

# ***Scruton Allotments Association***

## ***Rules and constitution***

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The association will be called "Scruton Allotments Association".

### **Objectives**

Its objectives are

- To provide, maintain and improve facilities for recreational and leisure time gardening for the use of local people (those who live or work or otherwise spend a larger part of their lives for the present time in or near Scruton);
- To contribute to improving the environment by encouraging local, sustainable food production and reducing food miles;
- To develop gardening and food production skills, including skills in organic methods

### **Members**

The members are **paying tenants** who have paid the required deposit and annual subscription and **honorary members** who are enrolled from time to time by the members. A tenant may be an individual or groups of individuals.

Any local person (those who live or work or otherwise spend a larger part of their lives for the present time in or near Scruton) may apply to the secretary to become a member. There is no upper or lower age limit; however the parents or guardians of very young people will be required to demonstrate how the member will be able to comply with the terms of his or her rental.

The management committee reserves the right of admission and may from time to time expel members. Members will cease to be members if they are expelled or they fail to pay their membership for 12 months.

### **Management committee**

The Association's business will be conducted by a management committee. The committee has a minimum of 3 members; a chair, a treasurer and a secretary. Other officers may be appointed from time to time by a general meeting of the members. All posts are voluntary, unpaid and open only to members.

Officers are elected for 1 year at the annual general meeting, and are eligible for re-election each year. Officers can also be dismissed, by a vote at any meeting. The committee will meet to conduct business at least once a quarter. They will keep minutes and financial records which are open for inspection by anyone.

### **Meetings**

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The association will meet from time to time as decided by the committee or by at least 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the members. There will at least be an annual general meeting. At meetings the quorum will be 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the members, voting will be by a show of hands and decisions will be by a simple majority of votes. The chair has a casting vote, which he or she may chose to use.

Items for the agenda must be given to the Secretary in time to allow him or her to draw up an agenda. The agenda will be published by email at least 24 hours ahead of the meeting.

No discussions shall be raised or resolutions proposed at General Meetings which are sectarian or illegally discriminatory in purpose or effect. The chairman and treasurer will report to the annual general meeting.

### **Finance**

The committee will maintain a bank account in the name of the association and all receipts will be paid into that account. Cheques will be signed by a minimum of two signatories.

The treasurer will keep comprehensive records of all transactions and will make these available for public inspection.

### **Disposal of assets**

When the association comes to an end, the land will be returned to the landowner through the termination of the lease. The remaining assets of the group will be disposed of either by:

- Offering them to other startup allotments via NSALG or other similar group
- Being sold with the profits being given into the safe-keeping of Scruton Parish Council on the proviso that they are either used within 10 years to re-establish a local allotments association or, after that time, used to develop a local nature reserve.

### **Adoption**

This constitution and rules was adopted at the general meeting in 2007.

Signed		
	Chairman	Secretary