

# Rules of the Association

1. The Association shall be called the Friends of Monkton Wyld Court.
2. Its aims shall be:
  - (i) To provide support and advice to the trustees of Monkton Wyld Court and to the members of the community who manage it, as to how the objectives of the charity can be met. The objectives can be summarised as education in sustainability with a focus on land-based and agro-ecological activities, and maintaining the property for the benefit of the public.
  - (ii) To promote a move towards a more conventional democratic structure for MWC whereby the trustees may be held more accountable for their actions and performance.
3. Membership shall be open to anyone interested in the welfare of MWC and who supports the aims of the Association. Membership shall commence from the date of dispatch of an appropriate acknowledgement letter from an authorised officer of the Association. A member will be an individual, family (including partners and children residing at the same address) or organisation. Membership includes the right to a single copy of each issue of the Monkton Wyld Court Newsletter, and any publications issued by the Association.
4. Whether or not there should be a subscription, and if so how much, shall be decided by the Association at its Annual General Meeting.
5. The Officers of the Association shall be a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting, and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
6. The Executive Committee shall consist of:
  - (i) The Officers of the Association
  - (ii) Not less than three nor more than seven (???) other members (elected committee members) to be elected by the Association in General Meeting.
7. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year and shall at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting fix the quorum for its subsequent meetings until a new quorum is fixed under this rule. It may fill any casual vacancies in the Executive Committee, and it may co-opt any other member or members provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed three at any one time.
8. The management and control of affairs, funds and property of the Association shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have full power of interpretation of these Rules, and shall decide all questions as to their construction.
9. Nominations for the election of elected Committee members must be made in writing and received by the Secretary not later than 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting; but nominations may be made at the meeting in respect of any vacancies for which written nominations have not been received. If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, voting shall be by ballot by the members present at the meeting.
- 9 At the Annual General Meeting each year, all officers and other members of the Executive Committee shall retire, and shall be eligible for re-election. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, after five years in such office, shall not be eligible for re-election to such office for the following year unless the Annual General Meeting decides otherwise, but shall be eligible for election to any other office.
- 10 An Annual General Meeting shall be held at least once in each year on a date and at a place to be determined by the Executive Committee, which shall present a report of its proceedings, the affairs of the Association, and a Statement of Accounts.
- 11 The Executive Committee may at any time, on written request of any 10 members of the Association stating the business for which it is required, convene at not less than one month's notice an Extraordinary General Meeting for any specific purpose, and the notice shall state the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- 12 The quorum for a General Meeting shall be the number of the full Executive Committee plus three and all matters shall be decided by a simple majority of those attending and voting, and in the case of equality of votes the Chairman of the Meeting shall have second and casting vote.
- 13 No alteration or addition to these Rules shall be made, except by resolution passed by a three quarters majority of these present and voting at a General Meeting.

14 Notice of every General Meeting with an Agenda shall be sent by post or email to each member whose address is known to the Secretary at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting. Any member wishing to propose at the Annual General Meeting any alteration of the Rules, or any other business of importance shall notify the same to the Secretary at least one month before the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary shall include notice of such proposition in the Agenda of the next Annual General Meeting where such proposition is to be discussed at the meeting.

15 The Association can be dissolved by a resolution passed by a three-quarters majority of those present and voting at a General Meeting. In such case, its net assets after payment of all expenses shall be given to a charity or charities nominated by the last Executive Committee.