

# Constitution of The Ramblers Motorhome Club

## 1. Name

The name of the Club is The Ramblers Motorhome Club

## 2. Administration

2.1 The Club is a private not for profit unincorporated Association.

2.2 Subject to the matters set out below the Club and its property shall be administered and managed in accordance with this constitution by the members of the Management Committee, constituted by clause 7 of this constitution.

## 3. Objectives

The objectives of the club are.

3.1 The organisation of recreational and social activities for Club members.

3.2 The promotion of associated recreational or charitable events.

3.3 To pursue the best interests of Club members.

3.4 To promote and maintain a neutral and inclusive environment.

## 4. Powers

In furtherance of the objectives but not otherwise the Management Committee may exercise the following powers.

4.1 Power to raise funds and to invite and to receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Management Committee shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant requirements of the law.

4.2 Power to buy, take on lease or in exchange any property necessary for the achievement of the objectives and to maintain and equip it for use.

4.3 Power subject to any consent required by law to sell, lease or dispose of all or any part of the property of the Club.

4.4 Power subject to any consent required by law to borrow money and to charge all or any part of the property of the Club with repayment of the money so borrowed.

4.5 Power to co-operate with other clubs, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities engaged in furtherance of the objectives and to exchange information and advice from them.

4.6 Power to support ant charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the objectives.

4.7 Power to do all such things as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives.

## 5. Membership

5.1 Membership will be open to people who own or have the use of a motorhome and are interested in furthering the objectives of the Club.

5.2 All new applicants must complete a Membership Application Form which will be processed by the Membership and Media Officer.

5.3 When deemed necessary, new applications will be considered by the Management Committee who may approve or reject them.

5.4 When dealing with new applications the Management Committee will pay due regard to equality law and guidance in Northern Ireland.

5.5 The Management Committee does not have to provide reasons for rejection of an application, and the rejected applicant has no right of appeal.

5.6 The membership fees fixed by the Management Committee shall be paid by accepted members prior to or on arrival at their first Club event.

5.7 Full membership covers one or two adults and dependant children under the age of 18. Adult children who reside with their parents will receive associate membership free of charge. Associate members cannot contribute or vote at a General Meeting or serve on committee.

- 5.8 In the event of a serious misconduct or repeated minor misconduct the Management Committee may terminate membership in accordance with the Club's Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B.
- 5.9 Visitors may not stay overnight unless it is in the Motorhome of a member who is present.
- 5.10 All members shall abide by the Club's Code of Conduct laid down in Appendix A and the Disciplinary Procedures laid down in Appendix B.

## **6. Honorary Officers**

- 6.1 At the Annual General Meeting of the Club the members shall elect from amongst themselves a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Events Organiser and a Membership and Media Officer.
- 6.2 All offices except that of Chairperson may be combined.

## **7. Management Committee**

- 7.1 The Management Committee shall consist of not less than five and not more than twelve members including the Honorary Officers, who shall hold office from the conclusion of the meeting.
- 7.2 All members of the Management Committee must be full current members of the Club in their own right.
- 7.3 The Management Committee may in addition appoint three co-opted members but so no one may be appointed as a co-opted member if, as result, more than one third of the members of the Management Committee would be co-opted members. Each appointment of a co-opted member shall be made at a meeting of the Management Committee called in accordance with Clause 10.1 and shall take effect from the end of that meeting unless the appointment is to fill a place which has not been vacated, in which case the appointment shall run from the date when the position becomes vacant.
- 7.4 All members of the Management Committee shall retire from office at the end of the Annual General Meeting but remain eligible for nomination to be re-elected.
- 7.5 The proceedings of the Management Committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number or by the failure to appoint or any defect in the appointment or qualification of a member.
- 7.6 In the event that there are no nominations for an elected Officer position, or should a nominated person or persons fail to get elected, the Management Committee will take whatever action it deems necessary to fill or cover the vacancy.
- 7.7 No person shall be appointed as a member of the Management Committee who is aged under 18 or who would if appointed, be disqualified under the provisions of Clause 8.
- 7.8 No person shall be entitled to act as a member of the Management Committee whether on a first or any subsequent entry into office until after they have signed a declaration of acceptance and willingness to act in the trusts of the Club.

