

Newquay Marine Group Constitution

1. Name

The name shall be Newquay Marine Group ('The Group')

2. Objectives

2.1 To unite community stakeholders in a seaside town to work together for positive social change.

2.2 To promote the Ecology, history and heritage and all associated assets of the marine and coastal areas of Newquay and its surrounding areas.

2.3 To promote the sustainable fishery of Newquay Harbour by working with and talking to the fishermen and by using the brand 'Newquay Crab' to engage with locals and visitors.

2.4 To improve and expand the education and interpretation opportunities around Newquay and its surrounding areas to promote the history and biodiversity of the place and to foster civic pride.

2.5 To ensure communication and collaboration between the various action groups and to help collate and disseminate all relevant information.

2.6 To combine task forces that already exist and to identify and fill a need for what is missing

2.7 To work on a Local Management Plan for the area which would include (but would not be restricted to) a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) planning and research.

2.8 To work and engage with all stakeholders in Newquay and its surrounding areas including community groups, volunteers, schools, business sectors and tourists.

3. Scope

The Group will arrange marine, beach and related events, give talks and tours, issue publications and undertake any such activity to achieve the above Objectives.

4. Organisation.

4.1 The group will be managed by a Management Committee comprising a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and up to four further members

4.2 Meetings shall be arranged when necessary and key points minuted. Minutes shall be made available to all Members. Members are entitled to attend any Meeting.

4.3 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held within one month of each year end, the yearend shall be 31st March. Notice of such meeting, together with an Agenda, shall be advised to Members, not later than one month prior to the date of each Meeting.

4.4 The Management Committee shall be responsible for the general and financial management of the Group in furtherance of the Objectives.

4.5 The Officers shall be subject to election every two years, the other Management Committee Members every year. All elections shall be made at the AGM. In the event of any vacancy elections shall be held as early as possible.

4. Membership

5.1 Membership shall be open to the Public and, in particular, anyone interested in the Marine Environment.

In addition, any other bodies, business, companies or other organisations can be Corporate Members.

5.2 Members will be entitled to attend meetings, receive minutes, access the website and has one vote at the AGM or any Extraordinary General Meeting so required.

5.3 The membership levels and applicable annual subscription shall be determined by the Management Committee at its first meeting and subsequently agreed at the relevant AGM.

5.4 Annual subscription shall be payable on joining and thereafter no later than one week following the AGM. Any Member who fails to make such payment will be considered to have resigned their membership.

6. Powers

The Management Committee shall have the powers, solely in the furtherance of the Group's Objectives:

6.1 To raise funds and invite donations, sponsorships and contributions. All such funds shall be received solely and only in furtherance of the objectives.

6.2 To maintain bank and other Accounts, taken out in the name of the Group.

6.3 To borrow money as necessary

6.4 To lease property, acquire assets and take on, or pay for, any necessary commitments.

6.5 To employ staff and recruit volunteers

6.6 To liaise, engage and cooperate with any other organisation or group with similar objectives.

6.7 To expel or cancel the membership of any Member who has acted against the Group's Objectives or who has brought the Group standing and position into disrepute.

6.8 To undertake any such action as deemed fit and in accordance with the Objectives.

7. Finance

7.1 The Group shall keep appropriate and accurate financial records as determined by the Treasurer and agreed by the Management Committee.

7.2 All funds shall be applied in the furtherance of the Objectives only, and as considered appropriate by the Management Committee.

7.3 Members, with the prior agreement of the Management Committee, shall be entitled to receive reasonable out of pocket expenses. It is expressly understood that Members travelling to Events arranged by the Group do so at their own expense.

7.4 The Treasurer shall submit an annual income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet at each AGM. Such Accounts shall be verified and certified by an Independent Examiner who may be a Member.

7.5 Any cheques or disbursements must be signed by any two Committee Members

8. Procedures at Meetings

8.1 Formal meetings of the Management Committee shall be held four times a year, notice to hold such meetings, together with the agenda, to be issued a minimum of

21 days in advance.

8.2 The Chair will act as chairman for each meeting: If absent, the Management Committee shall agree a replacement to act as chairman.

8.3 Every meeting shall require a quorum of three persons.

8.4 Every matter shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members of the Management Committee, each member having one vote. In event of any tie the chairman's vote is decisive.

8.5 Every such matter shall be minuted. Minutes shall remain the property of the group.

8.6 The Management Committee may appoint any sub-committees or make any other arrangements or take decisions, in furtherance of the Objectives, as they see fit.

8.7 In the event of any planned changes to the Constitution or otherwise, if required because the matter is important, the Management Committee may call an Extraordinary General Meeting at any time. Otherwise, if a quarter or more of the Members so request, the Secretary shall call such a meeting. In every instance at least 21 days' notice, including the business to be discussed, must be given.

8.8 The Secretary or any other person so nominated by the Management Committee shall keep a full record at every meeting including the Annual or any Extraordinary General Meeting.

8.9 There shall be a quorum of at least 3 members of the Management Committee at any and every meeting.

8.10 Any resolution requires the agreement of three quarters of Members present at general meetings.

8.11

Only Members attending general meetings may vote at that meeting.

9. Adoption

This Constitution was adopted on **1st October 2012**.