

Fringe

Constitution

Adopted on the ___9_ day of January 2006

A. Name

The name of the Association is 'Fringe', hereto referred to in this document as 'The group'.

B. Aims and Objects

The group exists to promote and enhance the work of its membership, who are made up of professional, or actively striving to be professional, artists and crafts people.

Its aims are:

- To stimulate economic growth through the practice and production of artwork.
- To support and promote work of the highest quality.
- To actively market its members work, locally, nationally and internationally.
- To raise the profile of its members and their work, raising the creative profile of the Doncaster region.
- To develop its members as creative businesses.
- To encourage professional development.
- To encourage wider participation in the arts

C. Powers

The Committee has the following powers:

- To raise funds and charge membership subscriptions.
- To make appropriate charges for services and the sale of art works on behalf of its members.
- To employ such staff and contractors as are necessary for the achieving of the aims and objectives.
- To buy, rent, hire, take on lease, or in exchange any property or equipment necessary for the achievement of the aims and objectives and to maintain and equip it for use.
- To appoint and constitute such advisory committees as the Committee may think fit.
- To do all other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the aims and achievements.

D. Membership

The organisation is made up of Members.

- 1. Membership is open to:**
 - **Individuals, and any organisation, body or business. that have been approved through the group's selection process.**
 - **Artists and Craft people that are either professional, or actively striving to be professional, creative businesses.**

- 2. Members are entitled to benefits which include:**
 - **Opportunities to exhibit.**
 - **Marketing and promotion opportunities through the group's publications, websites, events and press and media releases.**
 - **The right to use the group's logo as a promotional aid.**
 - **Participation in a member-led organisation, working for the benefit of artists and crafts people, committed to quality.**
 - **Networking opportunities for mutual support, funding advice etc.**
 - **Professional development and practical training opportunities.**
 - **Access to professional advice and services.**

- 3. Every Member shall have one vote.**

- 4. The Committee may unanimously and for good reason terminate the membership of any individual or member body. Provided that the individual or member body (as the case maybe) shall have the right to be heard by the Committee, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.**

E. Committee

The Committee shall consist of not less than nine members or more than 15 members:

- 1. Honorary Officers to be elected from amongst the group's members**
at, and serving from, the Annual General Meeting, consisting of not less than: a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer.

- 2. Not less than nine members and not more than 15 members to be elected at the AGM who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting.**

3. **The Committee may in addition appoint not more than three co-opted members, who will have no voting rights.**
4. **Committee Members will serve for one year. At the AGM at the end of the first year, all Members of the Committee shall retire from office together but they may be re-elected or reappointed. Thereafter Committee Members shall retire from office annually, but can be re-elected or reappointed.**
5. **Members can be elected or removed at an Emergency General Meeting (EGM) as long as 25% of the membership is present and the meeting is a quorum of 9.**

F. Meetings

1. **The Committee shall hold at least two ordinary meetings each year.**
2. **An EGM may be called at any time by the Chair or by any two Members of the Committee upon not less than 14 days notice being given to other Committee Members.**
3. **The Chair shall chair all Committee meetings, unless absent when the Committee Members shall choose one of their number to be Chair of the meeting before any business is transacted.**
4. **A quorum is required of 9, or 25% of Committee Members, whichever is greater for specific decision to be made at these meetings.**
5. **Every matter shall be determined by a majority vote of Committee Members present and voting on the question, but in the case of equality of votes, the Chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.**
6. **The Committee may from time to time make and alter rules for the conduct of their business, consistent with this constitution.**
7. **The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees consisting of three people consisting of at least one or more Committee Members to progress the group's aims and objectives.**

G. Accounts

The Committee will:

- Keep full and independently audited annual accounts of all income and financial transactions.
- Open and manage an account with a suitable bank or building society, with three signatories from the Committee Members, one of which is to be the Treasurer.

H. Alterations To The Constitution

Alterations may be made to the constitution if it is deemed necessary to help achieve the group's aims and objectives. This shall only be done at an AGM or at an EGM subject to the normal quorum being achieved and the rules governing the calling of an EGM being followed.

I. Dissolution

If the Committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the group it shall call a meeting of all members of the organisation, giving not less than twenty one days notice (stating the terms of the resolution proposed). If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and the voting Committee shall have the power to realise any assets held by, or on behalf of the group.

Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other organisation or institution having similar aims and objectives to the group as Members of the group may determine.

K. Equal Opportunities

It is the policy of the group to represent and work and collaborate with People irrespective of their disability; gender; marital or family status; nationality; race or ethnic origin; religious belief or political opinion; or sexual orientation.

This constitution was adopted on the date mentioned above and signed below by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.

Name RODGER LEE (Chairman) Signature R Lee

Witnessed by: T Ranson TERESA RANSON
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