

THORPE AUDLIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Association shall be the Thorpe Audlin Community Association (hereinafter called “the Association”)

2.Objectives

The association shall be non-party in politics and non-sectarian in religion

The objectives of the Association shall be

1. To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Thorpe Audlin area without distinction of gender, political, religious or other opinions, age or disability by associating with the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of Thorpe Audlin and surrounding areas
2. To establish or to secure the establishment of a Community Centre (hereinafter called “the Centre” and thereafter to manage and maintain the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any local authority, other person or body) in furtherance of these objectives.
3. To promote such other charitable activities as may from time to time be determined to be in support of these objectives.

3. Powers

In furtherance of the above stated objectives but not further or otherwise the Association shall have the following powers.

1. To raise and apply for, invite, obtain, collect and receive funds from any other person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation, grant, legacy or otherwise; provided that the Association shall not undertake any permanent trading activities other than in those wholly in support of the said objectives.
2. To employ on such terms and conditions of employment as the association shall determine, any paid or voluntary worker or workers to assist in the attainment of the said objectives.
3. To do all such other lawful things as shall further the attainment of any or all of the said objectives.
4. To establish through a general committee any sub-committee deemed necessary for attainment of the said objectives.

4. Membership

Membership of the Association shall be open, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality or political, religious or other opinion, age or disability to the residents of the Parish of Thorpe Audlin and the wider community. Residents in the Parish of Thorpe Audlin shall be granted automatic membership of the Association. Non residents of the Parish of Thorpe Audlin may be granted membership of the Association by means of a majority vote of the general committee.

5. Honorary Officers

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association (see section 7) the members present shall elect the following honorary officers who shall continue in office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting at which they will be eligible for re-election.

1. A Chair person
2. A Secretary
3. A Treasurer

If for any reason any of the honorary officers are unable to continue their duties until the next Annual General Meeting, the General Committee shall be empowered to elect a replacement (who shall remain in office until the next Annual General Meeting) without reference to the membership

6. General Committee

At the Annual General Meeting the members present shall elect a General Committee of not less than two and not more than eight members of the Association who shall constitute the General Committee. Members of the General Committee shall serve until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting at which they will be eligible for re-election.

1. Honorary Officers of the Association shall be ex officio members of the General Committee.
2. The affairs of the Association shall be managed and directed by the General Committee under the terms of this constitution.
3. The General Committee shall be empowered to co-opt to the Committee in an advisory capacity such other individuals as may be considered desirable in pursuit of the objectives of the Association, provided that no such co-opted member shall be entitled to vote on Committee matters.
4. The General Committee shall meet not less than six times per year.

5. Four members of the committee or one third of the total number of elected committee members whichever is the greater, shall constitute a quorum
6. A minute book shall be kept by the secretary who shall enter therein details of all proceedings and resolutions of the committee.

7. General Meetings

The Association shall hold an Annual General Meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it. Not more than 15 months shall elapse between the dates of one Annual General Meeting and the next. All other General Meetings of the Association shall be deemed to be Extraordinary General Meetings and shall be specified as such in the notices calling them. At each Annual General Meeting the business shall include but may not be limited to:-

1. The election of honorary officers
2. The election of a General Committee
3. Presentation of a report and accounts for the preceding year
4. Such other matters as may be considered worthy of inclusion by the General Committee

The committee may call an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time. The members may also request such a meeting provided that a written request giving reasons for such a meeting and signed by not less than ten members is submitted to the any officer of the Association. In such circumstances, an Extraordinary General Meeting shall take place within 42 days of the request being submitted.

Notification of all General meetings shall be given via the notice board and Web site not less than 28 days before the meeting .

8. Finance

The General Committee shall comply with their obligations with regard to:-

1. The keeping of accountancy records for the Association
2. The preparation of an annual report and statement of accounts for the Association
3. The funds of the Association shall be applied in furtherance of the stated objectives and no payment shall be made to any member except for any services rendered and deemed acceptable by the General Committee or for genuine out of pocket expenses.
4. A bank account shall be opened in the name of the Association with which bank the committee determine. The General Committee shall authorise the Treasurer and two other members of the committee (not being co-opted members) to sign cheques on behalf of the Association. All cheques must be signed by not less than two of the authorised signatories.

9. Alterations or additions to the Constitution

No alteration or addition to this constitution shall be made except at a General Meeting of the Association called for such a purpose

10. Dissolution

Dissolution of the Association may take place following a General Meeting at which a minimum of two thirds of the members present vote in favour of the dissolution. Notice of such a meeting, clearly stating the resolution to dissolve the Association shall be given at least 28 days before the meeting is scheduled to take place. Following dissolution of the Association the General Committee in office prior to the dissolution shall be empowered to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Association. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any debts or liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other institutions having objectives similar to those of this Association as decided by the members or failing that shall be applied for other charitable purposes as decided by the General Committee in office prior to dissolution.