

North Kent Council for Inter Faith Relations – Kent Thameside

(NKCIFR - Founded 28th May 1998)

CONSTITUTION

Adopted 19th July 2006

Amended 18th June 2018

CONSTITUTION

of

NORTH KENT COUNCIL FOR INTER FAITH RELATIONS – KENT THAMESIDE

Adopted on 19th of July 2006, amended 18th June 2018.

1. TITLE

1.1 The name of the organisation is North Kent Council for Inter Faith Relations-Kent Thameside – hereafter known as the Council

1.2 The Council is a non-profit making organisation of volunteers working in partnership with representatives from any faith based organisations e.g. Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, and any other religious groups.

2. HISTORY

2.1 The North Kent Council for Inter Faith Relations was initiated on the 28th May 1998 on the principle that all human beings are of equal value, whatever their colour, creed, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or ability.

In September 2005 the name of the Council was altered to the North Kent Council for Inter Faith Relations – Kent Thameside.

3. OBJECTIVES.

3.1 The objectives of the Council are:

To promote peaceful and constructive inter faith relationships.

To promote mutual understanding.

To promote social cohesion.

To mediate in conflict or community integration.

To maintain membership of the Inter Faith Network.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership of the Council shall be open to any person of faith willing to work with people of other faith organisations.

4.2 Every member will be invited to pay an annual subscription per annum or make a financial gift to the organisation under the gift aid scheme.

4.3 The annual subscription shall be set at the AGM. The Executive shall give sympathetic consideration to requests for reduced subscriptions on grounds of financial hardship.

4.4 Only paid up members of six months standing shall have voting rights.

5. OFFICERS.

5.1.1. The Officers of the Council shall be as follows:

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

6. ELECTION of OFFICERS

6.1 All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Council.

6.2 All Officers are elected for the period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office, or another office the following year.

7 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

7.1 The affairs of the Council shall be controlled by an Executive Committee of not less than four and not more than nine persons, including the elected officers, representing a fair reflection of the diversity of the Council's membership.

7.2 The Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

7.3 Those elected will form the Executive Committee which shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than three times a year.

7.4 The duties of the Executive Committee shall be;

7.4.1 To control the affairs of the Council;

7.4.2 To keep accurate account of the finances of the Council through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection and should be independently examined before every Annual General Meeting. A Bank Current Account shall be maintained and the following Officers shall be authorised to sign cheques and make transfers, two from the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

7.4.3 To co-opt additional individuals and members to the Executive Committee as is necessary. Co-opted individuals or members shall not be entitled to a vote on the Executive Committee.

7.4.4 To make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

7.4.5 A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be, three voting members or ONE THIRD of the Executive Committee, whichever is the greater.

8. GENERAL MEETINGS.

8.1. The Annual General Meeting of the Council shall be held between the 1st of May and the 30th of June every year, but must not be held during Ramadan.

8.2 Twenty one clear days written notice shall be given of the Annual General Meeting by circulating a copy of notice to every member at their home address (postal or e-mail). Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting at least fourteen days before a meeting.

8.3 The Secretary shall give notice of the agenda for the meeting not less than seven days before the meeting.

8.4 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to

8.4.1 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any Special General Meetings held since the last Annual General Meeting.

8.4.2 Receive the annual report of the Executive Committee from the Secretary.

8.4.3 Receive the independently examined accounts for the year from the Treasurer.

8.4.4 Appoint an independent examiner

8.4.5 Elect the Officers of the Council (Chairperson; Vice Chairperson; Secretary; Treasurer; and other members of the Executive Committee).

8.4.6 Nomination of candidates for election of Officers shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

8.5 Special General Meetings may be convened by the Executive Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing. At least twenty one day's notice of the meeting shall be given.

8.6 At all General Meetings, the chair will be taken by the Chairperson or, in their absence, by an appointed deputy.

8.7 Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from those members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

9. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

9.1. Any proposed alteration to the constitution of the Council may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting, convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a member and seconded by another. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of members present at the meeting.

10. DISSOLUTION

10.1 If at any General Meeting of the Council, a resolution is passed calling for its dissolution, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Council to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

10.2 If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting, the Executive Committee shall thereupon, or at such dates as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Council and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Council.

10.3. After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Council the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the Council but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objectives similar to those of the Council.