# TW BRAGA

# CONSTITUTION

2014

# **CONSTITUTION**

### NAME

The name of the group shall be TW BRAGA

#### OBJECTS

The group is established to:

Promote the benefit of young people in Northern Ireland without distinction of age, sex, race, political, religious or other opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and provide facilities in the interests of recreation and leisure-time with the object of improving the condition of life for the said inhabitants.

In furtherance of the above objectives, but not further or otherwise, the group may: -

- 1 Provide recreational facilities and practical assistance for all young people within Northern Ireland.
- 2 Promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys and investigations and publish the useful results thereof.
- Organise or assist in organising meetings, lectures, classes and exhibitions and publish or assist in publishing sports, periodicals, recordings, books or other documents or information.
- 4 Obtain, collect and receive money by way of grants, donations, bequests, legacies or other lawful method, provide that the group does not engage in any form of permanent trading.
- 5 Purchase, take on lease, or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and any rights and privileges necessary for the promotion of the above objects and construct, maintain and alter any buildings or erections, which the group may think necessary for the promotion of its objects.
- 6 Make any regulations for any property, which may be so acquired.
- Receive money on deposit or loan and borrow or raise money in such a manner as the group shall think fit subject to such consents as may be required by law
- 8 Invest the monies of the group not immediately required for the furtherance of the said objects in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit, subject nevertheless to such conditions (if any) as may for the time be imposed or required by law.
- 9 Recruit and train volunteers with relevant skills to carry out the objects of the group.
- 10 Employ and pay a person or persons, not being a member of the management committee referred to below (the committee) to supervise, organise and carry on the work of the group and make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of remuneration to employees.
- 11 Promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the above objects and to that end to work in association with local authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in the furtherance of the above objects in the area of benefit.

12 Do all such other lawful things as may be necessary for the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

#### **GROUP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- 1 Except as provided otherwise in this constitution the policy and general management of the affairs of the group shall be directed by the committee, which shall meet not less than 4 times a year and shall consist of not less than 10 members of the community, elected at the first group meeting after the Annual General Meeting.
- 2 Should the number of nominations be less than the number of vacancies, further oral nominations may with the approval of the Annual General Meeting be invited from those present and voting at the said Annual General Meeting.
- 3 The group elected at an Annual General Meeting shall have the power to co-opt further members who shall be individual members who shall serve until the conclusion of the next following Annual General Meeting provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the committee co-opted members shall have the right to vote.
- The chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the group shall be full members and shall be elected annually by and from the members of the committee at their first meeting following the Annual General Meeting. The office of chairperson shall not be held by any one person for more than three consecutive years.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

- 1 Membership of the group shall be open to the following, irrespective of political party, nationality, religion or political opinion.
- 2 Any resident of Northern Ireland aged 5 years or over who subscribes to the objects of the group.
- 3 The group members must be non party political or non sectarian.
- 4 Elected individuals wishing to leave the group shall give notice of such intention in writing to the secretary of the group. They may also be deemed to have left the group if they fail to attend or give apologies at an Annual General Meeting, provided that due notice of the meeting was given by the secretary and at the discretion of the group.
- 5 Elected members must adhere to the aims and objectives of the group and shall not be an elected political representative.
- 6 Well wishers, anyone or persons who, in the opinion of the committee, have special knowledge or experience to offer to the group, such members shall be called Associate Members and shall not have the right to vote at meetings of the group.

## **FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE**

- 1 The Committee may make such regulations as they consider appropriate for the efficient conduct of the business of the group.
- 2 The Committee may appoint such staff as they consider necessary on such terms and conditions as they may determine.
- 3 The Committee may appoint such sub-committees, advisory groups or working parties of their own members and other persons as they may from time to time decide necessary for the carrying out of their work and may determine their terms of reference, duration and

- composition. All such sub-committees shall make regular reports on their work to the committee.
- 4 The proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated by any failure to elect or any defect in the election, appointment, co-options or qualifications of any member.

