

Constitution

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1. Name

The society shall be known as the Fleet and District Neighbourhood Watch (hereinafter called F&D NHW).

2. Aims

2.1 Mission Statement

F&D NHW will exist to support and represent members of local Neighbourhood Watch schemes in Fleet and the neighbouring areas. It will seek to work closely with the Police and provide an effective structure to inform NHW members and respond to the need to reduce crime and the fear of crime thereby improving the quality of community life.

2.2 Specifically the aims of F&D NHW shall be to:

- Reduce crime and fear of crime in Fleet and the neighbouring areas.
- Develop effective information systems.
- Work in partnership with the Police and in liaison with other agencies.
- Foster the development of existing Neighbourhood Watch schemes and to encourage the creation of new schemes.

2.3 F&D NHW shall be non-party in politics, non-sectarian in religion, and shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, religion, gender, disability, age or sexual orientation.

3. Membership

3.1 Membership of F&D NHW shall consist of the members of NHW schemes in Fleet, Church Crookham, Crookham Village, Crondall, Ewshot, Dogmersfield and Winchfield.

4. Executive Committee

4.1 The business of F&D NHW shall be managed by an Executive Committee (hereinafter called "The Committee").

4.2 The Committee shall be elected from the membership of F&D NHW and shall comprise:

- Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Coordinator's Representative
- Newsletter Editor (all of whom shall be members as defined in Paragraph 3)
- Police Representative (by invitation)
- And up to four others (who shall also be members as defined in Paragraph 3)

4.3 The Committee shall be elected by the membership at the AGM. If insufficient Committee members are elected then the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary together may appoint additional Committee members.

5. Non Voting Persons

5.1 The Committee may invite members of Hart District Council, members of neighbouring NHW schemes and any other persons to attend committee meetings to assist the Committee in fulfilling their objectives.

5.2 Persons invited by the Committee to meetings will have no voting rights.

6. Meetings

6.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in the last quarter of the calendar year.

6.2 Each local NHW scheme shall be represented by the Coordinator or their Representative.

6.3 The business of the AGM shall include:

- Report on the work done by, or under the auspices of the Executive Committee.
- Audited financial statement of the affairs of F&D NHW.
- Any other business.

6.4 Other General Meetings (GM) may be called at the request of the Committee, or within 28 days of the receipt of a written request, giving the reasons, signed by not less than 10 scheme coordinators.

6.5 Written notice of the AGM or any GM shall be sent to all scheme Coordinators at least 21 days before the date of the meeting. The notice of meeting shall give details of date, time and location of the meeting. The notice shall include details of any Resolution(s) upon which a vote is to be taken.

6.6 Resolutions at meetings shall be determined by a simple majority with the Chairman having a second or casting vote in the event of a tie; with the exception that Resolutions to change the Constitution, or to dissolve F&D NHW shall be determined by a two-thirds majority.

6.7 The Quorum at a General Meeting shall be not less than 25 of those eligible to attend.

6.8 The Executive Committee shall meet at least 4 times a year. The Quorum for these meetings shall be 4 members of the Executive Committee.

6.9 A record shall be kept by the Secretary, or his deputy, of all proceedings and Resolutions of GMs, and meetings of the Executive Committee.

7. Finance

7.1 The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of F&D NHW.

7.2 The Financial Year shall be from 1st August to 31st July.

7.3 All Central Funds belonging to the F&D NHW shall be applied to further the aims of the F&D NHW.

7.4 All Central Funds of the F&D NHW including all joining fees, donations, contributions and bequests shall be paid into the F&D NHW bank accounts.

7.5 The Society is entitled to charge a membership fee to all new NHW members, the level of which shall be subject to review on an annual basis. Such fees shall be payable to Central Funds.

7.6 All cheques drawn on F&D NHW accounts shall be signed by any two from the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.

7.7 The Executive Committee has authority to raise funds and receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Committee does not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities.

7.8 Any proposal to borrow money on behalf of the F&D NHW shall be authorised at a GM after consideration of the purpose and the terms and conditions.

7.9 The Executive Committee may authorise payment for expenses incurred on behalf of the F&D NHW.

7.10 The accounts shall be audited or independently examined at least once per year.

7.11 An annual statement of the accounts shall be presented to the AGM.

8. Alterations to the Constitution

8.1 Any alteration to the Constitution shall be made by Resolution to a GM of the F&D NHW.

9. Dissolution

9.1 If a GM determines, by a two-thirds majority of those present, that it is advisable to dissolve the F&D NHW, a special GM shall be held within 28 days to confirm this decision.

9.2 The Executive Committee shall have authority to dispose of assets held by, or on behalf of the F&D NHW to satisfy any proper debts and liabilities.

9.3 Any remaining assets shall be transferred to Hampshire Neighbourhood Watch Association .

10. Clarification

10.1 Where the context so requires, the masculine shall include the feminine and the singular the plural.

The Constitution was amended on the 21st day of September 2006 and supersedes the document adopted on 2nd October 1996.