

Monmouth U3A Constitution

CONSTITUTION OF A LOCAL GROUP OF THE THIRD AGE TRUST

1 NAME

The name of the group shall be MONMOUTH U3A and it shall be constituted as an unincorporated Association.

2 OBJECTS

The objects of the Monmouth U3A is the advancement of education and, in particular, the education of older people and those who are retired from full-time work, by all means including associated activities conducive to learning and personal development.

3 MEMBERSHIP

All persons interested in supporting the objectives of the Third Age Trust shall be admitted to membership provided they agree to abide by this constitution and any conditions of membership properly imposed by the Group.

4 MANAGEMENT

4.1 The Management of the Group shall be invested in a Committee consisting of members whose duty it shall be to carry out its general policy and to provide for the administration, management and control of the affairs and property of the Group. The Committee shall consist of the following:-

- (i) at least 5 and not more than 10 persons excluding those who are co-opted;
- (ii) not more than 2 ordinary members co-opted by the Committee.

4.2 The election of members of the Committee shall be held at the Annual General Meeting of the Group. Nominations shall be in writing and delivered to the Secretary. Nominations shall close during the Annual General Meeting at a time decided and announced by the Secretary.

4.3 The members of the Committee shall elect from among their number the officers of the Group, that is the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Such elections shall take place not more than 10 days after the election of the Committee. The members of the Committee shall take office at the first meeting of the Committee after the Annual General Meeting and there shall be at least 4 committee meetings a year.

4.4 Special Committee meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman or by any two members of the Committee upon seven clear days notice being given to all the other Committee members of all the matters to be discussed.

4.5 At Committee meetings matters shall be decided by a simple majority of votes of Committee members present. In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

The quorum for any Committee meeting shall be 3 or one third of the Committee whichever is the greater.

4.6 The proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated by any defect in the appointment, election or co-option of any Committee member.

4.7 Any casual vacancy in the Committee may be filled by a member appointed by the Committee.

4.8 The members of the Committee (including members co-opted by the Committee and any members appointed by the committee to fill vacancies) shall hold office until the first meeting of the Committee after the next Annual General Meeting.

4.9 Committee members shall only remain on the Committee for a maximum of three years. Members may be re-elected to the Committee after an interval of not less than one year. Officers shall serve for a maximum of three years from the date of their election to the post.

However, committee officers (except the chairman) can serve, if they wish and are elected to do so, for up to a maximum of six years.

No-one shall hold the office of Chairman for more than three years without an intervening period of at least one year.

4.10 The Committee may appoint sub-committees to which it may from time to time, and for such time as it determines, delegate such of its functions and powers as it thinks fit.

Sub-committees shall report back to the Committee as soon as possible on actions taken under delegated powers. No expenditure shall be incurred by any sub-committee on behalf of the Group without the prior consent of the Committee.

4.11 The Secretary shall keep minutes of the Committee Meetings.

5 MEETINGS

5.1 The financial year of the Group shall end on the 30th June in each year to allow sufficient time for preparation and independent inspection of the accounts prior to the Annual General meeting. The Annual General Meeting will be held before the end of

the membership year (30th September) for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report and the accounts of the Group and of electing the Committee for the ensuing year and to consider any other business as may be necessary. At least twenty one clear days notice shall be given in writing by the Secretary to the members. There shall be a quorum when one-tenth of the members or 10 members whichever is the greater are present.

- 5.2 In exceptional circumstances, the AGM may be held on-line, by email/postal means, or by a mixture of in person, on- line, email/postal. In the case of an email/ postal AGM, those who respond will be those deemed to have attended. The method(s) chosen for holding the AGM will be communicated to members as part of the notification of the AGM.
- 5.3 A Special General Meeting of the Group may be convened at any time by a resolution of the Committee or upon a requisition signed by one fifth or more of the members of the Group stating the object of the meeting. A meeting held on such requisition shall be called by the Secretary of the Group and the Secretary shall give to the other members fourteen days notice of such a meeting. There shall be a quorum when 5 members are present.
- 5.4 The Chairman of the Group shall be Chairman of any Committee or general meeting at which he is present. In his absence the Committee shall elect a Chairman. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 5.5 Accidental omission to give notice to any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of any general meeting.

6 FINANCE

- 6.1 All the income and property of the local group shall be applied solely towards the objects of the Group and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred in any way to any committee member of the Group provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the Group (other than a committee member) and repayment of out-of pocket expenses to members or committee members incurred in the course of the work of the group.
- 6.2 The Group shall have the power to collect and accept donations and to issue appeals for donations and to raise money by bequests or otherwise. Any money raised or received may be retained by the Group and used at the discretion of the

Committee of the Group. No form of permanent trading shall be undertaken in the raising of funds.

- 6.3 The Committee may appoint employees not being members of the Committee as may from time to time be found necessary for carrying out the work of the group and may fix their duties and remunerations.
- 6.4 All proper costs, charges and expenses incidental to the management of the Group may be defrayed out of the funds of the Group.
- 6.5 The Treasurer shall keep accounts of all monies received and expended on account of the Group and shall present such accounts at its Annual General Meeting.
- 6.6 No committee member shall be chargeable or responsible for loss caused by any thing or act done or omitted to be done by him or any agent employed by him or by any other Committee member thereof although the employment of such agent was strictly not necessary or expedient or by any reason of any mistake or omission made in good faith by any committee member hereof or by reason of any other matter or thing other than wilful and individual and fraud or wrongdoing on the part of the Committee member who is sought to be made liable.

7 POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

All matters not provided for in this constitution relating to the Group and not involving an amendment to this constitution may be dealt with by the Committee.

8 ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The provisions of this constitution other than clauses 2 and 9 and this clause may be amended with the assent of not less than two thirds of the members of the Group present and voting at a General Meeting of the Group. 21 clear days notice should be given to the Group stating the intention to put forward such a resolution. No amendment shall be made which would cause the Group to cease to be a charity.

9 DISSOLUTION

The Group may at any time be dissolved by a resolution passed by a three quarters majority of those present and voting at a meeting of the Group of which at least twenty one clear days notice stating the intention to put forward such a resolution shall have sent to all members of the Group. If any assets remain after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, such property held by or in the name of the Group shall be

transferred to such charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the Group as the Group shall decide.

This Constitution was amended (addition of paragraph 5.2) as the governing document of the Monmouth U3A at the AGM in September 2021.