



Constitution.

1 Title

The association shall be called the “Egham Residents Association”.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 To improve and preserve amenities and facilities within the geographical area of the Egham Town Ward, as defined by the Electoral Register at 12th October 1999, and to consider all matters of interest to the residents.
- 2.2 The Association shall not align itself with any Political Party, (other than Runnymede Independent Residents' Group for electoral purposes) or religious groups, for other than in
- 2.3 To nominate and support, if and when considered appropriate and desirable, the election of Councillors to the Borough and County Councils.(See Councillors; Terms of Reference [Section 8])
- 2.4 To inform the electorate of Egham of local matters which may concern them. (See Communication with Association Membership [Section 9])

3 Membership

- 3.1 The Association shall consist of residents of Egham, [as defined in 2.1] in the Borough of Runnymede, who will become members upon issue of the Association's official receipt for payment for the specified subscription.
- 3.2 The electoral register [as defined in 2.1] will be used as the method of confirming eligibility for membership. Residents not on the electoral register will be admitted to membership at the discretion of the committee.

4 Subscriptions

- 4.1 The annual subscription shall be a figure determined by each Annual General Meeting.
- 4.2 The annual subscription is payable at the time of joining the Association and subsequent subscriptions shall be due on 1st January each year.
- 4.3 The subscription shall cover one adult member (See 5.7). Separate subscriptions will be required from other adults, in the same household, wishing to join the Association. Senior Citizens will be eligible for membership at half the current subscription rate.

5 General Meetings

- 5.1 One months notice will be given of the time and venue of General meetings. The agenda for General Meetings will be circulated at the same time, and will include provision for Any Other Business so that business not stated elsewhere may be discussed.
- 5.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) will be held by the decision of the committee, or at the written request of 40 of the current membership. This written request will be addressed to the Association's secretary and will state the business to be discussed.
- 5.3 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held as soon as conveniently possible after February 1st. The AGM will elect the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer to serve for the next year.
- 5.4 No officer will be eligible for re-election unless he/she has attended two thirds of the previous year's committee meetings (unless due to illness or with the consent of the AGM)
- 5.5 The Association's Constitution may only be altered at a general meeting and then only with a two-thirds majority of those Association members attending the meeting. One months notice shall be required for such an amendment.
- 5.6 The quorum of a general meeting shall be 30 or 5% of the current membership, whichever is the smaller.
- 5.7 A voting member of the Association shall be any member who holds an official receipt for the current year's subscription. (Postal votes will be available at the discretion of the Committee.)
- 5.8 All votes (except that for the selection of candidates for Council elections [see 8.2] will be by a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by a majority of members present.
- 5.9 All decisions (except those affecting the constitution and the termination of the Association) [see section 10] will be by a majority vote.

6 Committee

- 6.1 The Committee will consist of up to thirty members including the officers.
- 6.2 No Committee member shall be an active officer engaged in the affairs of any political party, other than Runnymede Independent Residents' Group.
- 6.3 A quorum of the Committee shall be seven Committee members, and decisions made by the committee shall be by simple majority of those present.
- 6.4 The Committee may:
 - (a) Fill any vacancy until the next AGM.
 - (b) Co-opt additional members.
 - (c) Invite any person they see fit to attend any meeting.
 - (d) Appoint sub-committees to deal, on the Association's behalf, with specific subjects.
- 6.5 The Committee shall cause minutes to be taken of all meetings of the Association and carry out the business of the Association in accordance with the policy agreed at a general meeting.

- 6.6 The Committee shall hold a minimum of nine meetings per year and one within a month of any General Meeting.
- 6.7 A special Committee meeting may be called at the request of three Committee members.
- 6.8 No officer or member of the Committee except the Chairman, Secretary or Press Officer shall make an official statement to the press.

7 Association Officers

- 7.1 The Officers of the Association shall be Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and other officers as the Committee may wish to appoint.
- 7.2 The Chairman shall be responsible for the work of the Association. He/she shall preside over meetings and be responsible for their conduct including having power of adjournment. The Chair shall have a casting vote but no other vote. (This applies to all meetings)
- 7.3 The Secretary' shall be responsible for the administrative work of the Association and will act under the general direction and authority of the Committee, He/she may also act under the direction of and by the authority of a special resolution of a General Meeting of the Association.
- 7.4 The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining a bank account in the name of Egham Residents Association and receiving all monies and paying all Accounts agreed by the Committee. The Treasurer shall act under the general direction of the Committee, including any statutory requirements relating to membership of Runnymede Independent Residents' Group, and prepare an annual statement of receipts and payments to 31st December each year, which shall be audited by a suitable person elected annually for that purpose. The Accounts will then be presented to the next AGM for adoption.

8 Councillors: Terms of Reference

- 8.1 Any decision to give official support to a candidate for election to the Borough or County Councils will be taken by a general meeting of the Association. In the event of a by-election any decision will be taken by a General Meeting or the Committee.
- 8.2 The choice of candidate will be made as in 8.1. Anyone wishing to be selected should arrange for his/her nomination (signed by a sponsor and seconder) to be submitted to the Secretary one week before the meeting at which the candidacy is to be discussed. The potential candidate will be expected to address the meeting and to answer questions to the best of his/her ability. Where more than one nomination is received the candidate must be selected by a secret ballot.
- 8.3 A Councillor or candidate, nominated and officially supported by the Association must not be an officer or an active member of a political party other than Runnymede Independent Residents' Group.
- 8.4 A Councillor elected with the official support of the Association would be a representative of the electorate and not a delegate of the Association. He/she will, however, always be mindful of Association Policy and must frequently consult and report to the Association.
- 8.5 The Association will be free to withdraw its support from a Councillor or Candidate if it is thought that he/she is acting contrary to Association Policy.

9 Communication with Association Membership

- 9.1 The Association (in the form of the Committee or a sub-committee) will circulate a Newsletter to the membership.
- 9.2 Normally a minimum of four of these Newsletters will be circulated in any one year. One must be distributed within one month of a General Meeting.
- 9.3 The Committee will arrange Public Meetings, when considered appropriate, on topics of local interest and concern. [These Public Meetings are not the same as a General Meeting and so the rules for the conduct of such meetings do not apply. The privileges of General Meetings are also not available.]
- 9.4 The Committee may take any other steps as it sees fit to inform the electorate of Egham Town and surrounding wards.

10 Termination of the Association

- 10.1 The Association may be dissolved if a resolution in respect of this is passed by a two thirds majority, voting by secret ballot, of the Association's membership, at a General Meeting.
- 10.2 One months notice must be given of any such resolution and the meeting at which it is to be discussed.
- 10.3 Subject to any specific directions of any resolution (passed as in 10.1) the Committee shall, after payment or collection of any debts of/or to the Association, pay any remaining funds to a purpose(s) as is/are agreed will contribute to the amenities/facilities of Egham Town Ward.

Clauses amended:

**3.2, 8.1 (October 1985) 5.6 (October 1987) 2.1,2.4,3.1,3.2 (October 1999)
2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 4.2,4.3, 5.3, 5.4, 5.6,6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 7.4, 8.3, 9.2. (October 2002)**