



## Manx Footpaths Conservation Group Constitution 2026

1. The name of the Group shall be: **Manx Footpaths Conservation Group**

2. **The Objectives** of the Group shall be:

To foster and encourage walking for recreation and pleasure on footpaths, tracks, rights of way, mountains, and open lands and to do all such things that are necessary to protect, maintain, promote, and enhance these objectives by any legal means. To pressurise Government Bodies to carry out maintenance promptly according to their obligations and to liaise with landowners to encourage the opening of new footpaths. To produce walking literature for sale in furtherance of these objects.

3. **Management**

- A) The groups financial year shall run from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December.
- B) The affairs of the group shall be managed by an Executive Committee comprising a Chairman, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, Data Protection Officer and up to four other members. Should a vacancy occur during the year it may be filled by the Executive Committee co-opting another person onto the committee for the remaining period until the next Annual General Meeting
- C) All Executive Committee members shall be entitled to vote at Committee meetings.
- D) The Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of up to 3 years at the Annual General Meeting with all Officials and Members being eligible for re-election.
- E) A President and/or Vice-President as necessary shall be elected at the Annual General Meetings.
- F) The Executive Committee shall meet as often as necessary but not less than once in each quarter of the financial year.
- G) The presence of five members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for that meeting. The Chairman of any meeting shall have a casting vote which shall be used to preserve the status quo where applicable.
- H) The secretary will maintain a written record in the form of minutes of all business transacted at meetings and at the next successive meeting those minutes shall be signed by the Chairman after agreement by those members present at the subject meeting.
- I) The Treasurer will collect all monies and will maintain a record of all the financial transactions of the Group, together with any supporting records and documentation relevant to such transactions. At the end of each financial year, he/she will prepare accounts showing the income and expenditure of the Group during the financial year, and a balance sheet showing the assets and liabilities of the Group as at the financial year end.
- J) Two members of the Executive Committee nominated by the bank i.e. Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary, shall authorise the disbursement of the Group's funds.
- K) The Group's book of Account and Supporting records shall be Audited at the end of each financial year by the Auditor or independent financial examiner appointed at the preceding Annual General Meeting. The Auditor or independent financial examiner shall prepare an Auditor's or independent financial examiner's report which will be presented, with the accounts and balance sheet, at the Annual General Meeting.

4. **Membership**

- A) Membership shall be open to all, irrespective of race or nationality, on payment of the annual subscription.
- B) The annual subscription shall be renewable on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January.
- C) A candidate for membership shall apply by completing the online application form on the 'Join us' page of the website [manxfootpaths.org](http://manxfootpaths.org)
- D) The Executive Committee shall have no liability to the Membership all of whom join and participate at events at their own risk.
- E) The Executive Committee shall have the power to refuse a membership application without giving any reason for such decision.

- F) The Executive Committee shall have the right to suspend or exclude any member who is deemed to have behaved in a manner liable to have damaged the reputation of the Group, or to have persistently pursued action or actions at odds with the aims and smooth running of the Group.
- G) To update the membership list by the 31<sup>st</sup> January each year and remove those not wishing to renew their membership in a more timely manner. This allows a full month for membership subscriptions to be renewed.

#### **5. General Meetings of Members**

- A) An Annual General Meeting shall be held in March of each calendar year.
- B) Notice convening the Annual General Meeting, together with the Audited or Independent Financial Examiner accounts as mentioned in 3(k) above. Nominations for election to the Executive Committee, Resolutions from Members etc, and an Agenda detailing the business to be transacted shall be sent to all members not less than twenty-one days clear before the date of the meeting.
- C) Vacant committee positions are open to all paid up members for election or re-election.
- D) Candidates for election to the Executive Committee shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another.
- E) Resolutions shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another.
- F) All members who are present at the Annual General Meeting and whose subscription is not in arrears, as confirmed by the Treasurer whose decision shall be final, shall be entitled to vote on all business transacted at the Annual General Meeting.
- G) The following business will be transacted at the Annual General Meeting:
  - 1) To Receive Apologies
  - 2) To Approve the previous year's Annual General Meeting minutes
  - 3) To receive the Chairman's Report
  - 4) To receive the Treasurers Report.
  - 5) To Receive and approve the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the previous financial year.
  - 6) To appoint the Auditor or Independent Financial Examiner for the ensuing year.
  - 7) To receive the Membership Secretary's Report.
  - 8) To fix the Annual Subscription payable from 1<sup>st</sup> January next.
  - 9) To appoint the President and/or Vice President for the ensuing year.
  - 10) To elect the Executive Committee.

No business other than that promulgated in the Notice of Meeting shall be voted upon.

- H) Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened at any time following a request delivered to the Secretary and signed by at least 10 paid up members stating the object and purpose of the Meeting. Any request received by the Secretary shall be notified to all the members within forty-two days of the request giving a minimum of twenty-one clear days' notice. If the Executive Committee or Secretary fails to comply, the requisitionists shall have the power to proceed and convene the meeting.

#### **6. Termination of the Group**

- A) If in the opinion of the members and/or Executive Committee it shall be desirable or necessary to wind up the Group this can only be considered at an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- B) Any resolution to wind up the group will include a direction as to the disposal of the Group's Assets.

#### **7. Amendments to this Constitution**

- A) No amendments to this Constitution shall be made other than at a properly called and convened Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of Members.
- B) Any such amendments must be passed by a majority of two thirds of the voting members.

The End

(Approved at AGM March 2026)