

Constitution of Allerthorpe Village Trust CIO dated

1) Name

Allerthorpe Village Trust

2) Principal Office

The charity is located in England and has its offices at The Grange, Allerthorpe, YO42 4RW

3) Objects

To defend and promote the interests of the village of Allerthorpe and its neighbouring settlements so as to protect its status as a conservation area and to enhance and sustain the vitality of their communities

4) Powers

The CIO has powers to do anything which is calculated to further its object or is conducive or incidental to doing so. In particular, it may:

- a) Consider and make grants to the Allerthorpe Parish council
- b) Conduct fund-raising events and initiatives
- c) Open and maintain a community bank account
- d) Engage with the Parish council in support of or in opposition to planning applications

5) Application of income and property

1) The income and property of the CIO must be applied solely towards the promotion of the object.

- a) A charity trustee is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the CIO or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the CIO

b) A charity trustee may benefit from trustee indemnity insurance cover purchased at the CIO's expense in accordance with , and subject to the conditions in the Charities Act 2011

2) none of the income or property of the CIO may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of a dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the CIO

3) Nothing in this clause shall prevent a charity trustee or connected person receiving any benefit or payment which is authorised by Clause 6

6) Benefits and payments to charity trustees and connected persons

1) General provisions

No charity trustee or connected person may:

- a) buy or receive any goods or services from the CIO on terms preferential to those applicable to members of the public
- b) sell goods, services, or any interest in land to the CIO
- c) be employed by, or receive any remuneration from the CIO
- d) receive any other financial benefit from the CIO

In this clause, a 'financial benefit' means a benefit, direct or indirect, which is either money or has a monetary value.

2) Scope and powers permitting trustees' or connected persons' benefits

- a) a charity trustee or connected person may take part in the normal trading activities of the CIO on the same terms as members of the public.

7) Conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalty

A charity trustee must:

- 1) declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the CIO or in any transaction entered into by the CIO which has not previously been declared; and
- 2) absent himself or herself from any discussions of the charity trustees in which it is possible that a conflict of interest will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the CIO and any personal interest (including but not limited to any financial interest)

Any charity trustee absenting himself or herself from any discussion in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any discussion of the charity trustees on the matter

8) Liability of members to contribute to the assets of the CIO if it is wound up

If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no liability for settling its debts and liabilities

9) Charity trustees

1) Functions and duties of charity trustees

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee:

- a) to exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions in his or her capacity as a trustee in the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO
- b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to:
 - i) any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and,
 - ii) if he or she acts as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect

of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession

2) Eligibility for trusteeship

- a) Every charity trustee must be a natural person.
- b) No individual may be appointed as a charity trustee to the CIO:
 - If he or she is under the age of 16 years; or
 - If he or she would automatically cease to hold office under any of the provisions of clause 12
- c) No one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any reappointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged, in whatever way the charity trustees decide, his or her acceptance of the office of charity trustee

3) Number of charity trustees

The maximum number of charity trustees is seven. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum

4) First charity trustees

The first charity trustees are as follows, and are appointed for the following terms –

Angela Batty	for 1 year
Debbie Forster	for 1 year
Brian Bennett	for 1 year
Clare Metcalf	for 1 year

Laura Brennan	for 1 year
James Mills	for 1 year
Graham Gilbert	for 1 year

10) Appointment of charity trustees

Appointed charity trustees

- a) Apart from the first charity trustees, every appointed trustee must be appointed for a period of three years by resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees
- b) In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the Charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity

11) Information for new charity trustees

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment:

- a) A copy of the current version of this constitution; and
- b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts

12) Retirement and removal of charity trustees

1) A charity trustee ceases to hold office if he or she:

- a) retires by notifying the CIO in writing (but only if enough charity trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation takes effect to form a quorum for meetings);
- b) is absent without the permission of the charity trustees for three consecutive general meetings of the charity and the trustees resolve that his or her office be vacated
- b) dies;
- c) in the opinion of a majority of the remaining members of the Charity is unwilling or unable to work effectively in pursuit of its objectives;

d) is disqualified from acting as a charity trustee by virtue of sections 178-180 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision)

2) Any person retiring as a charity trustee is eligible for reappointment

13) Taking of decisions by charity trustees

Any decision may be taken either:

- at a meeting of the charity trustees; or
- by resolution in writing agreed by all of the charity trustees, which may comprise either a single document or several documents containing the text of the resolution in like form to each of which one or more of the charity trustees has signified their agreement.

14) Delegation by charity trustees

- 1) The charity trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to a committee or committees, and if they do, they shall determine the terms and conditions on which the delegation is made. The charity trustees may at any time alter those terms and conditions, or revoke the delegation.
 - a) A committee may consist of two or more charity trustees
 - b) The acts and proceedings of any committee must be brought to the attention of the charity trustees as a whole as soon as is reasonably practicable; and
 - c) The charity trustees shall from time to time review the arrangements which they have made for the delegation of their powers

15) Meetings of charity trustees

- 1) Calling meetings
 - a) Any charity trustees may call a meeting of the charity trustees

- b) Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required

2) Chairing of meetings

The charity trustees may appoint one of their number to chair their meetings and may at any time revoke such appointment. If no-one has been so appointed, or if the person appointed is unwilling to preside or is not present within 10 minutes after the time of the meeting, the charity trustees present may appoint one of their number to chair that meeting.

