

**1. Name**

- 1.1. The Name of the Group is The Frieze Hill Community Orchard.

**2. Aims:-** The aims of the Frieze Hill Community Orchard are:

- 2.1. To create and sustain a community orchard at Frieze Hill on the site adjacent to Turner's Allotments.
- 2.2. To increase, improve and develop the community orchard for the benefit of local residents and the wider Taunton community;
- 2.3. To respect and respond to local environmental issues in the development and management of the community orchard;
- 2.4. To enable the local community to participate in the development and management of the community orchard;
- 2.5. To consult with the local community over the development and future of the community orchard, ensuring that all sections of the community have opportunity to have a say in determining its future development;
- 2.6. To use, develop and increase the skills of local people in the development and management of the community orchard;
- 2.7. To raise public awareness of the activities of the Frieze Hill Community Orchard.
- 2.8. To encourage other Local organisations and businesses to support the aims and activities of the Frieze Hill Community orchard

**3. Powers**

- 3.1. The Frieze Hill Community Orchard undertakes whatever activities are required to achieve its aims, including holding meetings, fundraising, setting up and managing bank accounts, producing leaflets and newsletters, holding events, consulting and raising membership subscriptions.
- 3.2. The Management Committee shall decide further powers as necessary.

**4. Membership**

- 4.1. Membership of the Group is open to all local residents who are supportive of the aims of the Group.
- 4.2. Frieze Hill Community Orchard believes in equal opportunity of membership and involvement in the Group and will not discriminate between members and applicants for membership because of their gender, age, ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, political affiliation, disability or mental health.

**5. Management Committee**

- 5.1. The Management Committee consists of:
- 5.1.1. Officers - a Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer; and
- 5.1.2. Up to 6 other members of the Frieze Hill Community Orchard.
- 5.2. 5 members of the Management Committee must be present at any meeting for it to be quorate.
- 5.3. The Management Committee has the power to co-opt additional members as required.
- 5.4. The Management Committee is elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.5. The officers of the Management Committee are elected by the Management Committee at their first meeting following each Annual General Meeting.

- 5.6. Voting is by a show of hands with a simply majority to decide. In the event of a tied vote that cannot be changed through discussion, the Chairperson has a second and casting vote.
- 5.7. The secretary keeps a record of all meetings to be written up and circulated as required.
- 5.8. The Management Committee meets at least four times per year with additional meetings as and when required.
- 5.9. The Secretary notifies all Management Committee members of forthcoming meetings, giving adequate notice to minimise non-attendance.

## **6. Annual general Meeting**

- 6.1. An Annual General Meeting is held every year. 21 days' notice is given of the intention to hold an Annual General Meeting. No more than 15 months elapses between Annual General Meetings.
- 6.2. The Management Committee may call other general meetings as required.
- 6.3. At the AGM, the following business is conducted:
  - 6.3.1. Report from the Management Committee on the work and achievements of the Group;
  - 6.3.2. Election of the Management Committee;
  - 6.3.3. Appointment of auditors;
  - 6.3.4. Report from the Treasurer on the financial affairs of the group and receipt and approval of audited accounts for the financial year.

## **7. Finance**

- 7.1. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping proper account of all monies and reports on financial matters to each meeting of the Management Committee and membership in Annual General Meeting. Management accounts are produced at each meeting.
- 7.2. All bank accounts opened in the name of the Group have three signatories who are the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. Any payments from accounts require two of three signatories.
- 7.3. Once a year, the external auditors submit an audited statement of accounts for the last financial year. The financial year runs from 1 January to 31 December.
- 7.4. All monies received by or on behalf of the Group are applied to further the aims of the Group and for no other purpose.

## **8. Alterations to this Constitution**

- 8.1. This Constitution may be rescinded or amended at any general meeting by a simple majority provided such an amendment has been circulated to all members at least 21 days beforehand.

## **9. Dissolution**

- 9.1. The Group may at any time be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two thirds majority at any general meeting provided that at least 21 days notice stating this intention has been sent to all members. All monies remaining shall be given or transferred to a group with similar aims and objectives, to be agreed at the meeting where a resolution for dissolution of the Group is approved.