

# OIRA CONSTITUTION

## Osney Island Residents' Association Constitution

### Adopted at the 2025 Annual Meeting

1. **Name.** The Association is called the Osney Island Residents' Association ("the Association").
2. **Objectives.** The objectives of the Association are to:
  - 2.1 preserve and improve the environment and amenities of Osney Island;
  - 2.2 foster community spirit among the residents of Osney Island, respecting the diversity and equality of those residents;
  - 2.3 promote such other activities and purposes as may from time to time be determined, provided that such activities and purposes do not conflict with Objectives 2.1–2.2; and
  - 2.4 make decisions and act with integrity, honesty, objectivity and impartiality, particularly doing so without political and sectarian favour and where reasonable taking into account the interests of those who are not members.
3. **Membership.**
  - 3.1 Each resident of Osney Island over the age of 16 years is presumed to be a member, and any other person who has a business or other material presence on the island who has been proposed at, and voted as a member by, a General Meeting; save that
  - 3.2 membership is impossible where a person declares to the Secretary an unwillingness to be a member before any condition in 3.1 is met and membership ceases when a member resigns by notice to the Secretary, or is excluded on the grounds of serious misconduct by a vote at a General Meeting with two thirds in favour.
4. **General Meeting:** at least one General Meeting of the Association must be held each calendar year for the committee to present its annual Report, approve Minutes of General Meetings, present a Statute of its Accounts and Balance Sheet, and to elect its officers and members of the Committee:
  - 4.1 the time and place of a General Meeting must be fixed by Committee, and at least 14 days' notice given;
  - 4.2 the agenda for the General Meeting is set by the committee, and at least 7 days' notice given; the committee must include on the agenda a motion received by the secretary at least 10 days before any General Meeting,

specifying the name of the proposer and at least four other members of the Association;

4.3 in addition to the General Meeting to be held annually, a Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a written request to the Secretary, with the support of at least 15 members; in which case the Committee must hold a General Meeting within 31 days of the receipt of the request by the Secretary; the request must specify the motion or motions for discussion; and

4.4 if Annual General Meeting cannot be held, or cannot carry out business, for any reason, the Committee must use all reasonable efforts to schedule one as soon as is practicable, remaining in office until the meeting has been held.

## **5. Notice of Island Business:**

5.1 notice for the purposes of the General Meeting must be given in writing, on the Island's noticeboard, and by at least one other form of communication, including but not limited to an email or newsletter;

5.2 notice for any other purposes can be satisfied by notification by writing, including email, by affixing a message to the Island's noticeboard, through the Island's newsletter or by any other means the Committee decide appropriate.

**6. Decision-making.** At a General Meetings, no business may be carried out unless 20 members are present. At a Committee Meeting, no business may be carried out unless 5 members are present. Unless specified otherwise, at General Meetings and Committee Meetings, matters to be decided are decided by a simple majority vote, with the Chair of the meeting not voting other than to give a casting vote.

**7. Officers.** The Association must have a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers are elected annually at a General Meeting and may be re-elected. The Chair presides at General Meetings, and Committee meetings, unless the Chair nominates a deputy for that purpose.

**8. Committee.** The Committee is responsible for the general management of the Association.

8.1 The Committee consists of the Officers and up to 10 further members of the Association who may be given specific roles, elected annually at a General Meeting. Where an Officership or a membership is vacant, the Committee may co-opt a member to serve until the next General Meeting.

8.2 The Committee has the power to appoint sub-committees for special projects, specifying what powers are granted for that purpose.

8.3 The Committee may purchase or offer services or goods at reasonable cost, request as well as receive donations, including voluntary subscriptions, or establish or support any body and make donations, for any purpose falling within the Association's objectives. In particular, the Committee may

undertake spending to facilitate the production, design and publication of the Association's Newsletter, website, or other communication methods as determined by the Committee.

9. **Interpretation.** The interpretation of the terms of this Constitution in the first instance falls to the Committee, but that interpretation can be overturned by a motion at a General Meeting.

10. **Amendment and Repeal.** This Constitution can be amended or repealed at a General Meeting, with at least thirty members present and voting, and with at least two thirds majority in favour. If the Association ceases to exist, any assets must be used for purposes as close to the Objectives of the Society as possible.