

FRIENDS OF KING'S WOOD CONSTITUTION

1 NAME

The name of the Society shall be the 'Friends of King's Wood'.

2 MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all persons who support the objectives of the Society concerning King's Wood, Challock, Kent who have paid their membership subscription and who have the continuing approval of the Committee.

Membership subscription levels and structure shall be determined from time to time by the Committee. Failure to pay the due subscription shall constitute a cessation of membership.

3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Society shall be to support the protection, conservation, and improvement of King's Wood for the benefit of the public as a recreational area.

Specifically but not exclusively, the aims shall include: -

- To raise interest and share expertise;
- To enable members to have input in a two-way consultative capacity with the landowners and the public, to provide facilities for informal recreation and the enjoyment of predominantly quiet pursuits;
- To conserve the woodland environment for the benefit of wildlife;
- To encourage liaison between all forest users.

4 INSURANCE

The Committee shall maintain public liability insurance for the purposes of the Society's walks and events, most of which are held in King's Wood throughout the year.

5 COMMITTEE

The Society shall be run by a Committee, which shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall (as a minimum) comprise of the following:-

- Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer.

Other roles such as Membership, Events and Publicity may be taken by members of the Committee, co-optees or volunteers.

Representatives of the Forestry Commission and Kentish Stour Countryside Project shall be invited to attend every Committee meeting in order to report on issues arising from their work in King's Wood and generally liaise with the Society.

The Committee will meet at least 6 times a year.

The duties of the Committee shall be to:-

- promote the Objectives of the Society;
- arrange and if necessary lead walks and events;
- publicise the Society;
- collect membership subscriptions;
- maintain proper membership data with regard to the Data Protection Acts in force;
- liaise with the landowners and other users in promoting and conserving the wildlife of King's Wood, to include donations for and/or involvement in specific projects;
- account for monies raised and spent throughout each year;
- prepare, agree and file minutes of each Committee Meeting signed by the Chairman.

6 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year in November and be open to the members and the public. Notice of the Annual general meeting shall be given to each member.

The following business shall be transacted:-

- Chairman's Report of the business of the year;
- Treasurer's Report and approval of the accounts for the year;
- Membership numbers;
- Election of members of the Committee.

7 FINANCE

The Treasurer shall ensure that proper accounts are kept for the financial affairs of the Society.

A bank account shall be opened and maintained in the name of the Society. The Committee shall nominate and authorise not less than three members of the Committee who may sign cheques and all cheques must be signed by not less than two such authorised persons.

The financial year shall end on the 31st August each year. The accounts shall be examined and certified by a person independent of all financial transactions of the Society for presentation to the Annual General Meeting.

8 AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be provisionally amended at a Full Meeting of the Management Committee, followed by ratification at the AGM or a SGM by consent of two thirds of members present. The Secretary must receive notice of a resolution to amend the constitution at least 21 days before calling a meeting.

9 DISSOLUTION

If at any time, it appears the Objectives of the Society can no longer be achieved, the Society may be dissolved with the agreement of a two-thirds majority of those present at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose. That meeting will also decide the final destination of any funds, which the Society holds at that time and remaining after the satisfaction of all proper debts and liabilities.