed of mitigating circumstances.
3. No monies or property of the Association or any gain arising from carrying on the business shall be used other than for the benefit of the Association and its members or any purpose chosen by resolution at an AGM or EGM.
4. All members of the Committee shall keep accurate records of their dealings on behalf of the Association and shall be entitled to claim re imbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Association.
5. Reasonable expenses will be agreed by the North Walsall allotment association Committee.
6. If at any AGM or EGM a resolution for the dissolution of the Association is passed by a 75% majority of the members present, the Committee shall immediately or on a date specified by the resolution, realise the assets of the Association. Any assets remaining, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, shall be transferred to a similar organisation or charity of the Committee's choice.

Bank Account

1. The Committee shall maintain a bank account in the name of the Association and all monies received from any source on behalf of the association shall be paid into that account.
2. Records and accounts of all transactions shall be kept by the Treasurer and shall be available for inspection by the members.
3. Cheques shall be signed by any two of four signatories from the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer.

Agreed at the AGM held on 12/Aug/2017

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