

CRAIGMILLAR PARK ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION

1. **Name:** The name of the Association shall be **The Craigmillar Park Association**.

2. **Geographical Area:** The area bounded by Mayfield Road (east side), West Mayfield in the north, Mayfield Gardens (west side), and both sides of Craigmillar Park continuing down to the end of Gordon terrace. On the east side of Craigmillar Park the whole area between Craigmillar Park and the railway line, as far as, and including Cameron March and Lady road, and all adjacent areas.

3. **Objectives:** The Association is established for the public benefit and specifically for the following charitable objectives:-

(i) To stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, character and history of the immediate area and through other agencies, the entire Newington district.

(ii) To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of public, architectural or historical interest in the area of benefit.

(iii) To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit and

(iv) In the interests of social welfare, to provide or assist in the provision of recreation or other leisure time occupation either for the benefit of the general public, or for the benefit of those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty, social or economic circumstances have a need of such facilities with the object of improving their conditions of life.

In furtherance of the said objectives, but not otherwise, the Association through its Committee shall have the following powers:-

a). To liaise with local and National authorities and any other Associations, bodies and societies or persons with whose assistance the objectives of the Association can be furthered.

b). To raise, hold, or contribute to funds which may be directed towards any of the Association's objectives, and

c). to take such further action as the Association may consider conducive to the attainment of the objectives or to any part of them.

4. **Membership:** Membership shall be open to all persons or bodies having an interest in the Association's objectives. Members shall lapse if a subscription remains overdue six months after notification to that effect having been given. In all questions regarding membership, the decision of the committee shall be final.

The categories of membership shall be:-

- Ordinary Member (aged 18 and over)
- Junior Members (over 14, but under 18, who have no entitlement to vote at meetings)
- Honorary President.
- Honorary Member
- Any voluntary organisations operating in the area or vicinity whose objectives are, in the opinion of the Committee, broadly similar to the Association's and could therefore benefit the Association.

Election to honorary category shall take place at a General Meeting.

5. **Subscriptions:** The Association shall set the subscription rate from time to time by a majority vote at a General Meeting, which annual rate shall include a concessionary rate for senior citizens, full time students aged 18 and over and unemployed adults aged 18 and over.

6. **Termination of Membership:** The committee shall have the right to terminate an individual or organisational membership for any good and sufficient reason, subject to the right of being heard by the Committee before such a decision is made. Only one representative of an organisational member shall be so heard.

7. **Meetings:** General meetings, including the Annual General Meeting shall be advertised in local shops, by mail drop or by an advertisement in a local paper two weeks prior to the meeting date.

- A quorum for all General Meetings shall be **15** members
- The Secretary shall be responsible for writing the minutes of all General Meetings, Committee, or Sub Committee meetings. A minute secretary may assist with this activity. All minutes shall be open to inspection by all members, but they should be approved at the following meeting before they are displayed.

- An Annual General Meeting shall be called no later than November each year, and not later than six weeks after the end of the Association's financial year. It shall receive the Committee's report and audited accounts for the preceding twelve months, and elect members of the Committee.
- Ordinary Meetings shall be called as the Committee determine and special general Meetings shall be held at the request of 5 or more members.

8. Office Bearers and Committee: The office bearers shall be: - Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Committee shall be charity trustees of the Association and shall consist of the office bearers of the Association *ex officio* and not more than six Ordinary Members. Each year two Ordinary Members shall stand down, but may offer themselves for re-election at the AGM. Those standing down will normally be the longest serving, but this may be varied at the Committee's discretion should other Ordinary Members wish to resign. Office Bearers shall stand down at the next AGM after serving in that office for three years, but may thereafter offer themselves annually for re-election. Members of the Committee wishing to resign should preferably do so at the AGM, but the Committee may at its discretion accept a resignation at other times having regard to the member's personal circumstances. The Committee may co-opt members at any time provided this does not cause the Committee numbers to be exceeded, such co-opted members then offering themselves for election at the next AGM. The Committee may also co-opt without voting rights additional persons having specialist knowledge designated as Advisors.

9. Constitutional Amendments: The constitution may be amended by a two thirds majority of members present at a General Meeting, provided that 14 days notice had been given to the Committee prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendment is to be moved and providing nothing herein shall authorise any amendment permitting expenditure of funds of the Association on any objective which is not charitable. The Committee shall give such notice to the membership as is reasonably practicable.

10. Failure to give notice: No failure due to inadvertence, error or any other bona fide cause to give notice of any meeting or resolution or other matter to any member or members shall invalidate the proceedings or any resolution passed, or any other business conducted at such a meeting.

11. Voting Rights: At General Meetings, only Association members shall be entitled to vote. Voting by show of hands or ballot will be at the discretion of the Chairperson.

12. Appeals: The Committee shall have powers to make appeals, solicit donations and canvas monies for carrying out the objectives of the Association.

13. Finance: All monies raised shall be used for the furtherance of The Association's objectives. No monies shall be paid to any office bearer except for the reimbursement of legitimate out of pocket expenses.

14. Bank Accounts: All bank accounts shall be operative on any two signatures of nominated office bearers.

15. Accounts/Investments/Borrowing: The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial administration of the Association and the preparation and presentation of the financial report. All monies not required for immediate use shall be invested by the treasurer as he/she thinks fit, subject to the instructions of the Committee. The Committee may borrow for the objectives of the Association such monies at such rate of interest and in such manner as it may think fit, subject to the approval in writing of at least five members of the Committee, two of whom must be the Treasurer and either the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.

16. Dissolution: If the Committee decides that dissolution of the Association is necessary or advisable a meeting of all members shall be called with one months notice given. Such dissolution shall be confirmed by a two thirds majority vote at this meeting. After settlement of all debts, any remaining funds shall not be dispersed amongst members but shall be donated to charitable organisations having similar objectives to the Association as determined by the Committee. The Association shall then be declared dissolved.

 Constitution adopted at a General Meeting of The Association on Friday 5th December 1997 and amended at General Meetings in 2002, 2003, 2007 & 2008.
