

Westgate Youth Project

**Empowering Young People
In Thanet
Founded 2011**

Constitution

adopted on the 19th day of April 2011

A. Name

The name of the association is Westgate Youth Project hereinafter called 'the Organisation'.

B. Administration

Subject to the matters set out below the Organisation and its property shall be administered and managed in accordance with this constitution by the members of the Management Committee, constituted by clause E of this constitution ('the Management Committee').

C. Objects

The Organisation's objects ("the objects") are to work with young people to facilitate their personal, social; and educational development, and enable them to gain a voice, influence and place in society in a period of their transition from dependence to independence in a safe supported environment.

D. Powers

In furtherance of the said objects but not otherwise the Management Committee may exercise the following powers:

- 1) To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Management Committee shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant requirements of the law.
- 2) To buy, take on lease or in exchange any property necessary for the achievement of the objects and to maintain and equip it for use.
- 3) To provide activities, and an environment, where young people can develop their education and social skills.
- 4) To positively respond to the cultural and aesthetic values of the young people.
- 5) To develop and improve the facilities that are on offer.
- 6) To recruit such staff (who shall not be members of the management committee) as are necessary for the proper pursuits of the objects.
- 7) To ensure a high level of achievement in all the activities that take place.

- 8) To provide relevant signposting to young people when the need arises.
- 9) To co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies, statutory authorities and others operating in furtherance of the objects or of similar charitable purpose, and to exchange information and advice with them.
- 10) To establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for the objects.
- 11) To appoint and constitute such advisory committees as the Management Committee may think fit.
- 12) To do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the said objects.

E. Management Committee

- 1) The Management Committee shall consist of not less than four members. Every future member of the Management Committee shall be appointed by a resolution of the Management Committee.
- 2) The Management Committee shall elect from amongst themselves a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a secretary and a treasurer and such other honorary officers as the members of the Management Committee may from time to time decide.
- 3) The proceedings of the Management Committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number or by any failure to appoint or any defect in the appointment or qualification of a member.
- 4) Nobody shall be appointed as a member of the Management Committee who is aged under 18 or who would if appointed be disqualified under the provisions of the following clause, unless they are a representative of the wider membership of the project.

F. Determination of Membership of Management Committee

A member of the Management Committee shall cease to hold office if he or she:

- 1) becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering his or her own affairs;
- 2) is absent without the permission of the Management Committee from three consecutive meetings and the Management Committee resolve that his or her office be vacated; or
- 3) notifies to the Management Committee a wish to resign (but only if at least three members of the Management Committee will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect).

G. Management Committee Members not to be personally interested.

- 1) No member of the Management Committee shall acquire any interest in property belonging to the Organisation (otherwise than as a trustee for the Organisation) or receive

remuneration or be interested (otherwise than as a member of the Management Committee) in any contract entered into by Management Committee.

- 2) Any member of the Management Committee for the time being who is a solicitor, accountant or other person engaged in a profession may charge and be paid all the usual professional charges for business done by him or her or his or her firm when instructed by the other members of the Management Committee to act in a professional capacity on behalf of the Organisation; provided that at no time shall a majority of the members of the Management Committee benefit under this provision and that a member of the Management Committee shall withdraw from any meeting at which his or her own instruction or remuneration, or that of his or her own firm, is under discussion.

H. Meetings and proceedings of the Management Committee

- 1) The Management Committee shall hold at least two ordinary meetings each year. A special meeting may be called at any time by the chairperson or by two members of the Management Committee upon not less than 4 days' notice being given to the other members of the Management Committee of the matters to be discussed.
- 2) The chairperson shall act as chairperson at meetings of the Management Committee. If the chairperson is absent from any meeting the members of the Management Committee present shall choose one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting before any other business is transacted.
- 3) There shall be a quorum when at least two thirds of the number of members of the Management Committee for the time being or three members of the Management Committee, whichever is the greater, are present at the meeting.
- 4) The Management Committee shall keep minutes, in books kept for the purpose, of the proceedings at meetings of the management committee and any sub-committee.
- 5) The Management Committee may from time to time make and alter rules for the conduct of their business, the summoning and conducting of their meetings and the custody of documents. No rule may be made which is inconsistent with this constitution.
- 6) The Management Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees consisting of three or more members of the Management Committee for the purpose of making any inquiry or supervising or performing any function or duty which in the opinion of the Management Committee would be more conveniently undertaken or carried out by a sub-committee: provided that all acts and proceedings of any such sub-committees shall be fully and promptly reported to the Management Committee.

I. Receipts and expenditure

- 1) 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 bank as the Management Committee shall from time to time decide. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by two members of the Management Committee or one member of the Management Committee and the Project Manager.
- 2) The funds belonging to the Organisation shall be applied only in furthering the objects.

J. Property

The Management Committee shall cause the title to:

- a) all land held by or in trust for the Organisation; and
- b) all investments held by or on behalf of the Organisation;

to be vested either in a corporation entitled to act as custodian trustee or in not less than three individuals appointed by them as holding trustees. Holding trustees may be removed by the Management Committee at their pleasure and shall act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Management Committee. Provided they act only in accordance with the lawful directions of the Management Committee, the holding trustees shall not be liable for the acts and defaults of its members.

K. Accounts

The Management Committee shall keep accounting records and prepare annual statements of account for the Organisation which shall be subject to independent examination or audit.

L. Annual Report

The Management Committee shall prepare an annual report of its activities.

M. Alteration to the Constitution

The Constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by a majority decision of members present at a Management Committee meeting.

N. Dissolution

The Organisation may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a majority decision of members present at a Management Committee meeting. Any assets remaining after the proper satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Organisation.

This constitution was adopted on the date mentioned above by the persons whose signatures appear below.

Signed:

Chairperson of the meeting

Signed:

Secretary of the meeting