

CONSTITUTION



1. NAME

The charity's name is: Village of Linton Trust (VoLT)

2. THE PURPOSES OF THE CHARITY ARE:

- The primary purpose of the Village of Linton Trust (VoLT) is to provide financial and practical assistance to help conserve and maintain Linton church building and its grounds.
- In addition, VoLT will seek to help maintain the heritage and appearance of Linton village in ways that are compatible with the primary purpose.
- The charity (VoLT) will achieve its purpose by building a capital fund over the long term and by managing and administering funds in response to received requests.

3. TRUSTEES

The trust shall be managed by a committee of trustees who are appointed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), of the charity.

4. CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSES

In order to carry out the charitable purposes, the trustees have the power to:

- 1) raise funds, apply for and receive grants and donations and collect annual subscriptions (see Membership below) with the aim of building a capital reserve over the long term
- 2) apply funds to carry out the work of the charity;
- 3) ensure that all projects meet the requirements of all statutory obligations;
- 4) co-operate with and support other charities with similar purposes;
- 5) do anything which is lawful and necessary to achieve the purposes;
- 6) seek guidance from the PCC or another party.

5. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the charity (VoLT) is open to anyone over the age of 16 who is interested in helping the group achieve to its aims. Once accepted by the trustees, each membership lasts for one year and is subject to an annual membership fee. All members must abide by the rules of the

group. Membership must be renewed on an annual basis to remain current and trustees will maintain an up-to-date membership list. Donations above the minimum subscription will be welcomed. All fee-paying members have full voting rights at the AGM. Members under the age of 16 are welcome to join the group but will not have voting rights. Members under the age of 16 will not be required to pay membership fees.

The trustees may suggest the cancellation of a person's membership if they believe it is in the best interests of the charity. The member has the right to be heard by the trustees before any decision is made.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – AGM

Requirements of the annual general meeting are:

- 1) the AGM must be held every year, with 28 days' notice given to all members telling them what is on the agenda and encouraging them to attend;
- 2) minutes must be kept of the AGM;
- 3) there must be at least 4 trustees present at the AGM;
- 4) every fee-paying member has one vote;
- 5) the trustees shall present the annual report and accounts;
- 6) any member may stand for election as a trustee;
- 7) members shall elect between 4 and 10 trustees to serve for the next year (and potentially stand for re-election at the next AGM);
- 8) trustees will invite a member of the PCC who acts as a regular PCC/ VoLT liaison officer;
- 9) trustees will invite a representative of the Village Hall Committee.

7. TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Requirements of the trustee meetings are:

- 1) trustees must hold at least 3 meetings each year;
- 2) at their first meeting after the AGM they will elect a chair, treasurer and secretary;
- 3) trustees may act by majority decision;
- 4) at least 3 trustees must be present at the meeting to be able to take decisions
- 5) minutes shall be kept for every meeting and distributed to all trustees via e-mail;
- 6) if trustees have a conflict of interest they must declare it and leave the meeting while the matter is being discussed or decided;
- 7) during the year, the trustees may appoint up to two additional trustees who will stand down at the next AGM;
- 8) trustees may invite a member of the PCC who acts as a regular PCC/ VoLT liaison officer;
- 9) trustees may invite a member of the Village Hall Committee;
- 10) the trustees may make reasonable additional rules to help run the charity.

N.B. These rules must not conflict with this constitution or the law.

8. MONEY AND PROPERTY

Regulations are:

- 1) money and property must only be used for the charity's purposes;
- 2) the treasurer must keep accounts and have them independently verified;
- 3) the most recent annual accounts can be seen by any member of VoLT upon request.
- 4) trustees cannot receive any money or property from the charity, except to refund reasonable out of pocket expenses or advance expenses supported by subsequent receipts;
- 5) money must be held in the charity's bank account or (in transit) by the treasurer;
- 6) all expenditure must be approved by the treasurer;
- 7) the charity and its members must take safeguarding advice and be protected by adequate insurance.

9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

- If the trustees consider it is necessary to change the constitution, or wind up the charity, they must call a General Meeting so that the membership can make the decision;
- Trustees must also call a General Meeting if they receive a written request from the majority of members;
- All members must be given 14 days' notice and told the reason for the meeting;
- All decisions require a two thirds majority of attendees;
- Meetings must be minuted, agreed and signed by three trustees.

- 1) **Winding up** – any money or property remaining after payment of debts must be given to a charity with similar purposes to this one;
- 2) **Changes to the Constitution** – can only be made at AGMs or General Meetings and no change can be made that would make the organisation no longer a charity;
- 3) **General Meeting** – called on written request from a majority of members;
- 4) **Consultation** - trustees may also call a General Meeting to consult the membership.

10. Maintaining THE CHARITY

The constitution was updated on: 2nd March 2019 by the people whose signatures appear below:

J. Arrowsmith

S. Arrowsmith

Z. Davis

C. Hodgson

J. Lancaster
J. Normanton – Erry
H. Pealing
N. Pealing
C. Smallwood
R. Smallwood