



Constitution

Name

1. The name of the association shall be "Silver City Surfers", hereafter referred to as the "Association".

Objects

2. The purposes of the Association shall be the advancement of education in the field of technology and the advancement of citizenship and community development for the benefit of adults in the City of Aberdeen and in the North-East of Scotland who struggle to understand and access technology. In furtherance of this the Association will aim:

- a) To provide opportunities for adults to try out technologies by making facilities available which are user-friendly
- b) To ensure that adults have access to learning opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills.
- c) To ensure that they do not become isolated through lack of knowledge and understanding of technology.
- d) To work in partnership with other organisations to achieve these purposes.

Powers

3. In furtherance of the above objects, the Association may:

- a) Purchase, take on lease, hire, or otherwise acquire, any property which is suitable for the Association's activities
- b) Raise funds in a legal manner
- c) Borrow money and provide as security any property held in trust on behalf of the Association
- d) Rent buildings or land
- e) Employ staff
- f) Engage consultants and advisers considered appropriate from time to time
- g) Take out insurance cover

General Structure

4. The structure of the Association shall consist of:

- a) The MEMBERS - who have the right to attend the Annual General Meeting (and any Special General Meeting) and have important powers under the constitution; in particular, the members elect people to serve on the Management Committee and take decisions in relation to changes to the constitution itself.
- b) The MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (MC) - which holds regular meetings, and generally controls the activities of the Association; for example, the MC is responsible for monitoring and controlling the financial position of the Association.

Qualifications for membership

5. Membership shall be open to anyone over 18 in the North East of Scotland who has a genuine interest in promoting the objects of the Association.

6. Employees of the Association are not eligible for membership; anyone who becomes an employee of the Association after admission to membership shall automatically cease to be a member.

Application for membership

7. Any person who wishes to become a member must lodge an application to the MC. The MC may, at its discretion, refuse to admit any person to membership.

8. The MC shall consider each application for membership at the first MC after the application has been lodged. All applicants will be advised of the decision within a reasonable time period.

9. Members will be invited annually with the notice of the AGM to renew their membership. If membership is not renewed, it will lapse.

Annual General Meetings

10. An Annual General Meeting shall be held no later than 31 October each year at which the MC will report on the preceding year's work, present the accounts and approve the minutes of the previous year's AGM.

11. Not less than 21 days notice of the AGM will be given to members; such notice may be by post or by email.

12. The quorum for the AGM shall be 20% of the total membership or eight, whichever is the smaller number.

13. The AGM shall elect the new Management Committee, vote on recommendations and any amendments to the constitution.

14. Motions for the AGM shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than 14 days before the AGM. Any such motions shall be intimated to members. Amendments to such motions must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no less than seven days prior to the AGM.

15. Each member shall have one vote. In the event of a tied vote the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

16. Any changes to the constitution must be approved by not less than two thirds of the members attending the AGM.

17. A minute of the AGM shall be prepared and be available for inspection by any member at the following AGM.

Special General Meetings

18. A Special General Meeting can be called if at least eight members make this request, in writing to the Secretary and will have only one item on the agenda. The agenda and notice of the meeting will be sent to all members at least 10 working days prior to the meeting date.

Management Committee

19. The people serving on the MC are referred to in this constitution as CHARITY TRUSTEES or TRUSTEES; they must also be members of the Association for the purposes of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

20. A person will not be eligible for election or appointment to the MC if (s)he is disqualified from being a charity trustee under the above act, or is an employee of the organisation.

21. The MC comprising not less than six and not more than twelve members shall be elected at the AGM.

22. Subject to the above limits, the MC may at any time appoint any member to join the committee and become a charity trustee, by way of a resolution passed by majority vote at a committee meeting.

23. A Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected from the trustees at the first meeting of the MC following the AGM. Nominations should be submitted to the Secretary in writing prior to the meeting and require a proposer and seconder. Any vacancy in these posts arising between AGMs shall be filled by way of a resolution passed by majority vote at a committee meeting.

24. Not less than a third of Charity Trustees shall form a quorum.

25. The MC acting reasonably shall determine the frequency of MC meetings. Dates for subsequent meetings will be agreed at the first meeting following the AGM.

Management Committee Meetings

21. MC meetings will be held as agreed at the first MC meeting after the AGM.
22. An agenda and information related to items will be sent to Trustees at least seven days prior to the meeting. Trustees should contact the Secretary at least 10 working days prior to the meeting with agenda items.
23. Minutes of all meetings will be taken. These will be circulated to Trustees within 10 working days of the meeting. Trustees will be entitled to request copies of minutes and agendas.

Finance

24. The Treasurer will maintain a bank account in the name of the Association. The account will have at least three signatories nominated by the committee and cheques/payments must be signed/endorsed by two of these signatories.
25. The Treasurer will report on the financial position of the Association at every meeting of the MC. The Treasurer shall keep accounts, have them inspected by an independent examiner appointed by the MC, and present them annually at the AGM for inspection.
26. All monies received shall be devoted to the aims of the Association.

Dissolution

27. Dissolution of the Association will take place only at a Special General Meeting and only if agreed by the majority of the membership present at the meeting.
28. Funds and possessions shall be dispersed only to organisations sharing similar aims to the Association or to a local charity, according to the wishes of the meeting.

Interpretation

29. For the purpose of this constitution,
 - (a)The expression "charity" shall mean a body which is either a "Scottish charity" within the meaning of Section 13 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 or a "charity" within the meaning of Section 96 of the Charities Act 1993.
 - (b)The expression "charitable purpose" shall mean a charitable purpose under Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 which is also regarded as a charitable purpose in relation to the applications of Sections 505 and 506 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988
 - (c)Any reference in this constitution to a provision of any legislation shall include any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision in force from time to time.

Adoption

This constitution was adopted by the Association on: 25th August 2023

Name of Chairperson: Louise Farmer

Signed by Chairperson:



Revisions

Revision 1: When the Association was set up.

- Original constitution agreed at the setting up of the Association

Revision 2: January 2019.

- Considerable reorganisation and updating of material.
- Clarification of the fact that SCS is members based and inclusion of clauses to specify how members are admitted and leave, and their rights.
- Removal of certain ambiguities

Revision 3: August 2023.

- Amendment to original purpose of charity
- Removal of age restriction to cover all adults who struggle to understand and access technology.