

Constitution of the Residents' Association of Cherryvalley, Kensington and Shandon (RACKS)

(1) NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Residents' Association of Cherryvalley, Kensington and Shandon (hereinafter called 'The Association')

(2) OBJECTS

(a) The Association is established to promote, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Cherryvalley, Kensington Road and Shandon Park and its environs (hereinafter described as 'the area of benefit'), without distinction of age, sex, race, political, religious or other opinion, by associating with statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare, for health, recreation, education and leisure time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

(b) In furtherance of the above objects, but not further or otherwise, the Association may:

(i) Provide or secure the provision of educational and recreational facilities within the area of benefit.

(ii) Promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys and investigations.

(iii) Organise or assist in organising meetings, lectures, classes and exhibitions, and publish or assist in publishing reports, periodicals, recordings, books or other documents or information.

(iv) Seek through contact with relevant agencies and voluntary groups to environmentally improve the area of benefit.

(iv) Do all other such lawful things as may be necessary for the attainment of the above aims and objectives

(3) MEMBERSHIP

(a) The Association shall be non-political and non-sectarian in character, and shall consist of persons living within the area of benefit who are aged eighteen years or over, who subscribe to the objects of the Association

(b) Affiliated members shall be organisations interested in furthering the work of the Association, which shall be entitled to send not more than two representatives to each General Meeting of the Association. Such representatives shall not be entitled to vote.

(4) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(a) Subject as hereinafter mentioned, the policy and general management of the affairs of the Association shall be directed by a Committee of Management (hereinafter referred to as 'the committee') which shall meet not less than 6 times a year and shall consist of a maximum of 12 full members of the Association, who shall be elected in manner hereinafter appearing.

(b) Nominations from full members of the Association for membership of the Committee must be in writing, and must be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary of the Association at least 30 days before the Annual General Meeting hereinafter mentioned. Should nominations exceed vacancies, election shall be by ballot of the members of the Association present and voting at the Annual General Meeting.

(c) In addition, the Committee may co-opt up to 6 other members, who shall be full or affiliated members of the Association or a combination of both, and who shall serve until the conclusion of the next Annual General meeting after individual co-option PROVIDED THAT the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total number of members of the Committee. Co-opted members shall have the right to vote at meetings of the Committee. .

(d) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Honorary Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, who shall be the Honorary Officers of the Association, shall be full members of the Association, and shall be elected annually by and from the Committee.

(5) FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

(a) The Committee shall appoint, on such terms as to duties and remuneration as it may determine, all such staff as they may in its opinion be necessary.

(b) The Committee may appoint such sub-committees, advisory groups or working parties of its own members and other persons as it may from time to time decide as necessary for the carrying out of its work, and may determine their terms of reference, duration and composition.

(c) The quorum at a meeting of the Association shall be 20 full members, and at a meeting of the Committee shall be 6 full members of the Association or such other number as the Committee may determine from time to time.

(d) The Committee shall have the power

(i) to approve or reject applications for any class of members

(ii) to fix the amount of all subscriptions

(iii) for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member of the Association PROVIDED THAT any member (or in the case of affiliated members the representatives thereof) shall have the right to be heard by the Committee before a decision is made.

(6) CHAIRING OF MEETINGS

All meetings of the Association or of the Committee or of any of its sub-committees shall be presided over by its Chairperson failing whom its Vice-Chairperson if one has been appointed. Failing the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson those present may elect one of their number to take the Chair. The Chairperson of any meeting will have both a deliberate and a casting vote.

(7) FINANCE

(a) All monies raised by or on behalf of the Association shall be applied to further the objects of the Association and for no other purpose.

(b) The Honorary Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of the Association.

(c) The accounts shall be audited at least once a year by a qualified auditor or auditors who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

(d) An audited statement of accounts for the last financial year shall be submitted by the Committee to the Annual General Meeting.

(e) A bank account shall be opened in the name of the Association with or with such other bank as the Committee shall from time to time decide. The committee shall authorise in writing the Honorary Treasurer and 2 members of the committee to sign cheques on behalf of the Association. All cheques must be signed by not less than 2 of the 3 authorised signatories.

(8) TRUST PROPERTY

The title to all and any real and/or personal property which may be required by or for the purposes of the Association shall be vested in Trustees who shall hold such property in trust for the Association. The number of Trustees shall not be less than three or more than 6. The power to appoint new Trustees, or to terminate the appointment of existing Trustees, shall be exercised by the Committee.

(9) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The first General Meeting of the Association shall be held not later than May and once in each year thereafter. An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held at such time not being more than 15 months after the holding of the preceding Annual General Meeting and place as the Committee shall determine. At such Annual General Meeting the business shall include the election of full members to serve on the Committee, the appointment of an auditor, or auditors, the consideration of an Annual Report of the work done by or under the auspices of the Committee and of the audited accounts, and the transaction of such other matters as may from time to time be necessary.

(10) SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The Committee may at any time at its discretion and shall be signed by not less than 20 members having the power to vote and giving reasons for the request, call a Special General Meeting of the Association for the purpose of altering the constitution in accordance with Clause 12 hereof or of considering any matter which may be referred to them by the Committee or for any other purpose.

(11) ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Any alterations of this Constitution shall receive the assent of not less than two thirds of the members of the Association present and voting at a meeting specially called for the purpose PROVIDED THAT notice of any such alteration shall have been received by the Honorary Secretary in writing not less than 21 clear days before the meeting at which the alteration is to be brought forward. At least 14 clear days notice in writing of such a meeting setting forth the terms of the alteration to be proposed shall be sent by the Honorary Secretary to each member of the Association.

(12) DISSOLUTION

If the Committee by a simple majority decide at any time that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Association it shall call a meeting of all members of the Association who have the power to vote of which meeting not less than 21 days notice (stating the terms of the Resolution to be proposed thereat) shall be given. If such decisions shall be confirmed by a simple majority of those present and voting at such meeting the Committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or in the name of the Association. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of proper debts and liabilities shall be given to transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Association.