

Friends of the Emm Brook

Established 22 November 2004

Name

The name of the organisation is Friends of the Emm Brook, hereinafter called “the organisation”

Aims

Protecting and enhancing the Emm Brook and its flood plain for wildlife and people.

Purpose

To –

- a) Maintain and enhance the bio-diversity of the brook and its flood plain
- b) Study and monitor wildlife species and habitats and study the history of the Emm Brook
- c) Increase public awareness and understanding of the Emm Brook and its wildlife
- d) Improve recreational use and public access to the Emm Brook
- e) Inform the membership and wider public of the activities of the organisation

Means

The organisation will develop a management strategy and plans for the brook and its flood plain in order to obtain Local Nature Reserve status. The management strategy and plans will be drawn up in consultation with members, local residents and other organisations and will be reviewed and updated regularly.

The organisation will carry out, either itself or through affiliated groups, management tasks to maintain and improve the environment and access to the brook.

Surveys will be carried out to discover and monitor the various species, habitats and examine public accessibility.

The organisation will liaise with landowners, local authorities, wildlife and environmental bodies, interested local organisations and others to encourage monitoring, improvements and suitable access.

The organisation will publicise its work as widely as possible to maintain interest in the project and to seek funds for its work.

Organisation

Membership will be open to all individuals and organisations supporting the aims of the organisation.

The Friends of the Emm Brook will act as an umbrella organisation for smaller groups with specific interests – such as adopting small lengths of the brook, studying specific species. The smaller groups will be encouraged to provide input into the management strategy and plans for the brook, to carry out the tasks identified and to report back on progress.

A committee, consisting of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and at least 4 others will operate the organisation between Annual General Meetings. A quorum of 6 is required for Committee meetings.

The organisation will hold regular, publicised open meetings, which any member will be entitled to attend.

The organisation will set up a suitable banking account and the authorised signatories will be any two from Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Vice Chairman.

Accounts will be kept by the Treasurer, submitted to, and approved by an Annual General Meeting.

The organisation will maintain appropriate insurance cover for volunteers working on its behalf and for third party claims for personal injury or damage to property.

If the organisation shall, by a two-thirds majority decision of its members at an AGM or EGM*, cease to exist then its assets shall pass to another local group as agreed at the meeting.

This constitution may be altered by the consent of a simple majority of members at an AGM or EGM*.

* Special meetings to be called with at least two weeks notice and publicised to members, and by a notice in the local newspaper stating the purpose of the meeting.

This Constitution was approved by the initial Steering Committee at its meeting on 31 January 2005 and adopted by the organisation at its AGM on 16 May 2005.