

Hob Hey Wood Friends

Constitution

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Hob Hey Wood Friends group (hereinafter 'the Group') is to conserve and develop the flora and fauna of Hob Hey Wood and to enhance its amenity value for all who live near and/or visit the site, subject to our listed aims and values and the management objectives of the landowner, Frodsham Town Council.

Our Values

- 1) We are committed to ensuring that there are lasting benefits from Hob Hey Wood for the local community and for its wildlife.
- 2) We will work with others to enrich and protect Hob Hey Wood and to encourage activities that are in harmony with the long-term health of Hob Hey Wood.
- 3) We believe that everyone should have the right to the safe enjoyment of Hob Hey Wood, regardless of political inclination, gender, sexual orientation, religion, culture, ethnic or racial identity, disability, or age.

Our Aims

- 1) To ensure that the Group is a viable and effective organisation that is also democratic and accountable
- 2) To raise funds to support the work of the Group
- 3) To achieve as much local community involvement in the work of the Group as possible
- 4) To improve access to and within Hob Hey Wood
- 5) To maintain and improve the environmental conditions of Hob Hey Wood
- 6) To conserve and enhance the natural vegetation and wildlife of Hob Hey Wood
- 7) To develop the potential of Hob Hey Wood as a resource for education, training, and/or social activities
- 8) To undertake work as appropriate in order to support the safety and security of Hob Hey Wood
- 9) To encourage and promote good environmental practice
- 10) To work in partnership with Frodsham Town Council to contribute towards the sustainable management of Hob Hey Wood

Membership

- 1) Membership is free and is open to anyone who supports the purpose and aims of the Group
- 2) Each individual member will be entitled to one vote on any issue requiring a vote.
- 3) Other groups and organisations that support the aims and values of the Group may join as Corporate Members. In such cases the group or organisation will be entitled to have one vote on any issue requiring a vote.
- 4) The Secretary of the Group will keep the membership list confidential and make any details from it known only as appropriate.

Meetings

- 1) There will be at least one full membership meeting of the Group, which will be the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- 2) The Secretary of the Group may also call an Extraordinary Meeting (EM) on receipt of a request for such a meeting signed by not less than four members.
- 3) Members will receive notice of the AGM or of any EM not less than ten days in advance of its date.
- 4) The AGM will receive the annual report and statement of accounts of the Group.
- 5) Any change to the constitution may only be made at the AGM or an EM and will require a two-thirds majority.

Management

- 1) The AGM will elect a Management Committee consisting of a Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and not less than two other members.
- 2) The Chairperson will not normally hold office for more than three consecutive years and will not resume the chair until a period of two years has passed.
- 3) The Management Committee is delegated to deal with the day-to-day business of the Group.
- 4) There will be at least four meetings of the Management Committee annually, and the quorum for meetings will be three.
- 5) Where necessary, decisions will be made through a simple majority vote of those present.
- 6) In any tied vote, the Chairperson will have the deciding vote.
- 7) The Management Committee may co-opt as a non-voting member anyone that it wishes.

Powers

The Group may:

- 1) Lease, rent, or hold property and employ staff in pursuit of its purpose and aims.
- 2) Pay reasonable expenses to members undertaking work on its behalf, but beyond this no member will receive any direct financial benefit from membership.
- 3) Open a bank account, the signatories of which will be the Treasurer, Secretary and one other named member. All cheques and withdrawals will require two signatures.
- 4) Affiliate to any organisation that has broadly similar aims and values.
- 5) Organise and host or undertake a Wood Allotment group, as a platform from which to further the purpose of the Group. The structure and details of any Wood Allotment group will be stipulated in a separate Terms of Reference, to be signed by at least three members of the Group's Management Committee.

Dissolution

If the Group is to be dissolved, the Management Committee will remain in place to collect in all assets and pay or make provision for all liabilities. Any assets remaining after all debts have been paid will be donated to another organisation with a similar ethos, after any legal obligations are met.