



Benson Area Nature Group
Restoring our nature

BENSON AREA NATURE GROUP

Constitution

1. NAME

The organisation shall be called the BENSON AREA NATURE GROUP hereinafter referred to as “BANG” or “the organisation”. BANG is the successor to Benson Nature Group.

2. AIMS

To support the recovery of nature in our area by:-

- acting to conserve and enhance the quality of our green network for wildlife including advising others and undertaking projects -
 - our green network includes green spaces, both public and private, and the connections between them. Recovering nature is everyone’s business.
- inspiring and promoting people’s engagement with nature in our area through communications, events and projects -
 - this brings individual and community well-being benefits and inspires people to support our mission and act themselves.
- promoting citizen science in our area, building on 25 years of baseline data -
 - we undertake and encourage recording to understand and monitor changes in the state of nature and the quality of the environment in our area to track trends and to inform decisions.

3. POWERS

The organisation shall have the power to

- Raise funds and receive contributions
- Buy, or lease, property and manage it appropriately.
- Sell, lease or dispose of property.
- Do other lawful things needed to achieve the aims listed above.

4. MANAGEMENT

The organisation shall be managed by a committee consisting of an elected chairman, together with a treasurer and at least one other member agreed by the organisation. Other members of the committee can be co-opted by the elected members.

5. MEMBERSHIP

- Shall be open to any person who is interested in furthering the aims of BANG.
- Members may be required to pay a subscription agreed by the members.
- All paid up members will have a voting right.

6. MEETINGS

- Shall be held monthly or at intervals agreed by the membership.
- An Annual General Meeting shall be called once a year in November or December

- All members shall be notified in writing of the place, date and time of the meeting at least 14 days in advance of the date of the meeting.
- Sub-committees may be set up for the efficient running of the organisation.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- This meeting shall elect a Chairman.
- This meeting shall elect a Secretary and Treasurer, who may be the same person.
- In the event that the Secretary and the Treasurer is the same person a third member shall be elected.
- The Chairman and Secretary shall be ex-officio members of any sub-committee.
- A President may be nominated.
- The Secretary shall record and keep all minutes and records of voting.
- A quorum shall consist of one third, or ten in number, of paid up members, whichever is the lesser.

8. SPECIAL OR EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Special or Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened by the Secretary upon the request of the Committee or three members of the organisation upon similar notice which shall state the business to be conducted at the Meeting.

9. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

- The Treasurer shall record all monies received and payments made.
- All money raised or received by the organisation shall be used for the furtherance of BANG's aims.
- An annual statement of accounts shall be prepared and approved by members at the annual general meeting.
- The organisation's financial year shall commence on 1 December.
- All cheques shall be signed by the treasurer or one other designated signatory.
- Any property held shall be in the name of BANG.

10. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- The constitution may be altered only by a vote of two thirds of the members present at an annual meeting or a special meeting of members held for the purpose.
- A proposal for alteration of the constitution must be submitted in writing to the secretary and circulated to all members at least fourteen days before the meeting.

11. DISSOLUTION

- The organisation may be dissolved by a resolution of two thirds of members present at a meeting called for that purpose. Twenty-one days' notice of such a meeting shall be given to all members.
- Any assets remaining, after all debts and liabilities have been paid, may be transferred to any organisation having similar aims.

END

6th May 2024