## **8. Termination of Membership of the Management Committee**

A member of the Management Committee shall cease to hold office if he or she

- 8.1 Ceases to be a full current member of the Club.
- 8.2 Becomes incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing and administering his or her own affairs.
- 8.3 Is absent without permission of the Management Committee from all of their meetings held within a period of six months and the Management Committee resolves that his or her office be vacated.
- 8.4 Gives to the Management Committee notice that he or she wishes to resign with effect from a date at least one month after the date of notice (unless there are exceptional reasons for shorter notice), but only if at least five members of the Management Committee remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect.

8.5 Is removed from office by a vote of no confidence carried by a 75% majority of the Management Committee.

## **9. Management Committee Members not to be Personally Interested.**

9.1 Subject to the provisions of 9.2 no member of the Management Committee shall acquire any interest in property belonging to the Club (otherwise than as a trustee for the Club) or receive remuneration or be interested (other than as a member of the Management Committee) in any contract entered into by the Management Committee.

9.2 Any member of the Management Committee for the time being who is a solicitor, accountant or other person engaged in a profession may charge and be paid all the usual professional charges for business done by him or her or his or her firm when instructed by the other members of the Management Committee to act in a professional capacity on behalf of the Club, provided that at no time shall a majority of the members of the Management Committee benefit under this provision and that a member of the Management Committee shall withdraw from any meeting at which his or her own instruction or remuneration, or that of his or her firm, is under discussion.

## **10. Meetings and Proceedings of the Management Committee**

10.1 The Management Committee shall hold at least two ordinary meetings each year. A special meeting can be called at any time by the Chairperson or by any three members of the Management Committee upon not less than seven days' notice being given to the other members of the Management Committee of the matters to be discussed. All notices must be given in writing, which may be by electronic means.

10.2 The Chairperson shall chair meetings of the Management Committee. If the Chairperson is absent from any meeting, the Vice-Chair will chair, otherwise the meeting will be chaired by one of the Honorary Officers.

10.3 There shall be a quorum when at least one third of the members of the Management Committee for the time being or three members of the Management Committee, whichever is the greater, is present.

10.4 The Honorary Secretary will keep records of the proceedings at meetings of the Management Committee and any sub-committee.

10.5 The Management Committee may from time to time make or alter the byelaws of the Club. Any such addition or alteration to the byelaws must be laid before the members at a general meeting of the Club for ratification. No byelaw, rule, standing order, or other regulation may be made which is inconsistent with this Constitution.

10.6 The Management Committee may appoint one or more advisory sub-committees consisting of three or more members of the Management Committee for the purpose of making any enquiry or supervising or performing any function or duty which in the opinion of the Management Committee would be more conveniently undertaken or carried out by a sub-committee provided that all acts and proceedings of any sub-committee shall be fully and promptly reported to the Management Committee.

10.7 The Management Committee shall ensure that at all times the Club and its members shall comply with all legal requirements in force from time to time and any rules appertaining to the conduct of the activities being undertaken.

10.8 Minutes of Management Committee meetings, except those relating to disciplinary matters, will be made available to members on request to the Honorary Secretary.

## **11. Finance, Receipts and Expenditure**

11.1 The funds of the Club, including all donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into an account operated by the Management Committee in the name of the Club at such bank or building society as the Management Committee shall from time to time decide. The

Club may operate more than one bank account. All payments drawn on the Club's bank account must be authorised by the Management Committee.

11.2 The funds belonging to the Club shall be applied only in furthering the objectives of the Club.

11.3 The Club's financial year will commence on the 1 April each year and end on 31 March the following year. Accounts shall be made up to the 31 March each year.

