



Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch Association Constitution

1. Name.

To be known as the Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch Association – (“Association”)

2. Objectives.

- a. To promote a greater public awareness and participation in the prevention and solution of crime by working with the Dorset Police Service in the area of Canford Heath.
- b. To provide a forum for the exchange of information between members of contact groups and to promote initiatives and best practice through meetings, events and newsletters, including electronic mail.
- c. To facilitate liaison between watch officers and supporters together with other watch groups in Poole and Dorset, all relevant Poole crime prevention bodies, the Regional Area and National Neighbourhood Watch Associations and other voluntary and statutory organisations as required.
- d. To promote care and concern for one's neighbours and their property.

3. Supporters.

Any resident of Canford Heath in an area from time to time defined and agreed shall be eligible to be a supporter. There is no supporter roll nor any compulsory subscription.

A supporter is a resident who lives in the watch area as described above. It is assumed that a supporter will be part of a contact group and has the opportunity to receive the association's newsletter.

To meet running costs, supporters will be asked yearly to donate and or give voluntary donations of £2 or above.

Representatives of the Dorset Police Service are eligible to be ex-officio supporters.

Supporters will link up with their neighbours to form (small) contact groups. One person could agree to be the contact link (street co-ordinator) for their group.

4. Committee.

Shall consist of:

Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and other such roles as the Association shall from time to time decide; henceforth to be known as the officers; together with the area co-ordinators. Area co-ordinators may be appointed to liaise between a number of street co-ordinators and the committee. The officers shall be elected at the AGM and can be eligible for re-election. In addition, representatives of the Dorset Police Service shall be entitled to attend committee meetings in some ex-officio, non-voting capacity.

5. Election.

Anyone wishing to stand as Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, or any other officer role, shall notify the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the AGM that they intend to stand. Each nominee shall be proposed and seconded by watch group supporters at the AGM. Each supporter shall have one vote per officer and voting rights shall be open to all supporters attending the AGM. In the event of equal numbers of votes for a nominee, the Chairperson shall have the deciding vote. There shall be no provision made for proxy or postal voting. In the event of a vacancy for an officer position between AGMs the remaining officers shall be empowered to fill the vacancy with a co-opted supporter resident in the watch area, and the agreement of the respective officers shall be recorded in the minutes.

6. Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings.

At least two weeks notice of such meetings shall be notified either electronically by post or hand delivered. The AGM shall as a minimum conduct the following business; The Election of Officers, The consideration of an Annual Report of the Association, and the consideration of the Annual Accounts of the Association. Extraordinary General Meetings shall be convened as required. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by a minimum of two officers or by at least 10% of the members, independent of the officers.

7. Funds.

Shall be kept in bank or building society accounts. Signatories shall be any two of the elected officers. The financial year will end on 31st December and the accounts will be presented at the AGM.

8. Meetings.

- a. The committee shall meet as required and the minutes will be recorded. A quorum for committee meetings shall consist of four of the committee members of the Association present.
- b. General Meetings shall be arranged by the committee.

9. Alterations to the Constitution.

The constitution may be amended at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting. Amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary four weeks before such a meeting. Amendments shall be approved by not less than one third of the supporters attending the meeting.

10. Dissolution.

Dissolution of the Association shall be by vote of not less than two thirds of the supporters attending a meeting specifically called for the purpose. Notice of such proposal shall be notified to the supporters in a newsletter or by public notice at least four weeks prior to the meeting. Funds held in the name of the association shall be donated to a charitable organisation as the committee may decide. A copy of the final accounts shall be distributed to those supporters attending the meeting.

Version dated 25th October 2016.