



Channels Residents Community Group

Established 2018

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the organisation shall be **CHANNELS RESIDENTS COMMUNITY GROUP** (hereinafter called “the Association”).

2. Mission Statement

To develop and maintain an all-inclusive, healthy and vibrant community through involvement with residents who want to address local issues or common concerns and to make a positive difference to where they live.

3. Core Aims

Social Unity

We will facilitate, promote and support integration across all segments of the community with the over-arching aim of encouraging residents and neighbours to meet, interact and grow their community together.

Health and Wellbeing

We will encourage and facilitate the establishment of healthy living groups such as walking, running and cycling clubs to encourage people to get out of their homes and exercise using the infrastructure network that has been provided both on the Channels development and surrounding areas.

Estate & Land Management

We will work with key stakeholders to continually enhance, and promote the use of, all communal areas and services which do not belong to an individual and which must be maintained for the benefit of all.

Environment & Biodiversity

We will work with key stakeholders to manage all communal land to ensure compliance with ecology plans, as required by planning conditions, and with a view to continually enhancing wildlife and biodiversity wherever possible.

Safer Community

We will promote neighbourliness, good citizenship and community spirit by encouraging residents to work together to create a safe, attractive and friendly place to live; a neighbourhood where crime is less likely to happen and where people are less likely to turn to anti-social behaviour.

Dementia Friendly

We will develop a community where people with dementia are well respected and which encourages everyone to share responsibility for ensuring that people with dementia feel understood, valued and able to contribute to their community.



Channels Residents Community Group

Established 2018

CONSTITUTION

4. Population/Area Covered

- a) The Association currently represents private residents and tenants (via their housing associations) that reside within the shaded geographical area on the image below.
- b) As further phases of the Channels development are completed, the Association shall expand its remit to represent the population that resides within the 'red line' boundary as identified on the image below ("the Area of Benefit"):





CONSTITUTION

5. Management

- a) Management of the Association shall be deputised to a Management Committee ("the Committee"). The elected Committee shall be not less than five and not more than nine members who shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election immediately with no gap after the expiry of the term.
- b) The Officers of the Association (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) shall be elected for a term of one year from amongst the Committee at an Annual Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election with no gap after expiry of the term.
- c) The Committee shall appoint such other officers and co-opt additional members as it deems necessary until the date of the next Annual Meeting.
- d) The Committee may convene such sub-committees or working groups as it may consider necessary and shall determine appropriate scope and membership accordingly. The Chair of any such sub-committee or working group shall be a member of the Committee and any associated finances shall be controlled through the accounts of the Association. Sub-committees or working groups shall endure for a term as defined by the relevant terms of reference or at the discretion of the Committee.
- e) Councillors elected to work with the Association will become ExOfficio members of the Committee and shall only have the right to vote at meetings if such members live in the Area of Benefit.

6. Membership

- a) Membership of the Association shall be open, without discrimination, to all persons over the age of eighteen living in the Area of Benefit.
- b) Membership of the Association shall additionally be open to all persons under the age of eighteen living in the Area of Benefit. Such members may be co-opted to sub-committees or working groups subject to consideration of appropriate safeguarding measures however shall not have the right to vote at Association Meetings.
- c) Persons that reside outside the Area of Benefit may be accepted as Associate Members. Such members may be co-opted to the Committee, sub-committees or working groups however shall not have the right to vote at Association Meetings.
- d) Persons who have served the Area of Benefit in some conspicuous way, whether from the population living in the Area of Benefit or not, may be accepted as Honorary Members. Such members may be co-opted to the Committee, sub-committees or working groups however shall not have the right to vote at Association Meetings.



