

**CONSTITUTION FOR  
TARLAND DEVELOPMENT GROUP  
AUGUST 2009**

**1. Name**

The name of the group shall be the Tarland Development Group.

**2. Purposes**

The purposes of the group will be the advancement of:

- the arts
- culture
- heritage
- community development
- environmental protection

and the provision of:

- recreational activities

All within the Parish of Tarland and Howe of Cromar in the Marr Area of Aberdeenshire.

**3. Powers**

In furtherance of the above Purposes, but not otherwise, the Tarland Development Group will have the power to:

- Raise funds by grants, donations and other charitable sources; all such funds will be applied solely towards the aims and purposes of the group
- Purchase, take on lease, hire, or otherwise acquire, any property or rights which are suitable for the group's activities
- Improve, manage, develop, or otherwise deal with, all or any part of the property and rights of the group
- Sell, let, hire out, license, or otherwise dispose of, all or any part of the property and rights of the group
- Employ such staff as are considered appropriate for the proper conduct of the group's activities
- Engage such consultants and advisers as are considered appropriate from time to time

- Effect insurance of all kinds (which may include trustee indemnity insurance and officers' liability insurance)
- Invest any funds which are not immediately required for the group's activities in such investments as may be considered appropriate (and to dispose of, and vary, such investments)
- Liaise and collaborate with local landowners, trusts, other voluntary sector bodies, schools and other educational bodies, local authorities, UK or Scottish Government departments and agencies, consortia, and other bodies, all with a view to furthering the group's objectives
- Take such steps as may be deemed appropriate for the purpose of raising funds for the group's activities
- Accept grants, donations and legacies of all kinds (and to accept any reasonable conditions attaching to them)
- Do anything which may be incidental or conducive to the furtherance of any of the group's objectives
- The Treasurer will ensure that proper accounts of the finances of the group are maintained and will submit regular financial reports to the Management Committee

#### **4. Membership**

The TDG welcomes for membership any person interested in contributing to the work of the group. All members will have voting rights at Annual General Meetings. Any person who wishes to become a member must sign, and lodge with the association, a written application for membership. All applications for membership will be considered by the Management Committee, which shall exercise in each case the power, at its discretion, to admit or refuse to admit any person to membership. Fees may be charged for membership, the levels of which shall be agreed annually at each Annual General Meeting.

#### **5. Management Committee**

Every current member of the Tarland Development Group shall also be a member of the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall meet at least four times per year unless prevented from doing so by unavoidable external circumstances. A minimum of seven day's notice of each meeting of the Management Committee shall be circulated by the Secretary to all current members of the Tarland Development Group. Minutes of the meetings will be taken by the Secretary and copies sent to all group members as soon as possible after the meeting. At least five current members of the Tarland Development Group must be present at each meeting. Any member with a 'personal interest' on any item to be voted on must declare it and shall abstain from voting on that item. The committee shall elect a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer from amongst its members at its first meeting following the AGM.

## **6. Annual General Meeting**

An Annual General Meeting will take place annually. A period of no longer than fifteen months shall pass between Annual General Meetings. The Quorum for an Annual General Meeting will be six members of the Tarland Development Group, or ten per cent of the current membership, present in person, whichever number is higher. The Chair of the outgoing Management Committee shall chair the Annual General Meeting.

Each Annual General Meeting shall receive and vote its acceptance (or otherwise) of the Annual Report for the past year, which shall be prepared and presented to the meeting by the Management Committee. Each Annual General Meeting shall receive and vote its acceptance (or otherwise) of the independently examined accounts for the past year. The Management Committee will decide where the Annual General Meeting will be held and shall give at least fourteen days notice of such meetings to all members.

Each Member present shall have one vote on each issue put to the vote. Matters put to the vote will be decided by a simple majority of those present, except that resolutions to change the constitution will require a vote of two-thirds of the voting members attending. Voting shall be by a show of hands. In the event of a tie the Chairman or an appointed deputy shall determine the issue.

The Chair of the Management Committee, or any six members of the Group, may call a Special General Meeting at any time for the purpose of resolving a matter of serious importance to the Group; to consider a proposal to alter the Group's Constitution; or to consider the Winding Up and Dissolution of the Tarland Development Group. Eighteen days notice of the proposed SGM must be given to all members of the Group.

## **7. Finance**

The Treasurer shall arrange for a bank account to be held in the name of the Tarland Development Group and shall keep proper books of account showing the finances of the Group.

The Management Committee shall authorise three of its members, one of whom will be the Treasurer, to sign cheques on behalf of the Group. Two such signatures will be required for each cheque.

The Management Committee shall appoint an independent suitably qualified or competent person to scrutinise the accounts annually as may be required by any enactment. The accounts will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for approval by members.

## **8. Alterations to the Constitution**

The constitution may be altered at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for this purpose. Such changes as are proposed must be notified to the membership in full at least 18 days prior to the meeting. Changes to the constitution will be subject to approval by vote of two thirds of the members present.

## **9. Assets and Dissolution Clauses**

None of the Group's assets may be distributed or otherwise applied (on being wound up or at any other time) except to further its charitable purposes. If on the winding-up of the Tarland Development Group any property remains after satisfaction of all Group's debts and liabilities, such property shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Group; that property shall instead be transferred to some other charity or charities (whether incorporated or unincorporated) whose objects are similar (wholly or in part) to the objects of the Group.

## **10. Effective Date**

This Constitution shall be effective as from 25th August 2009.

Signed

Position

Signed

Position