

# Constitution

## NAME

The name of the organisation shall be R.A.I.D (Residents Against Inappropriate Development)

## AIMS

The aims of the Group shall be to

(a) Campaign to stop the Dunton Garden Suburb development jointly proposed by Basildon and Brentwood Borough Councils and any other large housing development in the area of Dunton Village and Dunton Hills including the PAD5 development area as defined in the Basildon (draft) Local Plan.

(b) To support other action groups campaigning against inappropriate developments of green space in South East Essex locations where there is sufficient cause and local support as determined by the R.A.I.D management committee or by a majority membership vote at a General Meeting.

(c) To campaign against loss of green belt land.

## POWERS

To further these aims the committee shall have power to:

(a) Obtain, collect and receive money or funds by way of contributions, donations, grants and any other lawful method towards the aims of the Group.

(b) Associate local authorities, voluntary organisations and the residents

of South East Essex in a common effort to carry out the aims of the Group.

(c) Do all such lawful things as will further the aims of the Group.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

(a) Voting membership shall be open to everyone in the Dunton Garden Suburb facebook group plus an alternative membership list maintained by the secretary.

(b) The Management Committee shall have the power to approve or reject applications for membership or to terminate the membership of any member provided that the member shall have the right to be heard by the committee before a final decision is made.

### **MANAGEMENT**

(a) A Management Committee elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall manage the Group.

(b) The committee shall consist of a chair, secretary, treasurer, and other voting members whose role will be determined by the committee.

(c) The committee may co-opt up to a further 10 voting members who shall resign at the next Annual General Meeting.

(d) The committee shall meet at least three times each year. Such meetings may be held online in chat.

(e) At least 3 committee members must be present at a committee meeting to be able to make decisions.

(f) A proper record of all transactions and meetings shall be kept by the secretary.

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (a) The financial year will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> February
  
- (b) An Annual General Meeting shall be held within 12 months of the date of the adoption of this constitution and each year after the end of the financial year and before the 31st March.
  
- (c) Notices of the AGM shall be published three weeks beforehand and a report on the Group's financial position for the previous year will be made available at the same time.
  
- (d) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time at the request of the committee, or not less than one quarter of the membership. A notice explaining the place, date, time and reason shall be sent to all members three weeks beforehand.
  
- (e) Ten members being present, shall enable a General Meeting to take place.
  
- (f) Proposals to change the constitution must be given in writing to the secretary at least 14 days before a general meeting and approved by a two thirds majority of those present and voting.
  
- (g) Any member with a proposer and seconder may stand for election for any committee position at a General Meeting
  
- (h) Every member present has one vote

## **ACCOUNTS**

- (a) The funds of the group including all donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into an account operated by the management committee. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by at least

two members of the Management Committee.

(b) The funds belonging to the group shall be applied only to further the aims of the group.

(c) A current record of all income, funding and expenditure will be kept by the treasurer.

### **DISSOLUTION**

(a) The Group may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a simple two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a General Meeting.

(b) If confirmed, the committee shall distribute any assets remaining after the payment of all bills to other charitable group(s) or organisation(s) having aims similar to the Group or some other charitable purpose(s) as the Group may decide.

Signed by Chair                      (Derrick Fellowes)      23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

Signed by Secretary              (Philip Gibbs)              23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

Signed by Treasurer              (Zoe Chambres)              23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015