



CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the group shall be Hanwell & Norwood Green Orchard Trail (HANGOT)

2. Aim

To identify public access land suitable for the planting of orchards and develop an orchard trail in the Borough of Ealing, encouraging the use of these areas, providing fruit for the local community to forage and to improve the quality of the environment for wildlife (for current and future generations).

3. Objectives

- (a) To develop and maintain the Hanwell & Norwood Green Orchard Trail for the community of the Borough of Ealing.
- (b) To develop working partnerships with owners of accessible land suitable for orchards, including the Borough of Ealing, Canal & River Trust and others to further the objectives of the Hanwell & Norwood Green Orchard Trail.
- (c) To involve local residents in planting and clearing activities and the maintenance of the Hanwell & Norwood Green Orchard Trail.
- (d) To raise funds and receive contributions where appropriate to finance the work.
- (e) To open a bank account.
- (f) Take out insurance (when appropriate).
- (g) To make rules for their members.
- (h) To publicise and promote our work.
- (i) To organise meetings, training sessions and events.
- (j) To work with similar groups and exchange information and advice with them.
- (k) To take any action that is lawful, which would help it to fulfil its aims.
- (l) To maintain communication with their members and residents of the local community.

4. Membership

- (a) Membership of HANGOT shall be open to anyone who is interested in helping the group to achieve its aim and willing to abide by the rules of the group (there is not a membership fee at this time).
- (b) Every member shall have one vote at general meetings.
- (c) The Management Committee shall have the power to refuse membership to an applicant, where it is considered such membership would be detrimental to the aims, purposes or activities of the group.
- (d) Registration and termination of membership.
 - * Any member of the association may resign his/her membership at any time.
 - * The Management Committee may, by resolution passed at a meeting thereof, terminate or suspend the membership of any member, if in its opinion his/her conduct is prejudicial to the interests and objects of the association, PROVIDED THAT the individual member or representative of the member organisation (as the case may be) shall have the right to be heard by the Management Committee before the final decision is made. There shall be a right of appeal to an independent arbitrator appointed by mutual agreement.

5. Management

- (a) HANGOT shall be administered by a Management Committee of not less than four (4) people and not more than ten (10) members elected at the group's Annual General Meeting, Committee Members must be at least 18 years old.
- (b) The officers of the Management Committee shall include:
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary

and such other officers the group shall deem necessary at the meeting.
- (d) At least four (4) Management Committee members must be present for the Management Committee meeting to take place.
- (e) Voting at Management Committee meetings shall be by show of hands on a majority basis. If there is a tied vote then the chairperson shall have a second vote.
- (f) Has the power to set up sub-groups and working parties as deemed necessary who shall be accountable to the committee.

6. Finance

- (a) Any money obtained by the group shall be used only for the group.

- (b) Any bank account opened for the group shall be in the name of the group.
- (c) Any cheque issued shall be signed by at least two of any three nominated signatories.
- (d) Any expenditure shall be approved in advance by the Management Committee.
- (e) Any on-line purchase shall be executed by any of the three nominated signatories with the written approval of one of the other three nominated signatories.
- (f) The Management Committee will ensure that the group stays within the budget.

7. Committee Meetings

- (a) The committee shall meet at least twice each year.
- (b) The committee shall be accountable to the members at all times.
- (d) All meetings must be minuted and available to any interested party.
- (e) All committee members shall be given at least seven (7) days' notice of a meeting unless it is deemed an emergency meeting.

9. Annual General Meeting

- (a) HANGOT shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- (b) Notice will be given in the members' newsletter, the group's website and related social media, giving at least 14 days' notice of the AGM.
- (c) The business of the AGM shall include:
 - * Receiving a report from the Chair of the group's activities over the year and consider proposals for future activities.
 - * Receiving a report and presentation of the last financial year's accounts from the Treasurer on the finances of the group.
 - * Electing a new Management Committee and considering any other matter as may be appropriate at such a meeting.
- (d) The quorum for Annual General Meeting shall be at least eight (8) persons of which no more than three (3) shall be named officers of the committee.

10. Alteration of the Constitution

- (a) Proposals for amendments to this constitution, or dissolution (see Clause 11) must be delivered to the secretary in writing. The secretary in conjunction with all other officers shall then decide on the date of a forum meeting to discuss such proposals, giving at least four weeks (28 days) clear notice.

- (b) Any changes to this constitution must be agreed by at least two thirds of those members present and voting at any general meeting.

11. Dissolution

The group may be wound up at any time if agreed by all executive members of the group. Any assets shall be returned to their providers, if they require it, or shall be passed to another group with similar aims.

12. Adoption of the Constitution

This constitution was adopted by the members present at a committee meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2015, updated at the 2019 annual general meeting held on Tuesday 19th November 2019.

Signed:

Mirjam van Bentum(Chair)

Clive Turner(Treasurer)

Hilary Abbey(Secretary)