

CONSTITUTION

Friends of Ty Mawr Group



Draft: May 2015. *Italics = remove*, Underline = replace or add

Name

The name of the Association is to be The Friends of Ty Mawr, hereafter referred to as the Group.

Area

The area covered by the Group will be Ty Mawr Country Park, Cae Gwilym Lane, Cefn Mawr, Wrexham.

The Group will endeavour to ensure that its committee is made up of local Residents, user groups, visitors and voluntary helpers concerning Ty Mawr Country Park.
(repeated in Membership)

Aims

- i. To represent residents living in the Country Park area, Volunteers and visitors to the country park. To provide regular information to and regularly consult all members.
- ii. To raise funds and further develop the facilities at Ty Mawr Country Park.
To raise funds for development projects
- iii. To work in partnership with local community and regular park users and park staff
- iv. To promote and support awareness about environmental and community issues through events and activities.
(different order)

Membership

The Group will endeavour to ensure that it is made up of representatives from local Residents, user groups, visitors and voluntary helpers concerned with Ty Mawr Country Park.

Membership shall be open with equal opportunities for men, women, regardless of race, gender, age, sexuality, disability *or* marital status or religion.

Ending Membership of the Group (for clarity)

In the event of gross misconduct, membership can be suspended or ended by a two-thirds majority vote of the committee. Racist sexist Discriminating, prejudiced and/or threatening behaviour shall also be treated as gross misconduct. Any member has the right of appeal to a general meeting before expulsion takes place.

Management

- a. The Group shall be managed by a Committee to be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- b. The Group will endeavour to ensure that its committee is made up of representatives from local residents, user groups, visitors and voluntary helpers concerned with Ty Mawr Country Park.

- c. The Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, *Vice-Chair*, Secretary and Treasurer and also 8 5 members who should be fully representative of the Country Park users. A member of staff should attend each committee meeting when possible.
- d. If vacancies occur among the Officers or in the Committee, the Committee shall have the power to fill them from among their members until the next General Meeting of the Association when elections for vacancies should take place.
- e. The *Management* Committee shall have the power to elect sub-committees for the purpose of finance, Education, newsletter etc.
- f. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members of groups represented in the area onto the Committee and its working parties and all other sub-committees with the aim of furthering representation and encouraging equal opportunities.
- g. Committee meetings will be held regularly with a minimum of four meetings (*including the AGM*) (see later note on AGM) to be held each year. Decisions regarding actual works within the Country Park must be in agreement with the W.C.B.C. countryside service staff representative and in line with the stated aims set out in the management plan of the park.
- h. Committee meetings will be open to all members to attend.
- b. *Decisions need to be made with at least 6 regular members present*
Decisions can only be made when at least 5 members are present. (Quorum)

Annual General Meetings

The Committee shall call an Annual general Meeting for the purpose of receiving the audited statement of accounts; for accepting the resignations of the Committee and officers; of electing a Committee and officers for the forthcoming year; for making recommendations to the committee; and of voting where necessary on proposals to amend the Constitution.

The Annual General Meeting shall be called within 15 months of the Last General Meeting if possible, and there will be at least one full membership meeting of the Group per year.

Not less than 28 days notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to all those eligible for membership.

A Public meeting shall be called as and when deemed necessary

Conduct of Business

At all meetings any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist or inflammatory remarks shall not be permitted and constitutes *a breach of reasonable manner gross misconduct*.

All decisions at the AGM shall be taken by a simple majority of registered members present and voting.

There will be no more than 2 votes per household.

The quorum for committee meetings shall be 6 . (dealt with earlier)

All meetings must be minuted and shall be available for inspection by members of the group.

All comments should be addressed through the Chair.

Finance

All monies raised by or on behalf of the Group shall be applied to further the aims of the Friends and for no other purpose.

The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of the Group and shall open a bank account in the name of the Group.

The Committee shall appoint three authorized signatories for any cheques and cheques shall be signed by at least 2 of the authorized signatories. The signatories should be Committee members who are from different households and NOT related to each other.

The Books of Account must be made available for inspection at all meetings. (dealt with later)

An independent person who is not a member of the Group shall audit the accounts at least once a year.

The Accounts of the organization shall be available for inspection by any member of the Group who requires seeing them within 14 days. *The request for inspection must be made in writing to the Treasurer.*

The Treasurer will make a financial report at each meeting of the Group on request.

Equal Opportunities

The Group shall uphold equal opportunities and work for good relations among all members of the community, *and* specifically prohibiting any conduct which discriminates on the grounds of race, gender, age, sexuality, marital status, disability or religion.

Information

An information/news sheet shall be printed and made available at least twice a year.

Information about the Group's activities shall be made available through the year via various media.

Dissolution

If the Group, by a simple majority decide at any time to dissolve the Group they shall give at least 21 days notice of as meeting to all those eligible for membership.

If such a decision shall be confirmed by a simple majority of those present and voting at the meeting, the Committee shall have the power to dispose of any assets held by or in the name of the Group.

Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and the liabilities shall be applied towards use at Ty Mawr country park. *or local charity within the district of the Group in consultation with the main identifiable funding agencies.*

This constitution was adopted as the Constitution of the ' Friends of Ty Mawr Group' at the Annual General Meeting held on

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Signed.....

Chairperson

Signed.....

Secretary