

# GREENCASTLE AREA RESIDENTS GROUP

## CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the Group shall be Greencastle Area Residents Group (hereafter referred to as 'the Group').
2. **The objects of the Group shall be:**
  - (i) To promote the benefits of the inhabitants of the Area of Greencastle with particular regard to the conservation of the rural environment and character of the Area, with the object of improving the quality of life for all the residents.
  - (ii) To preserve the built and natural heritage of the Area.
  - (iii) To oppose anything that would have a detrimental effect on the Area.
  - (iv) To effect these activities without distinction on a cross community and non-political basis.
3. **Membership.**
  - (i) Membership of the Group shall be open to the following, without distinction of sex, creed, politics or race.
    - (a) **Individual Membership**

Membership shall be open to all the residents, property owners and land owners of Greencastle who support the objects of the Group as stated above. Greencastle is defined as the Greencastle Pier Road and the Fair Road. Such members shall be called Individual Members and shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the group.
    - (b) **Associate Membership**

Residents and land owners of the adjoining townlands who support the objects of the group may upon application to and with the approval of the Committee be admitted as Associate Members and such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Associate Members shall have the right to vote at meetings of the group.
    - (c) **Affiliate Membership**

Organisations, well-wishers anywhere or persons who support the objects of the Group may upon application to and with the approval of the Committee be admitted as Affiliated Members. Affiliated members shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the group.
  - (ii) All voting members must be at least 16 years of age.
  - (iii) You are only entitled to be enrolled in one membership category
  - (iv) In case of a vote, a member is only entitled to one vote, apart from the Chairperson who shall have the casting vote in addition to his/her original vote in the case of a tie in votes.
  - (v) A member may at any time, by giving notice in writing to the Secretary, resign their membership of the Group
  - (vi) The Committee shall fix the rate of annual subscription appropriate to each category of membership and shall have the right for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Group before a decision is made.
4. **Officers and Committee.**
  - (i) The business of the Group shall be conducted by a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, and other members of the Committee elected annually at a meeting convened for this purpose.
  - (ii) Associate members sitting on the committee shall not exceed 1/3 of the total on the Committee.
  - (iii) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt up to three members to act as members of the Committee.
  - (iv) The Committee shall have the power to enlist the services of any person who will be of benefit to the Group for any specific purpose. Such persons will not thereby become members of the Group.
  - (v) Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

## **5. Finance**

- (i) The funds of the Group shall be obtained through members' subscriptions and by means of any other fundraising activities as the Group may deem acceptable or necessary.
- (ii) The funds shall be lodged in a bank approved by the Committee.
- (iii) The Treasurer will be responsible for managing the financial affairs of the Group.
- (iv) The annual statement of accounts must be produced at the Annual General Meeting, properly audited by auditors elected at the AGM who shall not be a member of the Group.
- (v) The Group shall authorise in writing the Treasurer and two members of the Committee to sign cheques on behalf of the Group. All cheques must be signed by not less than 2 of the 3 authorised signatories.

## **6. General Meeting:**

**6.1.** The Annual General Meeting will be held at such time, and date as the Management Committee shall determine, provided that the interval between one AGM and the next shall not exceed 15 calendar months, and that 21 clear days notice in writing of the meeting shall have been sent to all members of the Group.

**6.2.** The Annual General Meeting will transact the following business:

- (1) Minutes of previous AGM.
- (2) Consideration of the Annual Report prepared by the Committee.
- (3) Consideration of the Annual Audited Statement of Accounts.
- (4) Election of Honorary Officers and Management Committee.
- (5) Any other Business.

### **6.3. Special General Meeting**

The Committee may at any time at its discretion, and shall within 21 days of receiving a written request signed by not less than 6 members having the power to vote and giving reasons for the request, call a Special General Meeting of the Group for the purpose of altering the Constitution or of considering any matter which may be referred to them by the Committee or for any other purpose.

## **7. Amendments to the Constitution**

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed at the AGM. Any such proposal to alter or amend this Constitution must be delivered to the Secretary of the Group not less than 14 days before the date of the meeting at which they are first to be considered. Any alteration or amendment will require the approval of a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

## **8. Dissolution.**

If the Committee, by a simple majority, decide at any time that it is necessary to dissolve the Group they shall call a meeting of all members of the Group 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. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Group as the Committee may decide.