3) Procedure at meetings

- a) No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. The quorum is four charity trustees. A charity trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which he or she is not entitled to vote.
- b) Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote.
- c) In the case of an equality of votes, the person who chairs the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

4) Participation in meetings by electronic means

- a) a meeting may be held by suitable electronic means agreed by the charity trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.
- b) Any charity trustee participating at a meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by the charity trustees in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants shall qualify as being present at the meeting

- c) meetings held by electronic means must comply with rules for meetings, including chairing and the taking of minutes

16) Membership of the CIO

- 1) The members of the CIO shall be its charity trustees for the time being. The only persons eligible to be members of the CIO are its charity trustees. Membership of the CIO cannot be transferred to anyone else.
- 2) Any member and charity trustee who ceases to be a charity trustee automatically ceases to be a member of the CIO.

18) Decisions which must be made by the members of the CIO

- 1) Any decision to:
 - a) amend the constitution of the CIO;
 - b) amalgamate the CIO with, or transfer its undertaking to, one or more other CIOs, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011; or
 - c) wind up or dissolve the CIO (including transferring its business to any other charity)

must be made by a resolution of the members of the CIO (rather than a resolution of the charity trustees).

- 2) Decisions of the members may be made either:
 - a) by resolution at a general meeting; or
 - b) by resolution in writing, in accordance with sub-clause (4) of this clause.
- 3) Any decision specified in sub-clause (1) of this clause must be made in accordance with the provisions of clause 28 (amendment of constitution), clause 29 (Voluntary winding up or dissolution), or the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the General Regulations or the Dissolution

Regulations as applicable. Those provisions require the resolution to be agreed by a 75% majority of those members voting at a general meeting, or agreed by all members in writing.

- 4) Except where a resolution in writing must be agreed by all the members, such a resolution may be agreed by a simple majority of all the members who are entitled to vote on it. Such a resolution shall be effective provided that:
 - a) a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to all the members eligible to vote; and
 - b) the required majority of members has signified its agreement to the resolution in a document or documents which are received at the principal office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date. The document signifying a member's agreement must be authenticated by their signature, by a statement of their identity accompanying the document, or in such other manner as the CIO has specified.

The resolution in writing may comprise several copies to which one or more members has signified their agreement. Eligibility to vote on the resolution is limited to members who are members of the CIO on the date when the proposal is first circulated.

19. General meetings of members

1) Calling of general meetings of members

The charity trustees may designate any of their meetings as a general meeting of the members of the CIO. The purpose of such a meeting is to discharge any business which must by law be discharged by a resolution of the members of the CIO as specified in clause 18 (Decisions which must be made by the members of the CIO).

2) Notice of general meetings of members

- a) The minimum period of notice required to hold a general meeting of the members of the CIO is 7 days.
- b) Except where a specified period of notice is strictly required by another clause in this constitution, by the Charities Act 2011 or by General Regulations, a general meeting may be called at shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority of the members of the CIO
- c) Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted; or that an electronic form of notice was properly addressed and sent, shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Notice shall be deemed to be given 48 hours after it was posted or sent.

3) Procedure at general meetings of members

The provisions in clause 15 (2)-(4) governing the chairing of meetings, procedure at meetings and participation in meetings by electronic means apply to any general meeting of the members, with all references to trustees to be taken as references to members.

20. Saving provisions

- 1) Subject to sub-clause (2) of this clause, all decisions of the charity trustees, or of a committee of charity trustees, shall be valid notwithstanding the participation in any vote of a charity trustee:
 - who was disqualified from holding office;
 - who had previously retired or who had been obliged by the constitution to vacate office;
 - who was not entitled to vote on the matter, whether by reason of a conflict of interest or otherwise; if, without the vote of that charity trustee and that charity trustee being counted in the quorum, the decision has been made by a majority of the charity trustees at a quorate meeting.

- 2) Sub-clause (1) of this clause does not permit a charity trustee to keep any benefit that may be conferred upon him or her by a resolution of the charity trustees or of a committee of charity trustees if, but for sub-clause (1), the resolution would have been void, or if the charity trustee has not complied with clause 7 (Conflicts of interest).

21. Execution of documents

- 1) The CIO shall execute documents by signature
- 2) A document is validly executed by signature if it is signed by at least two of the charity trustees.

22. Use of electronic communications

The CIO will comply with the requirements of the Communications Provisions in the General Regulations and in particular:

- a) the requirement to provide within 21 days to any member on request a hard copy of any document or information sent to the member otherwise than in hard copy form;
- b) any requirements to provide information to the Commission in a particular form or manner.

23. Keeping of Registers

The CIO must comply with its obligations under the General Regulations in relation to the keeping of, and provision of access to, a (combined) register of its members and charity trustees.

