

Urswick Tarn Association

CONSTITUTION

18 JANUARY 2005

URSWICK TARN ASSOCIATION – CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be called the Urswick Tarn Association.
- 2.1 The Association shall provide for persons ordinarily resident in the Parish of Urswick (hereinafter called 'the members') in the interests of social welfare, facilities for recreation and leisure time occupation, consistent with the objective of improving the conditions of life for such members.
- 2.2 To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in the Parish of Urswick.

Membership of the Association

- 3 Membership of the Association shall be open without elective process to all persons ordinarily resident in the Parish of Urswick upon payment of a membership fee.
- 4 Application for renewal of membership by existing members shall be made by the date fixed by the Committee each year. Members who do not re-apply by that date shall by default cease to be members.
- 5 A Register of members shall be compiled and maintained.

Officers of the Association

- 6 The officers of the Association shall consist of: The Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and Two Trustees. All to be elected or re-elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustees may fill any other office of the Association.

Committee of Management

- 7 The day-to-day management of the Association shall be carried out by a Committee of Management (hereinafter called 'the Committee') consisting of the Officers and eight members, elected by vote from members at the Annual General Meeting.
- 8 The Committee shall hold office until the succeeding Annual General Meeting unless their unexplained absence from meetings exceeds 50% of those they are required to attend. In which case resignation is to be assumed to have taken place. A member may be re-elected for a particular office.
- 9 Additionally, it is recommended that Urswick Parish Council shall nominate a Liaison Officer who shall be granted full membership of the Committee of Management.
- 10 The Committee may co-opt other members for a specific purpose and limited time, if it considers such a course necessary or advisable.
- 11 The Committee, of whom five shall form a quorum, shall have full control of the Association's business affairs, receipts and expenditure and may engage and pay for the services of Water Bailiffs and similar persons including Solicitors, Accountants, Fishery Experts and the like, upon such terms as is considered advantageous.
- 12 The Committee may empower a minimum of two members to act as an Emergency Sub-Committee to make decisions in extreme urgency. Such a Sub-Committee will report in detail to the full Committee at the earliest reasonable opportunity.
- 13 The Committee is empowered to make byelaws or reservations but alterations to this Constitution may only be made by a majority decision at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.

14 Any member of the Association who by their action would bring the 'Good Name' of the Association into disrepute is liable to have their membership suspended by the committee until such time as a further meeting can be convened to decide by majority vote whether the suspension should be lifted or a decision made to expel the offending member from the Association, and the term for such expulsion.

15 The Committee shall meet as often as the business of the Association requires, on reasonable notice to all members.

Annual General Meeting

16 An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in Urswick as soon as is practicable after 16th March in each year. In the interest of public relations it is recommended that further General Meetings should be held each year.

17 Reports of business transacted by the Committee during the preceding year, statements of accounts properly audited and signed, the election of officers and Committee members, amendment of rules and all other matters as are customarily dealt with at such meetings and in such associations, shall constitute the business to be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting.

18 Not less than 21 days notice of an Annual General Meeting shall be given.

19 Notice of a matter to be included on the agenda should reach the Secretary not less than 14 days before the Annual General Meeting.

20 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be ten members of the Association.

21 The meeting shall be under the control of the Chairman of the Association or failing him a member of the Committee to be elected at the meeting. The Chairman or Acting Chairman shall exercise his functions impartially and in the event of equality of votes shall exercise a second or casting vote.

Extraordinary General Meeting

22 The Secretary shall on receipt of a request in writing, signed by no fewer than ten members, call a meeting.

23 Such a request shall clearly state the business, which the signatories desire to be discussed, and the same shall be stated in the convening notice and the business discussed shall be confined thereto unless the Chairman in his discretion permits otherwise.

24 In all other respects the meeting shall be conducted as in the case of an Annual General Meeting.

Management Plan / Operational Objectives

25 The Operational Objectives of the Association shall be drawn up in a Management Plan to be agreed with the Parish Council with respect to the lands leased from them, that will form the basis of operations and maintenance to be carried out by the membership as directed by the Committee.

General Terms of Membership

26 All members, subject to the restrictions hereinafter contained and any byelaws made under Rule 13 hereof shall have the free right of access to the land vested in the Association and to the Tarn.

- 27 No member shall be entitled to fish in the Tarn without having paid in advance by a date to be fixed by the Committee such fee as shall be fixed as a variety and amount by the Annual General Meeting.
- 28 Any person not being a member of the Association may be entitled to fish in the Tarn upon such terms and upon the payment of such fees as the Committee may from time to time decide.
- 29 Members in the pursuit of angling or otherwise, shall take every care to close gates, avoid damage to, or breaking down of, walls, fences, seats, litter bins, signs, etc and abstain from going on land in hay-grass, grain or other growing crops, or disturbing farm stock or wild life. Any member offending in this respect, as a result of which damage is sustained to any person, shall be held personally responsible for such damage and shall make the same good.
- 30 The Committee may permit a member upon payment of a fee to be decided by the Committee at the Annual General Meeting to use a boat on the Tarn provided that no more than fourteen boats shall be so permitted at any one time of which not more than three may be sailing boats.
- 31 The Committee shall nominate the vendors of fishing permits to non-members. The vendors may receive up to 15% commission on all tickets sold.

Terms of Trust

- 32 Any property purchased or leased by the Association shall be vested in the Trustees.
- 33 The Trustees shall with such consent as is by law required deal with the property so vested in them by way of sale, mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise howsoever as directed by the Association. Such directions shall be given by resolution of the members of the Association passed by a majority of the members present at a duly conveyed meeting of the Association and when so passed shall in favour of the subsequent purchaser, mortgagee, chargee, leasee or grantee be binding upon all members of the Association. A Certificate purported to be signed by the Secretary for the time being of the Association shall in favour of a purchaser, mortgagee, chargee, leasee or grantee be conclusive evidence that such a direction was duly given.
- 34 No alteration to this Constitution shall be made which would affect the charitable status of the Association.