

Constitution for Arts 50 Alive!

Arts 50 Alive! is an intergenerational network and is an unincorporated association.

1. Aims of the Network

The Aim of the Network is to bring the generations together in order to break down barriers, challenge stereotypes and improve generational relationships in order to develop and improve community cohesion.

2. Objectives of the Network:

- Acquire funding for intergenerational initiatives.
- Bring older people and younger people together using a variety of resources/media.
- Offer mutual support to groups within the Network, for example via meetings, newsletters,
- social activities, supporting volunteers, sharing policies and procedures and to share good practice both within the Network and outside it with other like minded organisations.
- Reduce isolation amongst the Network's groups and their members in order to offer opportunities of informal learning, acquiring new skills and celebrating a culturally diverse society.
- Raise confidence of members and increase participation in local activities.
- The Network will consist of a volunteer leader and/or representative from each group or agency that is prepared to contribute to the Network's functioning. This will entail attending a minimum of 4 meetings per annum. There will also be opportunities to attend intergenerational events, projects and sub group meetings where appropriate and where established. The Network is open to any organisation, agency or voluntary group within the West Midlands area, that has expressed an interest in becoming a member of the Network for the above reasons.

3. Objectives will be achieved by:

- Volunteers and agencies attending the Network's meetings and being active at those meetings in sharing it's work and exchanging useful contacts, details and rules of their groups.
- The Network will produce two newsletters per year stating the progress of the projects and information associated with intergenerational work or associated services.
- The Network will evidence project work delivered by a variety of methods including photographic displays.
- Applications for funding will be based on intergenerational projects that may include arts based projects eg: photography, dance drama etc, as well as any other means of bringing the generations together.
- Costs will be forecasted for each application so that each group can become involved at some stage throughout. It is predicted that several applications to different funders will be needed at different times to meet identified needs. Application to various funders will be made on this basis. (If total funding is not received then the funds available will be proportionately distributed across the groups in the network to undertake a smaller scale project).
- All groups receiving funding via the Network will need to adhere to the regulations of the appropriate funding bodies and the Network's rules.
- No group is allowed to charge for activities offered through these funding mechanisms.
- Appropriate financial records will be maintained.
- All groups' management committees will be expected to have their own Health & Safety policies, Equal Opportunities policies, police checks for volunteers where appropriate and insurance cover and to maintain an appropriate awareness of legislation and comply accordingly.
- No event should be organised so that it precludes members of the public/groups from attending due to their race, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, class, religion, marital status or where they live.
- The network's view is that it is both morally and legally unacceptable for a group or its members to operate in either a directly or indirectly discriminating manner.
- Language or humour that may be found offensive should not be used e.g. sexist or racist jokes; people's feelings and values should be respected.
- Any publicity used should clearly identify the Network's support of the event and the awarding body of the grant. The work should be welcoming to all groups in the community and the network.

- For events, training and meetings it is important that, wherever possible, that buildings are accessible to everyone. All buildings must meet the necessary legislative requirements in terms of health & safety for access by members of the public.
- Any links with children via schools, playcentres and/or similar organisations shall require teachers/leaders from that particular organisation to be present at the event. They will be responsible for the children throughout the entire contact and must not under any circumstances leave any of the children unsupervised.
- A bank account (Lloyds TSB) is operated by the officers solely for the purposes of this network and its aims. Two of three signatories are required for the issuing of cheques.
- Officers of the network are to be elected at an annual meeting by the majority of the leaders representing the Network.
- Any proposed amendments to the rules, aims and orders should be made at the annual meeting or a special meeting alongside the declaration of the accounts and should be approved by the majority of the groups in the Network.

4. Honorary Management Committee

There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the organisation which shall be held in October of each year or as soon as is practicable thereafter. The Management Committee shall call every Annual General Meeting. The secretary shall give at least 21 days notice of the Annual General Meeting to all the members of the organisation, who shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting.

At the Annual General Meeting, the members shall elect from among themselves, the following honorary officers, who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting:

The Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

5. Management Committee

The management committee shall consist of:

- the Honorary Officers specified in the preceding clauses.
- Not less than four and not more than 10 Ordinary Members.
- A member of the management committee shall cease to hold office if s/he:
 - Has been convicted of any offence involving dishonesty or deception
 - Has become incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury or of managing her/his own affairs
 - Is absent without the permission of the management committee from all its meetings held within a period of 12 months and the committee resolves that s/he shall cease to hold office, or

- Notifies the management committee of her/his resignation: provided that at least three members of the committee will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect.

1. MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- a) the management committee shall hold at least 4 ordinary meetings each year. A special meeting may be called by the chair or by any two members of the management committee upon not less than 14 days notice being given to the members of the management committee of the matters to be discussed.
- b) there shall be a quorum when 6 persons are present at the meeting.
- c) when a vote is taken the matter shall be decided by the majority of those present and voting. In the case of equality of votes the chair shall have the casting vote.
- d) The secretary shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of the management committee.
- e) In the absence of the Chair or Secretary, the first business of the meeting shall be ensure that a substitute is appointed for the duration of the meeting.

Current management committee members:

Chair: Rebecca Debenham

Treasurer: Rhonda Urbano

Secretary: Janice Boyett

Cheque Signatories:

Rhonda Urbano

Janice Boyett

Rebecca Debenham

Committee Members to include representatives from:

Northfied Town Centre Partnership Northfied Town Centre Partnership

Weoley Castle Community Church Day Centre

Harborne Baptist Church

Allens Cross Day Centre

Deelands Hall Over 50s

Batchley Support Group

Bournville Village Trust

Natter Club, Church of the Ascension

Weather Oak Day Centre

Cotteridge Church Day Centre

St Stephen's Church Day Centre

Allenscroft Over 50s

Age Concern

Quadrangle Sheltered Housing Scheme

Shenley Court Hall Youth and Community Trust

Connecting Neighbourhoods

5. Finance and accounts

The Treasurer shall present to each ordinary meeting of the Management Committee an up to date statement of the accounts.

6. Receipts and expenditure

The funds of the organisation, including all donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into an account operated by the Management Committee in the name of the organisation at such bank or other financial institution, as the management committee shall from time to time decide. Funds belonging to the organisation shall be applied only in furthering the objects.

8. Alterations to the Constitution

This Constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting. Where alteration involved a change to clause 2 (The Objects), clause 9 (Dissolution), or to this clause, at least 21 days prior notice must be given to all members.

9. Dissolution

If the Management Committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the organisation, it shall call a General Meeting of all members of the organisation, of which not less than 21 days notice shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, the management committee shall have the power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the organisation. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be transferred to such other organisation(s) having similar objects to the organisation as the General Meeting or the Management Committee (in the absence of direction from the General Meeting) may determine.

This constitution was revised on 9th June 2009