

Constitution for Bishop Monkton Village Hall & QEII Playing Fields

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1. **NAME**

Bishop Monkton Village Hall and QEII Playing Fields (hereinafter called BMVHPF).

2. **CHARITABLE STATUS**

BMVHPF is a Charity Registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, Registration Number 1080633.

3. **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the BMVHPF shall be to provide for the inhabitants of the Parish of Bishop Monkton and neighbourhood (hereinafter called the area of benefit) facilities in the interests of social welfare, for recreation and leisure, with the aim of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants without either distinction of sex, or of political, religious or other opinions.

4. **TRUSTEES**

Holding Trustees – All current fully elected members of Bishop Monkton Parish Council

Managing Trustees - Named members of The Managing Committee of BMVHPF plus at least one independent, non associated member of the public.

5. **TRUST PROPERTY**

The title of all and any real property which may be acquired by, or for the purpose of BMVHPF, shall be vested in the Holding Trustees. The Holding Trustees shall enter into a Deed of Trust setting forth the purposes and conditions under which they hold the said property in trust for BMVHPF.

6. **COMMITTEE**

a) Two fully elected members of Bishop Monkton Parish Council.

b) One fully paid up Committee member of Bishop Monkton Women's Institute.

c) One fully paid up Committee member from the permanent organisations within the boundaries of the Parish of Bishop Monkton which are integral to the regular operation of the Village Hall and Playing Fields, would support the running of BMVH&PF and be subject to annual 'affiliation' fees (or the equivalent). The representative shall be eighteen years of age and over.

The Constitutions of the permanent organisations wishing to appoint a member of the Committee (where applicable) shall be inspected in the first instance by the BMVHPF Steering Committee and thereafter by the current Committee for approval to appoint members to the Committee.

The appointed Committee shall elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer (the Officers of the Committee) and shall meet at least four times during their year of appointment. One of their meetings must be the Annual General Meeting. All members of the Committee shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to appoint such Sub-Committees as it may from time to time decide, and may determine their powers and terms of reference.

The Committee shall have the powers to co-opt additional members who support the running of BMVH&PF, provided that the total number of co-opted members (as defined in this clause together with any from clause d)) does not exceed or equal the total number of appointed members. The election of these accepted members requires nominating and voting at a regular or special committee meeting, with at least two thirds of 'members' present at that committee meeting agreeing to the election.

d) The Committee shall have the powers to co-opt other permanent organisations within the boundaries of the Parish of Bishop Monkton, which might not have constitutions, providing their 'established aims are for the benefit of the community'. Their representatives on the Management Committee must be an Officer or Appointee of that organisation. The co-option these organisations requires nominating and voting at a regular or special committee meeting, with at least two thirds of 'members' present at that committee meeting agreeing. The numbers of such co-opted organisations shall not exceed two thirds the numbers of permanent organisations as defined in clause c) above.

7. BY-LAWS

The Committee shall have the power to make by-laws for regulating the conduct and affairs of BMVHPF provided the same are consistent with the letter and spirit of the Constitution. Such by-laws shall be posted in some conspicuous part of BMVHPF premises and shall be binding on all members.

8. PAID OFFICERS

The Committee shall have the power at their discretion to appoint paid officers (who shall not be members of the Committee) to manage BMVHPF affairs.

No member of the Committee shall acquire any interest in property belonging to BMVHPF (otherwise than as a trustee for BMVHPF) or receive remuneration or to be interested (otherwise than as a member of the Management Committee) in any contract entered into by the Management Committee.

9. QUORUM

At Committee Meetings, a Quorum is deemed to be 50% of the full Committee numbers. The Chairman of the Committee shall have the casting vote. Members of the Committee unable to attend committee meetings may appoint an elected deputy from their respective organisation. Every matter shall be determined by the majority of numbers present and voting on the question.

10. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the BMVHPF shall be open to:-

- a) All inhabitants of the Parish of Bishop Monkton.
- b) Persons outside the Parish of Bishop Monkton who join an organisation recognised by the Committee.

The Committee shall have either the right at their discretion to co-opt organisations and members.

The Committee shall have the right for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member or organisation. The member or organisation shall have the right to be heard by the Committee before a decision is made.

All permanent organisations co-opted onto the Committee of BMVHPF shall be self-financed.

11. FINANCE

All monies raised by or on behalf of BMVHPF shall be applied to further the objectives of BMVHPF and for no other purposes.

The Honorary Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of BMVHPF.

12. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice of the AGM and Special General Meetings shall be given in the area of benefit at least twenty-one days before the date thereof by affixing a notice to some conspicuous part of the BMVHPF premises and other conspicuous places in the area of benefit. Such a notice shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

13. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A general meeting of BMVHPF shall be held every year to transact the following business:-

- a) To receive and, if approved, to adopt a statement of the accounts to the end of the preceding financial year.
- b) To consider and, if approved, sanction any duly made alteration of the rules.
- c) To adopt nominations for the next Management Committee from the respective permanent organisations.
- d) To appoint the Officers of the Management Committee.
- e) To appoint Auditor(s) and Solicitor(s).
- f) To deal with any special matter which the Committee desire to try before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee.

The Meeting is open to all persons and organisations in the area of benefit but voting on any issue shall be restricted to those persons aged eighteen years and over.

14. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Committee may convene a Special General Meeting at any time. A meeting shall be convened from the receipt of a requisition in writing signed by not less than twenty members specifying the object of the meeting. The Meeting is open to all persons and organisations in the area of benefit but voting on any issue shall be restricted to those persons aged eighteen years and over.

15. ALTERATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

Any proposal to alter this Constitution must be delivered in writing to the Secretary of the Committee not less than twenty eight days before the date of the meeting at which it is to be considered.

An alteration will require approval of both -

- a) Subject to the following provisions of this clause the constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting. The notice of the general meeting must include notice of the resolution, setting out the terms of the alteration proposed.
- b) No amendments may be made to clause 1, 3, 8, 16 or this clause without prior consent in writing of the Commissioners.
- c) No amendments may be made which would have the effect of making the Charity cease to be a charity at law.

16. DISSOLUTION

If the Committee by a simple majority decides at any time on the grounds of expense or otherwise that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve BMVHPF it shall call a meeting of all members of BMVHPF who have the power to vote, of which meeting notice shall be given as provided in “Notice of Meeting” hereof and shall also be advertised in a newspaper circulating in the area of benefit and also given in writing to the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales. If such a decision shall be confirmed by a simple majority of those present and voting at such meeting the Committee shall have the power to dispose of any assets held over by or in the name of BMVHPF. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be applied towards charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitant of the area of benefit as the Committee may decide and as may be approved by the Charity Commissioners of England and Wales.

17. ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION & REVISIONS

The Constitution of BMVHPF shall be binding on all individual members and affiliated and co-opted organisations. This Constitution was adopted by the Committee on

..... 20.....

Signed Chairman

..... Secretary

Changes made in April 2024 are highlighted.
Previous changes were made in February 2023.

April 2024