

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the association is **Save Our Waterways**

2. AIMS

To campaign:

- a) to secure the long term future of the inland waterways of Great Britain.
- b) to ensure that the waterways receive adequate funding and effective maintenance and management.
- c) to protect the waterways as part of our national heritage to ensure that they continue to provide leisure, recreation, transport and employment
- d) by providing a forum for all who want thriving and vibrant waterways for work or pleasure
- e) in collaboration with any group or organisation that shares the above aims.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Subject to approval by the Committee, membership of the Association is open to anyone who endorses the above Aims and who has paid the annual membership fee for the current year.
- b) Applications are to be made on an official Membership form returnable by post to the Membership Secretary or online via the Association's website: <http://www.saveourwaterways.org/>

4. MANAGEMENT

- a) Members of the association shall elect from their number a Committee to lead and administer its activities.
- b) The Committee shall have 6 officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Web Master, and up to three others whose portfolios will be decided from time to time by the Committee.
- c) The Committee will be elected annually at a General Meeting of members who may be re-elected. The Committee must always comprise of at least 4 members, of which Chair and Treasurer are mandatory.

5. FINANCE

- a) The Treasurer shall maintain the accounts, and provide a current statement of income and expenditure to the Committee and general meetings.
- b) The annual accounts are to be approved by a suitably qualified independent examiner, for presentation at the Annual General Meeting

6. MEETINGS

- a) A General Meeting, open to all members, and guests of the Committee, will be held annually. Other General Meetings can be called by the Committee or if requested in writing by at least 20 current members.
- b) All nominations and motions to be laid before a General meeting must be lodged with the Secretary at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting. No business shall be transacted except that which has been duly notified.
- c) The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 20 or two thirds of the membership, whichever is smaller. At Committee meetings a quorum shall be 4 of whom at least 3 shall be Officers.
- d) At General meetings, non-Constitutional matters shall be decided by simple majority. Constitutional matters require a majority of at least 75% of those present. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair shall have the casting vote.
- e) The Committee will normally transact business via e-mail but will hold face-to face meetings, usually once every three months.
- f) Minutes shall be taken at each meeting, approved at the following meeting and retained by the Secretary.

7. DISSOLUTION

In the event of two-thirds of a General Meeting deciding that the organisation should be dissolved, the Committee, after settling any debts and liabilities, shall transfer any remaining assets to one or more voluntary groups having similar aims.