#### CHAIRING MEETINGS

All meetings of the group or of the Committee or of any of its sub-committees shall be presided over by its Chairperson failing whom its Vice-Chairperson, if one has been appointed. If neither the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson are present, those present may elect one of their number of take the chair. (The Chairperson of any meeting shall have a second or casting vote)

### **FINANCE**

- All monies raised by or on behalf of the group shall be applied to further the objects of the group and for no other purpose **PROVIDED THAT** nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment of legitimate out of pocket expenses to members of the group engaged upon the approved business of the group.
- 2 The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of the group.
- 3 The financial year of the group shall run from April to April.
- 4 The accounts shall be audited at least once a year by an auditor or auditors who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5 An audited statement of accounts for the last financial year shall be submitted by the committee to the Annual General Meeting.
- A bank account shall be opened in the name of the group with such other bank as the committee shall from time to time decide. The committee shall authorise in writing the treasurer and 2 members of the committee to sign for withdrawals on behalf of the group. All withdrawals must be signed by not less than 2 of the 3 authorised signatories.

#### TRUST PROPERTY

The group may appoint and may terminate the appointment of not less than 3 people to act as trustees for the purpose of holding any monies or property belonging to the group. The title to all or any such real and/or personal property, which may be required by or for the purposes of the group shall be vested in the trustees who shall hold such property in trust for the group. The Trustees shall act under the instructions of the Committee who shall, subject to the approval and consent of the group as determined by a General meeting, have power to fill vacancies among the Trustees.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(The first Annual General Meeting of the group shall be held not later than the end of June and in each year thereafter) an Annual General Meeting of the group shall be held at such place and time (not being more than 15 months after the holding of the preceding Annual General Meeting) as the Committee shall determine, at least 21 days notice shall be given to all members of the group.

At such Annual General Meeting the business shall include the following: -

- 1 The election of members to serve the committee
- 2 The appointment of an auditor or auditors

- 3 The consideration of an Annual report of the work done by or under the auspices of the Committee
- 4 The consideration of the audited accounts
- 5 The transaction of such other matters as may from time to time be considered necessary.

# SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

#### VOTING

All questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote thereat.

#### **MINUTES**

Minute books shall be kept by the committee and all other sub-committees and the appropriate Secretary shall enter therein a record of all proceedings and resolutions

#### **QUORUM**

The quorum at General Meetings of the Committee shall be 50% and at meetings of the Committee shall be 4 or such other number as the Committee may from time to time determine.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Any Committee member, who misses three consecutive meetings without legitimate cause, shall deem to have forfeited his or her position and a new member may be voted in, in his or her place.

#### ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- Any alterations to this Constitution shall receive the assent of not less than two-thirds of the members of the group present and voting at the Annual General Meeting or a meeting specially called for the purpose **PROVIDED THAT** notice of any such alterations shall have been received by the Secretary in writing not less than 21 clear days before the meeting at which the alteration is to be brought forward.
- At least 14 clear days notice in writing of the meeting setting forth the terms of the alteration to be proposed shall be sent by the Secretary to each member of the group **PROVIDED FURTHER THAT** no alteration shall be made which would cause the group to cease to be a charity at law.

#### **DISSOLUTION**

- If the Committee by a simple majority decide at any time that on the grounds of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the group they shall call a meeting of all members of the group who have the power to vote of which meeting not less than 21 days notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed thereat) shall be given.
- 2 If such decision shall be confirmed by a simple majority of those present and voting at such meeting, the Committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or in the name of the group.
- 3 Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the group within Northern Ireland.

#### **INDEMNITY**

The group shall indemnify and keep indemnified every officer, member, volunteer and employee of the group from and against all claims, demands, actions and proceedings (and all costs and expenses in connection therewith or arising therefrom) made or brought against the group in connection with its activities, the actions of its officers, members, volunteers or employees, or in connection with its property and equipment but this indemnity shall not extend to liabilities arising from wilful and individual fraud, wrongdoing or wrongful omission on the part of the officer, member, volunteer or employee sought to be made liable. The Treasurer shall affect a policy of insurance in respect of this indemnity.

TIM WAREING

CHAIRMAN

TREHSUREN

NEIL KERR

SECRETARY