

CONSTITUTION OF THE BARKING REACH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

1.0 The Association shall be called the Barking Reach Residents' Association ('the Association').

1.1 Residents of all dwellings of the Barking Riverside estate, either in occupation or to be built, shall be eligible for membership. Further, the Association is bounded to the north west by Thames Road. It includes dwellings on the following roads: Crossness Road, Galleons Drive and Marine Drive, with all adjoining roads. On the east, Fielders Crescent, Northgate Road and to the east of Northgate Road, Choats Road, and all adjoining roads to the south of Choats Road will mark the boundary to the north east.

2.0 Objectives

The objectives of the Association are:

2.1 to represent the residents on the Barking Reach, including Barking Riverside on matters of common interest; to safeguard and promote the interests of the residents;

2.2 to consult with the lessor/tenant and/or its managing agent;

2.3 to preserve and improve, where required, the amenities enjoyed by residents;

2.4 for the purpose of aforesaid, to employ solicitors, counsel, surveyors, engineers, accountants and other professional or qualified persons to advise the Association;

2.5 to do such other things, ancillary to the preceding objects, as may seem desirable to the Association.

3.0 Members

3.1 Any resident may, upon application, become a full member. Only one vote per flat/house will be given in the case of joint leaseholders or tenancy. In the case of a recorded vote, one vote per leasehold is to be taken. A company that resides in a flat/house shall be eligible for membership with a single vote.

3.2 The committee may admit any other person as an honorary member (such as an honorary speaker, etc.).

3.3 In the rules, the word "Member" shall, unless the context otherwise requires, mean a full member. Honorary members shall have neither rights nor obligations, except they shall have the right to attend and speak (but not vote) at any general meeting of the association.

4.0 Committee

4.1 The committee shall consist of not less than 3 members who shall be elected by the remaining members of the Association. At each annual general meeting (AGM), all committee members shall resign but shall be deemed to be re-elected (if willing to act) in the absence of other nominees.

4.2 No person shall be nominated for membership of the committee unless at least 7 days prior to the annual general meeting, except that nominations may be taken from the floor of a meeting at the discretion of the chair. Written notice of nominations shall be given to the secretary, save that existing members of the committee shall be deemed to be duly nominated.

5.0 Officers

5.1 The AGM shall elect a chairperson (who shall be chairperson of the Association and remain such until a new one shall be elected), a vice chair, a secretary, an assistant secretary and a treasurer.

5.2 The chair, vice chair, secretary, assistant secretary and treasurer, as elected at the close of each AGM, are to be named in this constitution.

5.3 The secretary shall keep and make available for inspection whenever requested to do so by a member:

5.3.1 A record of the business transacted at the AGM and other meetings of the association;

5.3.2 Copies of all written and notes of all oral communications with the landlord and/or agent and any replies received.

5.4 The Association, in a general meeting, shall appoint two members (not being members of the committee) to act as auditors.

6.0 Equal Opportunity Statement

6.1 The Association opposes discrimination. Groups which experience discrimination include black and minority ethnic people, disabled people, women, LGBTQ+ people, religious groups, young people, older people and the unemployed, among others.

6.2 The Association is committed to placing equal opportunities at the core of all its practices, in the formulation of policies and in its relations with all people who come into contact with the Association.

6.3 The Association will promote equality of opportunity to the members and the wider community it serves.

6.4 The Association will comply with all statutory requirements where they apply, including the Equality Act 2010.

6.5 The Association agrees with and supports the equality and diversity policies of the housing associations on the estate.

6.6 The Association will act as an advocate for vulnerable or marginalised residents to ensure that they have a voice.

7.0 Meetings

7.1 All-member meetings shall be held regularly, with two weeks' notice given electronically or otherwise to each member.

7.2 An AGM shall be held each year after the financial year ends, which is the end of March. The meeting will be held preferably in April or May, but no later than October. Furthermore, 14 days' notice in writing shall be given to members electronically or otherwise. A report shall be given at the AGM by the chair, secretary and/or treasurer, indicating the Association's work over the past year.

7.3 Special general meetings shall be called on the requirement of the committee or of at least 20 members. At least 21 days' notice of it shall be given to members electronically or otherwise. The notice shall indicate in general terms the principal business to be considered at the meeting.

7.4 At the AGM of the Association, or at any special general meeting, 15 members present shall constitute a quorum.

7.5 Seven days' notice in writing must be given to the secretary of any resolution to be moved at any meeting unless such resolution is admitted by the chair at the meeting.

7.6 A notice containing all resolutions and nominations to be moved, with the

names of those proposing and seconding each resolution or nomination, shall be kept by the secretary and be available for inspection by any member for seven days before any meeting.

7.7 All members shall have the right (subject to the control of the chairperson) to speak at any meeting.

7.8 All members shall have the right to vote on any resolution before any meeting.

7.9 The first item of the agenda will be to decide the agenda. Any member entitled to vote may demand that the vote should now be put, and a poll of votes shall be taken forthwith, notwithstanding that there shall be "Any Other Business" on the agenda at the end of agenda items, for the normal transaction of items outside the meeting agenda.

7.10 In the event of the equality of votes on any resolution, the chairperson shall have the casting vote.

8.0 Finance

8.1 The treasurer shall have control of the funds of the Association and, save where required for immediate expenditure, he/she shall pay the same into a bank account or building society as directed by the committee.

8.2 The property and funds of the Association shall be held and administered by the committee, and the resolution of the committee shall be sufficient authority for any payments from bank or building society accounts.

8.3 The committee is not authorised to incur any overdraft.

8.4 All cheques or requests for cheques shall be signed by any two officers, being the treasurer, secretary or chair.

8.5 The financial year shall end on 31 March, up to which date any annual statement of accounts and balance sheet shall be submitted for approval at the subsequent annual general meeting.

9.0 Indemnity

9.1 The members of the Association shall indemnify the officers of the Association and members of the committee against all liability incurred by them in good faith on behalf and in the name of the Association, acting within their authority.

10.0 Alteration Of Rules

10.1 These rules may be varied or added to by resolution of the Association in a meeting, passed by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present, of which a resolution notice shall be given in the notice convening the meeting.

11.0 Complaints

11.1 All complaints or suggestions on matters regarding the Association shall be made to the secretary, preferably in writing.

12.0 Dissolution

12.1 The Association may be dissolved if the number of full members at any time falls below 5 and the committee so resolves, or if the Association in a meeting so resolves by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present in person, of which a resolution notice shall be given in the notice

convening the meeting.

12.2 On such dissolution, any balance of the funds of the Association shall be distributed equally between the then members OR shall be paid to a suitable charity to be decided upon by the majority of the membership.

13.0 Officers

13.1 The elected officers at the Association's 2025 AGM are:

Chair – Pete Mason

Vice Chair – Bledar Bleca

Secretary – Venilia Amorim

Assistant Secretary – Joanna Janeczko

Treasurer – Michael Kassa