

WINDMILL WALKERS CLUB CONSTITUTION



1. TITLE

(1:1) The Club shall be called the Windmill Walkers, hereafter referred to as "the Club."

2. AIMS

(2:1) To foster and promote the enjoyment of walking over varying distances in Yorkshire and the surrounding area.

3. MEMBERSHIP

(3:1) Membership shall be open to any person over the age of 18 years completing a membership application form and paying the annual membership fee, as determined by the Annual General Meeting of the Club within one calendar month of that meeting. Any new members applying after 6 months of the meeting will pay 50% of that fee.

(3:2) Any person applying for membership voluntarily and willingly agrees to participate in the activities the Club, understands and accepts the risks associated and is physically fit to participate in those activities by undertaking the successful completion of a minimum of two walks.

(3:3) Any person under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a parent, relative, guardian or other nominated member of the Club.

(3:4) Any member has the right to vote at an Annual or Special General Meeting.

(3:5) Honorary Life Membership may be conferred on a member who has demonstrated exceptional service to the Club.

(3:6) Membership records to include name, address and e-mail contact details shall be kept by the Club and destroyed upon leaving the Club.

4. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

(4:1) The Officers of the Club together with any co-opted Committee Member serving shall have the right at any Committee Meeting to vote and suspend or cancel any membership.

(4:2) A member of the club whose conduct is inappropriate, undesirable or against the aim and best interest of the club may have their membership suspended or cancelled.

(4:3) A member shall have a right to appeal to the Committee with regard to any decision affecting themselves, providing that notice of such appeal be submitted to the Secretary in writing within seven days of the notification of suspension or cancellation being served.

5. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Club shall be as follows:

(5:1) Chairperson.

(5:2) Secretary.

(5:3) Treasurer.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

(6:1) All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, by those members present and voting.

(6:2) All Officers shall be elected for a period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office the following year.

7. MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

- (7:1) The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a Committee comprising of the Officers of the Club.
- (7:2) The Committee may co-opt other members of the Club for relevant posts. Co-opted members of the Committee have voting rights at any Committee meetings.
- (7:3) The Committee shall decide when and where it meets at such intervals as are necessary to properly conduct the business of the Club and receive updated reports from the Secretary and Treasurer.
- (7:4) Three members shall form a quorum.
- (7:5) The duties of the Committee shall be:
 - (7:5a) To control the affairs of the Club on behalf of the members.
 - (7:5b) To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Club through the Treasurer. Club accounts should be audited before every Annual General Meeting. The Club shall maintain a bank account and the following officers shall be authorised to sign cheques: two from the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary.
 - (7:5c) The Treasurer and Secretary are authorised to use on-line banking with any appropriate financial institution to make approved Club payments using Bankers Automated Payment Services (BACS).

8. GENERAL MEETINGS

- (8:1) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held not later than the end of January each year. One clear months written notice shall be given to members. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting, at least (14) days before the meeting.
- (8:2) The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
 - (8:2a) Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
 - (8:2b) Receive the annual report from the Secretary.
 - (8:2c) Receive the annual audited accounts from the Treasurer.
 - (8:2d) Elect the Officers of the Club.
 - (8:2e) Appoint an Auditor
 - (8:2f) Review membership fees and agree them for the forthcoming year.
 - (8:2g) Transact other business as included on the agenda.
- (8:3) Special General Meetings may be convened by the Management Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a written request from not less than five (5) members of the Club. At least twenty eight (28) days notice of the meeting shall be given.
- (8:4) Nomination of candidates for election may be made in writing to the Secretary at least twenty eight (28) days in advance of the Annual General Meeting, or may be presented in person at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations can only be made by members and must be seconded by another member.
- (8:5) Decisions at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of those members present and voting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
- (8:6) A quorum for a General Meeting shall be one quarter of the Club's full membership.

9. DATA PROTECTION POLICY AND PROCEDURE

- (9:1) The nature of the Club and membership information recorded means that it is exempt from Registration under the Data Protection Act 2018. To meet the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018, all personal data held by the Club will meet principles of good practice as set out within the Act and the Club's published Data Protection Policy and Procedures document.

10. PHOTOGRAPHS

(10:1) Photographs may be taken by any member during an organised walk with some images appearing on the Club's website photograph gallery. The wishes of those members not comfortable with their photographs being taken will be respected. In a static group photograph those not wishing to be photographed should move out of shot.

11. DOGS

(11:1) Members are permitted to bring their dogs on organised walks except any event involving coach travel. Dogs must be kept under control on a short lead at all times. Should a walk involve crossing any fields with cows, the leader of the event has the right to stipulate 'no dogs' for that particular event.

(11:2) Assistance dogs are allowed with the consent of the leader who will be aware of any livestock issues.

12. DISSOLUTION

(12:1) If at a General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting to be held not less than twenty eight (28) days thereafter, to discuss and vote on the resolution.

(12:2) If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the members present and voting, the Management Committee shall thereupon (or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution) proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.

(12:3) After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the membership of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation (or organisations) having similar objectives to those of the dissolved Club.

13. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

(13:1) Any proposed alterations to the Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting, convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a member and seconded by another member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two thirds of those members present and voting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved.

(13:2) The Club Constitution will be reviewed by the Committee every 5 years.

Adopted at the AGM 8 January 2025