



Save Our Green Spaces South Gloucestershire Constitution

1. Name

- 1.1.** The name of the Group shall be “Save Our Green Spaces South Gloucestershire” or “SOGS-SG” for short, hereinafter referred to as “the Group”

2. Objectives of the Group

- 2.1.** To act as champions for and to protect Green Belt and Green Spaces within South Gloucestershire from mass development.
- 2.2.** To Protect and Enhance the Ecological and Natural Wildlife environment, Heritage and Archaeology of the area.
- 2.3.** To encourage community engagement .
- 2.4.** To develop and promote arguments for protecting Green Spaces and quality of life for all.

3. Powers

- 3.1.** The Group shall have the power to raise and use funds to achieve its aims and objectives.
- 3.2.** The Group shall have the power to cooperate with and support other community groups with a shared interest as appropriate. These groups include but are not limited to Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Planning group(s), Heritage and Conservation groups.

4. Members of the Group

- 4.1.** Membership of the Group shall only be open to individuals who agree with and act on the objectives of the Group.
- 4.2.** Members will have the right to vote at Membership meetings, Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings.
- 4.3.** Membership is forfeit to any who act against the objectives of the Group.

5. Equalities Policy

- 5.1.** This is a voluntary Community group committed to being an equal opportunities organisation.
- 5.2.** It is the policy of the group to ensure no volunteers receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of disability, gender, sexual orientation, material status, race, colour, nationality, age, political or religious beliefs or to be disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which can't be seen to be justifiable.
- 5.3.** The Group will ensure discriminatory practices are identified and removed and non-discriminatory practices are introduced in all areas of the organisation.

6. Management of the Group

6.1. The Management of the Group will be entrusted to the Group Committee, hereinafter referred to as “The Committee”

7. Officers of the Group

7.1. The elected Officers of the Group shall be the Chairperson, Secretary and the Treasurer hereinafter referred to as “The Officers”.

7.2. Voting for the election of Officers shall be the responsibility of The Committee

8. The Committee

8.1. The Committee will be elected annually at the AGM.

8.2. The Committee shall comprise of no less than four members and not more than twenty.

8.3. The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt new Committee members between AGM’s if required.

8.4. The Committee shall have the power to set rules for the Group.

8.5. The Committee shall be empowered to appoint Sub Groups to manage specific tasks as necessary.

8.6. The Chairperson of the Group will normally preside at and chair all meetings of the Committee (or Group) and shall be responsible for reporting to the Membership at the Group’s AGM.

8.7. The Group Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence relating to the Group affairs including the announcement of and production and distribution of minutes from Committee meetings but with the exception of the accounts. The Group Secretary shall also be responsible for announcing the AGM and any Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) and shall give at least 28 clear days notice of such a meeting and its Agenda. Items for inclusion should be submitted at least 42 days prior to the meeting date.

8.8. The Treasurer shall be responsible for accounting for any income and expenditure made on behalf of the Group and providing an independently checked (if required by the Group) financial report of all income, expenditure and assets to Committee and General meetings. The Independent checker may be another member of the group but not someone with direct access to funds or related to or residing with the Treasurer.

8.9. A quorum for a meeting of the committee shall be at least three voting members. In addition to the AGM, The Committee shall hold at least 4 meetings per year.

8.10. Reimbursement for reasonable personal expenses may be claimed by Officers and Committee members of the Group on presentation of receipts, if the Group holds financial assets for this purpose.

9. Amendments to the Constitution of the Group

9.1. This Constitution may be amended by a clear majority of members present and entitled to vote at an AGM or EGM. Notice of any amendments must be delivered to the Secretary at least 42 days prior to the AGM or EGM.

10. Financial Assets

10.1. Any financial or other assets raised and held by the Group shall be the property of the Group.

10.2. Any financial assets, other than petty cash, shall be held in a bank account set up in the Group’s name, to which not less than two Committee Officers shall be signatories.

10.3. No individual shall hold more than £300 in petty cash at any time without good reason.

10.4. At no time shall the Group accrue financial debts or liabilities that exceed the value of the financial assets.

10.5. The Treasurer is responsible for recording and tracking all Group Assets including Petty cash.

11. Dissolution of the Group

11.1. The decision to dissolve the Group can only be taken by majority vote of those present and entitled to vote at an AGM or EGM

11.2. Upon Dissolution, any remaining assets will be :

11.2.1. Used to pay outstanding debts.

11.2.2. Any residual donation from a donation made for a specific purpose will be return to the donator.

11.2.3. Transferred to any other voluntary organization that shares the same principles and aims of the Group. The Committee will be responsible for deciding the final distribution.

Adopted on

Chairman

Name

Signed Date

Secretary

Name

Signed Date

Treasurer

Name

Signed Date