24. Minutes

The charity trustees must keep minutes of all:

- 1) appointments of officers made by the charity trustees;
- 2) proceedings at general meetings of the CIO;
- 3) meetings of the charity trustees and committees of charity

trustees including:

- the names of the trustees present at the meeting;
- the decisions made at the meetings; and
- where appropriate the reasons for the decisions;

4) decisions made by the charity trustees otherwise than in meetings.

25. Accounting records, accounts, annual reports and returns, register maintenance

- 1) The charity trustees must comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, to the preparation and scrutiny of statements of account, and to the preparation of annual reports and returns. The statements of account, reports and returns must be sent to the Charity Commission, regardless of the income of the CIO, within 10 months of the financial year end.
- 2) The charity trustees must comply with their obligation to inform the Commission within 28 days of any change in the particulars of the CIO entered on the Central Register of Charities.

26. Rules

The charity trustees may from time to time make such reasonable and proper rules or byelaws as they may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct and management of the CIO, but such rules or bye laws must not be inconsistent with any provision of this constitution. Copies of any such rules or bye laws currently in force must be made available to any member of the CIO on request.

27. Disputes

If a dispute arises between members of the CIO about the validity or propriety of anything done by the members under this constitution, and the dispute cannot be resolved by

agreement, the parties to the dispute must first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.

28. Amendment of constitution

As provided by sections 224-227 of the Charities Act 2011:

- 1) This constitution can only be amended:
 - a) by resolution agreed in writing by all members of the CIO; or
 - b) by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of those voting at a general meeting of the members of the CIO called in accordance with clause 19 (General meetings of members).
- 2) Any alteration of clause 3 (Objects), clause [29] (Voluntary winding up or dissolution), this clause, or of any provision where the alteration would provide authorisation for any benefit to be obtained by charity trustees or members of the CIO or persons connected with them, requires the prior written consent of the Charity Commission.
- 3) No amendment that is inconsistent with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 or the General Regulations shall be valid.
- 4) A copy of every resolution amending the constitution, together with a copy of the CIO's constitution as amended must be sent to the Commission by the end of the period of 15 days beginning with the date of passing of the resolution, and the amendment does not take effect until it has been recorded in the Register of Charities.

29. Voluntary winding up or dissolution

- 1) As provided by the Dissolution Regulations, the CIO may be dissolved by resolution of its members. Any decision by the members to wind up or dissolve the CIO can only be made:
 - a) at a general meeting of the members of the CIO called in accordance with clause 19 (General meetings of members), of which not less than 14 days' notice has

been given to those eligible to attend and vote:

i) by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of those voting, or

ii) by a resolution passed by decision taken without a vote and without any expression of dissent in response to the question put to the general meeting; or

b) by a resolution agreed in writing by all members of the CIO.

2) Subject to the payment of all the CIO's debts:

a) Any resolution for the winding up of the CIO, or for the dissolution of the CIO without winding up, may contain a provision directing how any remaining assets of the CIO shall be applied.

b) If the resolution does not contain such a provision, the charity trustees must decide how any remaining assets of the CIO shall be applied.

c) In either case the remaining assets must be applied for charitable purposes the same as or similar to those of the CIO.

3) The CIO must observe the requirements of the Dissolution Regulations in applying to the Commission for the CIO to be removed from the Register of Charities, and in particular:

a) the charity trustees must send with their application to the Commission:

i) a copy of the resolution passed by the members of the CIO;

ii) a declaration by the charity trustees that any debts and other liabilities of the CIO have been settled or otherwise provided for in full; and

iii) a statement by the charity trustees setting out the

way in which any property of the CIO has been or is to be applied prior to its dissolution in accordance with this constitution;

b) the charity trustees must ensure that a copy of the application is sent within seven days to every member and employee of the CIO, and to any charity trustee of the CIO who was not privy to the application.

4) If the CIO is to be wound up or dissolved in any other circumstances, the provisions of the Dissolution Regulations must be followed.

30. Interpretation

In this constitution:

“connected person” means:

(a) a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister of the charity trustee;

(b) the spouse or civil partner of the charity trustee or of any person falling within sub-clause (a) above;

(c) a person carrying on business in partnership with the charity trustee or with any person falling within sub-clause (a) or (b) above;

(d) an institution which is controlled –

(i) by the charity trustee or any connected person falling within sub-clause (a), (b), or (c) above; or

(ii) by two or more persons falling within sub-clause (d)(i), when taken together

(e) a body corporate in which –

(i) the charity trustee or any connected person falling within sub-clauses (a) to (c) has a substantial interest; or

(ii) two or more persons falling within sub-clause
(e)(i) who, when taken together, have a
substantial interest.

Section 118 of the Charities Act 2011 apply for the purposes of interpreting the terms used in this constitution.

“General Regulations” means the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012.

“Dissolution Regulations” means the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (Insolvency and Dissolution) Regulations 2012.

The “Communications Provisions” means the Communications Provisions in [Part 10, Chapter 4] of the General Regulations.

“charity trustee” means a charity trustee of the CIO.

A “poll” means a counted vote or ballot, usually (but not necessarily) in writing.

