

CONSTITUTION OF THE BLOOMSBURY ASSOCIATION

1 Name:

The name of the Association shall be the **Bloomsbury Association** (incorporating Bloomsbury Community Association).

2 Objects:

2.1 Geographic Area:

The Association is established in the geographic/ neighbourhood area bounded by Tottenham Court Road (West), High Holborn (South), Woburn Place/ Southampton Row (East) and Euston Road (North).

This area is within the wards of Bloomsbury and Holborn & Covent Garden - as per existing ward boundaries 2011. We may also comment on any License or planning applications or Community safety matter in the surrounding geographic area that we feel may have an impact on our quality of life, architectural heritage and the built environment and community safety.

2.2 Purpose:

2.2.1 To furthering the social economic and environmental well-being of individuals who live, work, study within the neighbourhood area of Bloomsbury.

2.2.2 To stimulate public interest in the Bloomsbury area, promote high standards of planning and architecture in the area and to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of buildings or features of historic or public interest in the area.

2.2.3 To advance matters relating to environmental and social welfare.

2.2.4 To address statutory legislation relating to planning, licensing, transport and crime related issues in the area.

2.2.5 To promote the carrying on of trades, professions or other businesses and cultural activities in the area.

In furtherance of these purposes the Association may:

2.2.6 Undertake research into social, economic or environmental matters within the area and disseminate the results thereof.

2.2.7 Promote or assist in promoting activities of a charitable nature throughout the area, or those that we feel will be of benefit to the area.

2.2.8 Make surveys and prepare maps and plans in relation to any place, erection or building of public utility or historic interest within the area.

2.2.9 Have power to do all lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objects.

2.2.10 Maintain a web site at <http://www.bloomsburyassociation.org.uk>

2.2.11 Work in partnership with neighbouring groups, organisations, police and local authorities.

3 Membership:

Membership of the Association shall be open to:

- **Full member:**

Individuals living in the Bloomsbury neighbourhood area, as described in article 2.2, including resident and tenant groups/ associations, student bodies and elected members whose ward falls within the neighbourhood area of Bloomsbury.

- **Associate Member:**

Any individual who has an interest in the neighbourhood area or who is working from an address in the neighbourhood area.

- **Affiliated Member:**

Any business or institution that operates from an address within in the neighbourhood area and is approved by the Executive Committee.

- **Non-Executive Committee Member:**

The Executive Committee may invite any individual who has expertise which is of benefit to the association, to sit on that committee as an advisor, but has no voting rights.

3.1 Voting Rights:

Full Members:	Full voting rights
Associate Members:	No voting rights
Affiliated Members:	No voting rights

3.2 Termination of Membership:

The Association shall have the right for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any individual member, at the request of a meeting by a simple majority and after the individual member has had the right to reply.

3.2 Subscriptions:

The annual subscription shall be such sum as the Executive Committee shall from time to time decide.

Senior Citizens, students, unemployed and permanently disabled persons will be exempt from any subscription charge.

The subscriptions shall be payable yearly, as from 1st April. Members joining on or after 1st January will be valid members of the Association until 31st March of the following year.

4. Meetings:

An Annual General Meeting will be held within 15 months of the previous Annual General Meeting to receive the Executive Committee's report and accounts and to elect officers and members of the Executive Committee.

At the Annual General Meeting all candidates standing as an officer and/or an Executive member of the Association should be asked by the Chair to speak to the meeting.

The Committee shall decide when ordinary general meetings of the association will take place and will give at least fourteen days notice as to when the Annual General Meeting will be held. A Special General Meeting of the Association shall be held within thirty days of receipt of a written request signed by members representing not less than 10 percent of existing *Full* members of the Association whose subscriptions (if any) are fully paid up.

4.1 Voting:

Each full member of the Association shall have one vote at any General Meeting of the Association. Members of the Association will only be

entitled to vote if they have been a full member of the Association for a period of not less than 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

The questions arising at any such meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote thereat. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the Meeting will have a second or casting vote.

4.2 Minutes:

Minutes books shall be kept by the Association, the Executive Committee and all other Committees and the appropriate secretary shall enter therein a record of all the proceedings and resolutions.

4.3 Officers and Nominations:

Nominations for the election of Executive Committee members shall be made at or before the Annual General Meeting. Each such nomination must be supported by a full member and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained.

If nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place in such a manner as may be determined. Members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. Ongoing members may be re-appointed. Only full members over the age of eighteen shall be eligible for election as Executive Committee members.

The Annual General Meeting shall elect: Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer and two other Executive Committee members, all of whom shall relinquish their Executive posts every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting plus any Non-Executive committee members.

If an Executive Committee member does not attend three consecutive Executive meetings of the BA without good reason, that member may be invited to resign.

4.4 Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Officers and two other persons, appointed by the AGM. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt two further full members plus non-executive members.

In the case of an equality of votes the Chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

The Executive Committee shall, having decided when the Annual General Meeting will be held, give at least fourteen days notice to all of its members and will publicise this date locally (Web site and email).

One officer and four Executive members are needed to form a quorum at an Executive Committee Meeting.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill casual vacancies occurring among the Officers and Executive Members of the Association until the next General Meeting at which the vacancies shall be filled.

5. Sub-Committees:

The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint such Sub-Committees as it may from time to time decide and may determine such Sub-Committees' power and terms of reference and request reports from such Sub-Committees on the execution of their delegated duties.

6. Expenses of Administration and Application of Funds:

The Executive Committee shall, out of the funds of the Association, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Association. After the payment of the administration and management expenses and the setting aside to reserve of such sums as may be deemed expedient, the remaining funds of the Association shall be applied by the Executive Committee in furtherance of the purposes of the Association and for no other purposes.

7. Investment:

All monies at any time belonging to the Association and not required for immediate application for its purposes shall be invested by the Executive Committee as it may think fit.

8. Amendments:

The Constitution may be amended by a majority of full members present at the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of the Association, provided fourteen days written notice of the proposed amendment has been given to all members of the Association.

9. Equal Opportunities:

The Association is positively committed to equal opportunities and against discrimination of any kind. No persons, be they service users, staff, Officers,

Executive or sub-committee members, consultants or contractors, and bodies or persons represented by the Association or under investigation by the Association, shall receive less favourable treatment on grounds of race, colour, nationality, age, religion, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status or disability, or are to be disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable. This applies to all the objects and aims of the Association and at all levels of communication between individuals and organisations with the Association.

DECLARATION

THE BLOOMSBURY ASSOCIATION

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFY THAT THIS CONSTITUTION
WAS APPROVED ON 22 March 2011**

Jim Murray	Chair
Sophie Mortimer	Secretary
Hugh Kennedy	Treasurer
Mike Wade	Committee Member
Anthony Cuming	Committee Member
Bridget Cuming	Committee Member
Rosamund Oudart	Committee Member