## **12. Property**

Subject to the provisions of clause 12.2, the Management Committee shall cause title to.

12.1 All land held by or in trust for the Club.

12.2 All investments held by or on behalf of the Club, and all assets of the Club other than land and investments, to be vested in not less than three individuals appointed by them as holding trustees. Holding trustees may be removed by the Management Committee at their pleasure and shall act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Management Committee, the holding trustees shall not be liable for acts and defaults of its members.

12.3 If a corporation entitled to act as a custodian trustee has not been appointed to hold the property of the Club, the Management Committee may permit any investments held by or in trust for the Club to be held in the name of a clearing bank, trust corporation or any stockbroking company which is a member of the International Stock Exchange (or any subsidiary of any such stockbroking company) as nominee for the Management Committee, and may pay such nominee reasonable and proper remuneration for acting as such.

## **13. Annual General Meeting**

13.1 There shall be an annual general meeting of the Club which shall be held within two months of the end of the Club's financial year or as soon as practicable thereafter.

13.2 Every annual general meeting of the Club shall be called by the Management Committee. The Secretary shall give at least 21 days' notice of the annual general meeting in writing, which may be by electronic means, to all members of the Club. All full members shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.

13.3 The Chairperson of the Club then in office shall be the Chairperson for each annual and extraordinary general meeting, but if he or she is not present, then the Vice-Chair will chair. If neither are present the meeting will be chaired by one of the Honorary Officers.

13.4 The Management Committee shall present to each annual general meeting the report and accounts of the Club for the preceding financial year.

13.5 Nominations for election to the Management Committee must be made in writing on the official nomination form, duly signed and must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 14 days before the annual general meeting. Should nominees exceed vacancies, the election shall be by secret ballot.

## **14. Special General Meetings**

The Management Committee may call an extraordinary general meeting of the Club at any time. Or if at least 20% of the Club membership or 20 members, whichever is less, request such a meeting in writing, stating the business to be considered the Secretary shall call such a meeting. At least 21 days' notice must be given and the notice must state the business to be discussed.

## **15. Procedure for General Meetings**

15.1 The Secretary or other person specially appointed by the Management Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings at every general meeting of the Club.

15.2 Minutes of general meetings will be made available to members by electronic means.

15.3 There shall be a quorum when at least 25% of the number of full members of the Club for the time being or 20 members of the Club, whichever is less, are present at any general meeting.

## **16. Notices**

Notice of General Meetings will be posted on the Club's website, Facebook and WhatsApp to keep costs to a minimum. The postal service will be used in the event of a disciplinary case.

## **17. Voting**

Every member shall have one vote on any resolution on which they are entitled to vote. Every resolution shall be decided by a majority of votes by those present and entitled to vote on the question but in the case of a tied vote the Chairperson of the meeting shall have a second and casting vote.

## **18. Trustees**

18.1 The Club has three Trustees. David Gilmore, Enda Carolan and Joseph Little.

18.2 A General Meeting may remove or appoint Trustees.

18.3 A Trustee holds office until death, resignation or removal by a General Meeting.

18.4 Whilst the Trustees have an overall duty of care for the management of the Club, the running of the Club, including financial management is delegated to the Management Committee.

18.5 Deleted.

## **19. Alterations to the Constitution**

The constitution may be altered by a resolution carried by a majority of the members present and voting at a General Meeting, in accordance with Clause 17.

## **20. Dissolution**

If the Management Committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Club it shall call a meeting of all the members of the Club, of which not less than 21 days' notice, stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed, shall be given. If the resolution is supported by two-thirds of those present and voting the Management Committee shall have the power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Club. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other institution or institutions having objectives similar to the objectives of the Club as the members of the Management Committee may determine.

## **21. Appendices**

A – Code of Conduct

B – Disciplinary Procedures.

## **22. Adoption by Resolution**

This revised constitution was adopted by a resolution brought before the members at a General Meeting held on \_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ 2026.