

CONSTITUTION OF SOVEREIGN HARBOUR RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

1. The association shall be called "Sovereign Harbour Residents' Association".
2. The object of the association shall be the representation of the interests of residents of Sovereign Harbour.

Membership

3. On payment of the prescribed fee, membership is open to all residential households, second-home owners and owners of residential property that fall within the area of Sovereign Harbour, as defined by the map within this constitution document.
4. Membership fees shall be determined by the committee of the association.
5. Each member shall be entitled to one vote at general meetings and in election of association officers.

Management

6. The management of the association shall be vested in a committee of up to fourteen members comprising chair, deputy chair, treasurer and secretary, together with up to ten other members.
7. The committee shall be empowered to:
 - a. Organise the provision of services to members.
 - b. Set and collect membership fees.
 - c. Make decisions, regulations and bye-laws in accordance with this constitution.
 - d. Settle disputed points not otherwise provided for.
 - e. Select and appoint an auditor who is not a member of the committee to audit and counter-sign the year-end accounts.
 - f. Agree to invite individuals with specialist knowledge or skills to advise the committee or its subgroups and to attend committee meetings on a temporary basis as required. Such invited individuals shall not have a vote on the committee nor count towards quorum numbers
8. A quorum at committee meetings shall comprise no less than 50% of committee members. In the absence of the chair the meeting shall be chaired by the deputy chair or secretary.
9. Each committee member shall offer themselves for re-election at the annual general meeting (AGM) of the association, unless having given at least fourteen days prior written notice to the chair or secretary that they will not be standing for re-election. In the period between AGMs the committee shall have the power to replace inactive committee members and to co-opt additional committee members up to the maximum of fourteen.

10. The association's financial accounts shall be prepared on a calendar year basis, be independently audited and submitted, together with any auditor's report to the AGM for approval. Funds and other property of the association shall only be applied towards the furtherance of the association's agreed objectives. In the event of dissolution of the association, any funds remaining shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the members but shall be devoted to objectives similar to those of the association, or to a recognised charitable organisation.

AGM and Election of Committee

11. An annual general meeting (AGM) of members shall be held during each calendar year, subject to the provisions of Clause 20, to

- a. Receive the chair's report,
- b. Adopt the financial accounts for the previous year, and
- c. Elect committee members.

12. An announcement of the AGM shall be made at least four weeks prior to the date of the AGM. The notice shall also seek nominations for the committee. Nominations will be accepted up to one week prior to the date of the AGM.

13. Should fourteen or fewer nominations be received, the committee for the ensuing year will comprise all those nominated. The positions of chair, deputy chair, secretary and treasurer will be determined as the first item of business at the next committee meeting.

14. Should more than fourteen nominations be received, each candidate shall be allowed up to two minutes to address the meeting on his or her objectives and the successful candidates shall be determined by a ballot of all members present.

General and Special General Meetings

15. A general meeting of members may be called by the committee from time to time to discuss matters of general interest.

16. A special general meeting may be called by a written request to the secretary signed by 15 or more verified members giving detail of the matter to be brought before the meeting. The special general meeting shall be called by the secretary within 35 days of the receipt of the request and all members shall be given at least seven days notice of the meeting by the posting of an announcement on the association web site and/or the association newsletter. The meeting shall give absolute priority to the matters of which notice is given in the request, but for convenience may address additional items as the committee sees fit. All items to be considered at the special general meeting will be communicated to members when notice of the meeting is given.

17. No amendments shall be considered to this constitution except at an AGM or special general meeting. Proposed amendments shall be made in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder members and be received by the secretary in such time that at least 14 days notice may be given by the posting of an announcement on the association's web site. To be successful, all amendments shall require a two-thirds majority of members present.

18. A quorum at a general, special general and annual general meeting is 50 or more members over and above any number of committee members attending. Unless stated otherwise, decisions are effected by a simple majority of members present.
19. In the event of an equality of votes at any general meeting or committee meeting the chair shall have an additional and casting vote.
20. Nothing in this constitution shall restrict the committee from acting in the interests of the members to deal with any emergency or any event that makes it impractical to follow the constitution and rules previously agreed.

Map



- North Bridge = road bridge between The Waterfront and Hamilton Quay.
- West Bridge = footbridge beside The Harvester near the fishing boats quay.
- South Bridge = footbridge beside The Piazza development.
- Designated cycle routes shown in magenta.