

(FINAL)
CONSTITUTION
OF
THE BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGICAL GROUP

1. NAME: The name of the Organisation is "The BioDiversity and Ecological Group" (BEG)

2. OBJECTS:

The objects of the Organisation are to improve the Biodiversity and Ecological footprint of certain areas of land on Peebles Golf Course, to benefit the environment and the wider community in the area.

3. POWERS: In pursuance of the objects, the Organisation shall have the following powers:-

- a) To work in partnership with Peebles Golf Club, who hold the land on lease from Peebles Common Good, and any other organisations as appropriate.
- b) To purchase, take on lease, hire or otherwise acquire any equipment which is suitable for the Organisation's activities.
- c) To take such steps as may be deemed appropriate for the purpose of raising funds for the Organisation's activities.
- d) To invest any funds which are not immediately required for the Organisation's activities in such investments as may be considered appropriate (and to dispose of, and vary, such investments).
- e) To accept grants, donations and legacies of all kinds (and to accept any reasonable conditions attaching to them).
- f) To take on lease any accommodation necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the Organisation.
- g) To liaise with other voluntary sector bodies, local authorities, UK or Scottish government departments and agencies, and other bodies, all with a view to furthering the Organisation's objects.
- h) To employ such staff or consultants as may be required by the Organisation from time to time.
- i) To do anything which may be incidental or conducive to the furtherance of any of the Organisation's objects.

4. MEMBERSHIP:

Membership of the organisation is open to anyone who supports the objects.

5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

- a) The Organisation shall be managed by a Management Committee of at least three people, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- b) The Management Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice – Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer (the Officers) and not more than 3 other members.

- c) If vacancies occur among the Officers, the Committee shall have the power to fill them from among its members.
- d) The committee may co-opt up to three full members of the Organisation to serve on the committee until the next Annual General Meeting.
- e) Members of the Management Committee shall be elected for a period of three years with one third retiring annually although they may be re-elected.

6. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- a) The Management Committee shall hold at least 3 ordinary meetings each year.
- b) There shall be a quorum when at least one third of the members of the committee or three members of the Committee, whichever is the greater, are present at a meeting.
- c) Every matter shall be determined by a majority of the members of the Management Committee present and voting. In the case of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- d) The Management Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees providing that all acts and proceedings of the sub-committees shall be fully and promptly reported to the Management Committee. Any sub-committee shall have at least one member of the Management Committee and may in addition co-opt up to 3 further people who have particular skills.
- e) Minutes shall be kept as a record of the proceedings of the meetings of the Committee and any of its sub-committees.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) There shall be an Annual General Meeting which shall be held within three months of the end of the Organisation's financial year. Members shall be given at least 14 days notice.
- b) The Management Committee shall present the report and accounts of the Organisation for the preceding year.
- c) Membership subscriptions, if any, shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting.
- d) Nominations for election to the Management Committee should be made by members of the Organisation to the Secretary in writing before the commencement of the meeting.
- e) If there are more nominations than vacancies, election will be by ballot at the Annual General Meeting.
- f) The quorum at a general meeting shall be one quarter the membership.

- 8. GENERAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS:** The Management Committee may at any time call a general or a special general meeting of the Organisation stating the business to be discussed. A special general meeting may also be called by the Secretary if a written request is received from at least 6 members. At least 14 days notice shall be given for any special general meeting.

9. FINANCE

- a) All monies raised by or on behalf of the Organisation shall be applied to further the objects of the Organisation and for no other purpose.
- b) The funds of the Organisation including all donations, contributions and bequests shall be paid into an account operated by the Management Committee in the name of the Organisation at such a bank as the Management committee shall from time to time decide.
- c) The Officers will be designated as signatories to all financial transactions and any transaction must be signed by two Officers.
- d) The Management Committee shall comply with the current legislation for trustees with regard to the keeping of accounts, the preparation of an annual statement of account and the independent examination of the statements of account.

10. AMENDMENTS: Any amendments to the constitution shall require the approval of a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the General Meeting at which it is discussed. Any resolution for the amendment of the constitution must be received by the Secretary at least 7 days before the date on which the calling notices have to be sent out for the meeting at which the resolution is to be brought forward.

11. DISSOLUTION: The Organisation may be dissolved at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose and must be advertised 14 days before the meeting. Such proposals to dissolve the Organisation shall take effect only if agreed by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at the meeting. Surplus funds of the Organisation, if it is dissolved, shall be transferred to such other charitable institution or voluntary organisation having similar objects as the members of the Organisation may determine or failing that shall be applied for some other charitable purpose.

This is certified as a true copy of the constitution of adopted on

Printed name and address of the Chairman (lead of under-planting initiative):

..... VALERIE JOAN McKEAN
 "BENLEG" EDDERSTONE RD. PEEBLES
 EH45 9JB

Signature of Chairman:..... V. J. McKean

Printed name and address of the Secretary (acting):

..... LES BIRCOMP

CRAIGSFORD COTTAGE,
15 CROSS ST. PEEBLES. EH45 8LE

Signature of the Secretary (acting):

[Handwritten signature]

Printed name and address of the Treasurer (lead of Buglife initiative):

WEE RYECOMB
CRAIGSFORD COTTAGE, 15 CROSS ST.
PEEBLES EH45 8LE

Signature of the Treasurer:

[Handwritten signature]

Printed name and address of the Lead Researcher/Policy advisor (lead of birds and bats initiative):

NEIL MACINTYRE
8 ROSETTA ROAD
PEEBLES EH45 8JU

Signature of the Lead Researcher/Policy advisor::

Neil MacIntyre

Printed name and address of the Coordinator/administrator (lead of BEG initiative):

DENISE RICHARDS
BONAVENTURE CROSS ROAD
PEEBLES EH45 8QH

Signature of the Coordinator/administrator:

[Handwritten signature]