

BEYTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

(Revised 2025)

NAME

1. The Association shall be called 'THE BEYTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION' (the BVA) and be registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission (reg no 304860).

OBJECTS

2. (a) To arrange and organise social and recreational events and activities for the benefit of the community residing in Beyton village and environs in the interests of advancing social welfare and with a view to promoting and developing community relations, supporting local causes, advancing education, furthering health, protecting the environment, relieving poverty, distress or sickness or in pursuing any objects which are now or hereafter deemed in law to be charitable by improving the conditions of life of the persons and community for which they are primarily intended;

(b) To raise funds from such events and activities for the benefit of charities both local and national and for the furtherance of the objects of the BVA as appropriate;

Provided always that nothing in the foregoing objects shall authorise or empower the BVA to participate directly or indirectly in any event or activity which is not charitable according to the Regulations of the Charities Commission then in force and that the funds and property of the BVA shall at all times be used and applied only for such purposes as are charitable in accordance with such Regulations.

MEMBERSHIP

3. All residents aged 18 and over residing in the parish of Beyton are deemed to be members of the BVA.

MANAGEMENT

4. (a) The management of the BVA shall be vested in a Committee comprising (i) a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer ('the Office Bearers) who, on being elected and on taking office, agree to become 'Charity Trustees'; (ii) a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 6 elected Trustee Committee Members who will also, on election, agree to become 'Charity Trustees'; and (iii) a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 10 elected Ordinary Committee Members. The total number of Committee Members, including the Office Bearers, shall not exceed 20.

In addition the Committee may appoint as ex officio Ordinary Committee members the Rector of the Parish and Chairman of the Parish Council, or their nominees;

(b) The Office Bearers and Committee Members may serve in their respective capacities for a period of 3 years, renewable annually thereafter as long as they wish to continue to serve and if agreed at an Annual General Meeting;

(c) On appointment all Charity Trustees must be made aware by the Secretary of their duties and responsibilities under the Charities legislation and acknowledge so in writing;

(d) The Committee shall meet at least twice a year and at such times and places as the Chairman shall direct;

(e) Subject to 7 days clear notice by the Secretary, a meeting of the Committee shall be called (i) by direction of the Chairman; or (ii) on receipt by the Secretary of a requisition signed by one third of the members of the Committee;

(f) A quorum shall comprise 5 Committee Members of which 3 must be Charity Trustees;

(g) In the event that any Office Bearer or Charity Trustee considers a decision to be genuinely of high risk he, she or they can request that the vote is restricted to the Office Bearers and Charity Trustees and the Chairman must so restrict the vote;

(h) The Committee shall have power to co-opt any person to fill any vacancy which may arise and, further, shall have power to co-opt in any advisory capacity any person they consider fit. Any such advisor so co-opted shall neither be a Committee Member entitled to vote nor be a Charity Trustee;

(i) The Committee shall have power to appoint a sub-committee as appropriate and may co-opt non-Committee members to such sub-committee as they think fit.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

5. (a) An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held at the Chairman's direction once a year for:
 - (i) the Election of Office Bearers and Committee members (when required);
 - (ii) the presentation of the Chairman's Report;
 - (iii) the presentation of the Statement of Accounts;
 - (iv) any other business of which due notice has been given to the Secretary;

(b) The Secretary shall give 21 days' formal Notice of an AGM with an Agenda, Minutes of the previous AGM, the Chairman's Report and Statement of Accounts to all Committee Members together with Notices of any resolutions or other business timeously received. The Secretary shall arrange for a copy of the Notice calling the AGM together with the Agenda to be posted on the Beyton Village website. The Secretary shall ensure that the date of the AGM is included in the calendar of BVA events on the website and in the edition of Beyton Village News immediately preceding that date;

(c) Notice of any resolution or Notice of any proposed alteration or amendment to this Constitution shall be submitted to the Secretary not less than 6 weeks before the AGM. On good cause being shown, the Office Bearers may dispense with such time limit if satisfied it is just and equitable so to do. No alteration to this Constitution shall be permitted which would make the Objects in Clause 2 other than exclusively charitable or the funds and property of the BVA applicable otherwise than for exclusively charitable purposes or be contrary to the Regulations under the Charities legislation;

(d) On receipt of a request in writing by 6 or more members of the BVA for an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to be held, the Secretary shall convene such a Meeting within 30 days of receipt. The Secretary shall give copies of the Notice convening the Meeting and the written request to all Committee Members and arrange to post copies of both on the Beyton Village website;

(e) A quorum at an AGM or EGM shall comprise 5 Committee Members of which 3 must be Charity Trustees;

(f) Every matter or question requiring a vote at an AGM or EGM shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes of those persons present at the Meeting, the Chairman having the casting vote in the event of an equality of votes; always providing that any matter involving disbursement of BVA funds shall be decided only by the Charity Trustees.

If deemed necessary by the Chairman that voting be by written ballot, the Secretary shall arrange for voting forms;

(g) The Secretary shall cause Minutes to be retained on file of proceedings of all Meetings and resolutions and votes taken, such Minutes to be signed by the Chairman as true and accurate and when signed shall be conclusive evidence of the accuracy of the record.

ACCOUNTS

6. (a) Books of Account as agreed by the Committee shall be kept by the Treasurer, whom failing, the Secretary. The BVA shall maintain an account in the name of the BVA at a Bank approved by the Committee and into which account all monies received by and on behalf of the BVA shall be paid by the Treasurer or other Office Bearer. Details of the Bank and the account number shall be retained on file. Investment monies shall be placed in a 'common investment fund' approved by the Committee;

- (b) Payment of all accounts shall be signed or authorised by the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Treasurer or Secretary;

- (c) The Books and Statements of Account shall be preserved for at least 7 years.

DISSOLUTION

7. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the BVA there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property or assets whatsoever, the same shall be given or transferred to a charitable institution or institutions in agreement with the Charity Commission.

This Constitution adopted.....