Channels Residents Community Group

Established 2018

CONSTITUTION

7. Functions

- a) Enhance the Area of Benefit without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions;
- b) Co-ordination of local activities including, but not limited to, neighbourhood watch, residents groups, communal interests and dissemination of pertinent local information;
- c) Enable and encourage children, young people, families and the older generation to actively participate in the community and influence the issues and decisions that affect their lives;
- d) Enable the population of the Area of Benefit to use their own assets to improve the quality of community life;
- e) Contribute to improving the health and well-being of the local community;
- f) Promote appropriate channels of communication to ensure that all residents are able to understand and access information and can have a voice in relation to all matters that impact on the Area of Benefit and their community;
- g) Host debates, such as local 'town hall' meetings in the community to enable positive outcomes, confidence building and opportunities for all ages;
- h) Sustain the work of the Association and to increase the number of active volunteers within to provide an increased number of opportunities for the local community;
- i) Liaise and work with the inhabitants of all phases that form the wider Channels Development to create a sustainable and vibrant community which reflects the vision of original plans for the locality;
- j) Work closely with Residents Management Companies, where applicable, to maintain communal land for the benefit of all including consideration of covenants;
- k) To develop and establish effective working relationships with the City, Parish and County Councils to ensure that residents receive best value and that responsibilities are clear and well defined;
- l) Promote such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be determined.



CONSTITUTION

8. Conduct of Meetings and Delegation of Business:

- a) The Chair of the Committee shall convene, by giving no less than 21 days' notice, an Annual Meeting of the Association to be held between 1st December and 31st December each year for the purpose of:
 1. Presentation of the Annual Finance Report and Accounts where applicable;
 2. Receiving the Annual Report of the Committee;
 3. Appointment of the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer;
 4. Appointment of Honorary Members of the Association, accepting resignations from members of the Committee and electing members to serve on the Committee;
 5. Making recommendations to the Committee and, whenever necessary, of voting on proposals to amend the constitution in accordance with Clause 10 thereof.
- b) The Chair, or delegated representative, shall be responsible for giving notice of Association Meetings which shall take place at such intervals as determined by the Committee from time to time.
- c) The Chair may deem necessary, in the light of urgent circumstances, to call a Special Meeting at short notice and in such cases the notice period shall be as he/she reasonably specifies. Such notice (which shall be accompanied by supporting papers) shall be sent to the Committee and any additional relevant representatives at the earliest opportunity prior to the meeting.
- d) Association Meetings shall be quorate with three members present, in addition to the Chair or Vice Chair. Committee members are considered to be mandated to input into all Association business including those occasions where agreement on actions and outputs are required.
- e) If a sufficient number of members to form a quorum are not present, decisions shall either stand adjourned and the Chair shall, as he or she thinks fit, call for a meeting of the Committee to be summoned as soon as conveniently possible or the meeting shall continue but no voting decision can be held.
- f) If a voting decision needs to be made prior to the next planned meeting, the Chair can request a virtual vote on the decision however a quorum of the Committee, in line with 6(d), must respond by the designated due date.
- g) The Committee may delegate tasks to relevant sub-groups, working groups or individual representatives as it shall see fit provided that any such delegations are recorded and are governed by this constitution.



CONSTITUTION

- h) The Secretary, or delegated representative, shall arrange for a record of actions, decisions and key issues arising to be circulated to the Committee as soon as reasonably practicable. Approval shall be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting.
- i) An individual's membership of the Committee may terminate if they shall for more than three consecutive meetings have been absent without permission of the other members and the other members decide that their involvement be terminated.

9. Finance:

- a) The Committee shall have the fullest powers to act on the behalf of the Association and otherwise expend and raise the funds of the Association in such manner as they shall from time to time deem necessary for the purpose of furthering the aims and functions of the Association.
- b) The Association shall maintain an Account at a Post Office or at such Bank(s) as the Committee shall determine from time to time. Withdrawals shall only be paid on the signature of any two of the Officers of the Association (this includes digital signatures).

10. Amendment of Constitution and Dissolution:

- a) The Constitution of the Association shall be available via the internet and a digital copy may be sent to any resident on request.
- b) No new rule, or alteration of an old rule, shall be made except at the Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting. The same shall not be sanctioned unless by a majority of at least two-thirds of the Committee present and voting, neither shall the same be sanctioned unless the proposed alteration of an existing rule or introduction of a new rule has been publicised to the Committee at least twenty-one days prior to the day of the meeting.
- c) The Association may be dissolved by the consent of 75% of the members present at an Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting, testifying by their signatures to some instrument of the dissolution. Any Association funds remaining at such time shall be passed to a successor association with similar objectives or a charitable organisation, nominated and agreed at the Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting.



**Channels Residents
Community Group**
Established 2018

CONSTITUTION

11. Review

This Constitution shall be reviewed annually.

This Constitution was reviewed on Sunday 24th November, 2019

Signature (Chair)
Andrew Wright

Signature (Secretary)
Melanie Williamson