

CONSTITUTION
KNOWLE RAMBLERS

1. NAME.

The name of the Group shall be "Knowle Ramblers" hereinafter referred to as "the Group".

2. OBJECTIVES.

To:-

- i) Provide a variety of organised walks.
- ii) Assist in keeping footpaths open for walkers.
- iii) Observe the Country Code.
- iv) Promote interest in and knowledge of all aspects of the Countryside.
- v) Provide social activities for members.

3. MEMBERSHIP.

- i) Membership shall be open to all who are interested in actively furthering the Group's objectives.
- ii) No member shall have voting rights at any meeting if his or her subscription is in arrears at the time.
- iii) Junior members shall be those aged less than 18 years at the time subscriptions are due and they shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting.
- iv) Honorary membership shall be granted at the discretion of the committee. Such members will not be required to pay a subscription but will be required to pay for any social event attended. Honorary members will retain their right to vote at any meeting.
- v) Members may invite guests to any activity of the Group. Guests shall be deemed to be Temporary Members for the duration of the activity but shall not have any voting rights. Guests may apply to join the Group at any time. Members should ensure that the number and frequency of invitations is kept within moderation. The committee may restrict the number of places available for guests.
- vi) All other visitors to any activity of the Group shall be deemed to be Temporary Members for the duration of the activity but shall not have any voting rights. A visitor may apply to join the Group after three visits.
- vi) The Committee may consider every application to join the Group and may allow or refuse membership.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Committee shall review subscriptions, fees and expenses at least annually and any changes proposed shall be approved at a special or Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions and fees shall be set to cover the cost of fuel for reconnoitring walks, Public Liability Insurance, cost of programmes, publicity, maps and all other costs related to the objectives of the Group. The fees and subscriptions may include:

- i) An Annual Membership Subscription.
- ii) A Visitor's Fee for each visit in order for the visitor or guest to be treated as a Temporary Member for the purposes of insurance. Visitors should receive a copy of the Walks Programme at their first visit. After paying three Visitor's Fees, visitors who apply to join the Group shall have the Annual Subscription waived from their first visit.
- iii) Walk Leaders may recover the cost of fuel for reconnoitring walks at the prevailing rate for expenses.
- iv) A contribution to the cost of fuel should be made to drivers who offer transport to walks

5. MEETINGS.

- i) An Annual General Meeting shall be held in October of each year to receive the Committee's report, examined accounts and to elect officers and members of the Committee.
- ii) Special general meetings of the Group shall be held at the written request of fifteen or more members whose subscriptions are fully paid up. Twenty members personally present shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Group.
- iii) The Committee shall give at least 7 days' notice to members of all meetings of the Group.

6. OFFICERS.

- i) The officers of the group shall consist of Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer; all of whom shall hold office for a maximum of 4 consecutive years, unless otherwise agreed by the post holder and the membership at the AGM.
- ii) Nominations for the election of officers shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 21 days before the Annual General Meeting. Such nominations shall be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first be obtained.
- iii) The election of officers shall be completed prior to the election of further Committee members. Nominees for election as officers or Committee members shall declare, at the Annual General Meeting at which their election is to be considered, any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Group.

7. COMMITTEE.

- i) The Committee shall be responsible for the management and administration of the Group and shall consist of the officers and three other members.
- ii) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt further members.
- iii) A quorum shall, as near as may be, comprise four members of the Committee, the Chairman to have the casting vote.
- iv) The Committee shall have the power to fill up to three casual vacancies occurring among the members between General Meeting.

8. FINANCE.

- i) All monies from membership fees or raised from other sources shall be used to support the objectives and other allied activities/expenses of the membership.

- ii) All money shall be managed by the Treasurer, who will maintain accurate records of all transactions and provide an annual statement at the AGM and interim reports at the Executive Committee meetings.
- iii) All funds shall be held in a bank account under the name "Knowle Ramblers", withdrawals being made under any two signatures from Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary, or electronically by the Treasurer by agreement of any co-signatory of the account.
- iv) Accounts will be subject to annual examination, conducted by a person, other than a committee member, nominated at the AGM.
- v) The Committee shall ensure that the membership is covered for Public Liability Insurance of at least £2,000,000 and shall review this figure at least annually and any changes shall be approved at a Special or Annual General Meeting.

9. AFFILIATION

- i) The Group may affiliate with national or local organisations sharing some or all of the Objectives set out in Clause 2.

10. NOTICES

- i) Any notices required to be given by these rules shall be deemed to be duly given, left at or sent by prepaid post, or electronic mail, addressed to the address of that member last notified to the Secretary.

11. WINDING UP

- i) The Group may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of members voting at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the Group confirmed by a simple majority of members voting at a further Special General Meeting held not less than 14 days after the previous meeting. If a motion for the dissolution of the Group is to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting this motion shall be referred to specifically when notice of the meeting is given. In the event of dissolution of the Group, the available funds of the Group shall be transferred to such one or more institutions having objectives similar or reasonably similar to those herein declared and approved by the meeting of the Group at which the decision to dissolve is confirmed.