



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE WALDESLADE WOODLANDS GROUP (WWG)

1. The Name of The Group

The name of the Group shall be 'The Walderslade Woodlands Group', hereafter referred to as the Group, or WWG.

2. Mission

To protect and maintain the essential character of the woodlands and enhance the area as habitat for appropriate flora and fauna.

To encourage community responsibility for them and ensure that they may be fully enjoyed and utilised safely by present and future generations.

3. Area

The area covered Village Green registration (VG)266.

4. Aims

The aims of the Group are to:

- a. conserve wildlife, trees and plants.
- b. promote, develop and encourage the use of the woods for appropriate recreational and educational purposes.
- c. improve security and safety for all visitors.
- d. reduce litter and vandalism.
- e. encourage community involvement in the management and maintenance of the woods.
- f. document and, when appropriate, publicise information about the flora and fauna, the rights of way and footpaths within the woodlands and plateaux.
- g. deter the use of public rights of way for unauthorised mechanical powered vehicles.

5. Achievement of Aims

To fulfil these aims, the Group will undertake conservation work. Other activities in furtherance of the aims shall also be undertaken from time to time as the members see fit. All activities undertaken by, or in the name of the Group will be approved at one of the regular Members' Meetings and when appropriate, after consultation or liaison with specialist or other organisations. No conservation work will be carried out without the authorisation of a person or organisation with the legal authority to grant it.

6. Membership

Membership shall be open to anyone who shares the aims of the Group, and is interested in taking an active part in its work. A person may become a member by registering their name and address with the Secretary of the Group. New members shall acquire voting rights at all Members' Meetings one month after becoming a member.

7. Characteristics of the Group

The Group shall be non-profit making, self-governing and have no political, commercial or religious affiliations.

8. Officers

- a. Officers shall be appointed as they are required, to conduct the administration of the Group. They will include a Chairperson, a Secretary and Treasurer, appointed by a simple majority vote at any Members' Meeting.
- b. All officers will serve for a period of one year, which is renewable by a simple majority vote at the Group's Annual General Meeting (AGM). These officers shall be in charge of the day-to-day running of the Group, but shall be answerable to Members' Meetings.

9. Members' Meetings

- a. The Group shall hold regular meetings (at least quarterly) for the purpose of discussing and taking decisions on current and future work, and other matters affecting the Group. All members shall be entitled to attend and meetings will be fully publicised.
- b. The Group shall hold an AGM as close as possible to September. All members shall be entitled to attend and meetings will be fully publicised.
- c. A quorum for all meetings shall be a minimum of six members.
- d. All decisions, except changes to the constitution, shall be taken on the basis of a simple majority vote amongst the attending members.
- e. Changes to the constitution will require a two-thirds majority of attending members.
- f. The Chairperson shall not vote except in the event of a tied vote, when he/she may cast a deciding vote.

10. Expenditure and Accounts

The Group's accounts shall be submitted to annual audit by a person nominated at the first quarterly meeting after April.

11. Insurance

The Group shall maintain adequate insurance for volunteers on its Task Days and other pre-arranged activities and for injuries to third parties and damages to property unless it has documented assurances from an outside body that this is already in place.

12. Dissolution

If the organisation shall, by general consent of its members, cease to exist, any assets shall be given or transferred to some other group or groups having aims similar to those of this Group. Furthermore, the Constitution of such a group must have similar restrictions on distribution of property in the event of their own dissolution. If that cannot be done, then distribution may be made to some charitable object. If practical, the beneficiaries shall be decided at a Members' Meeting convened for that purpose.