

# PECKHAM VISION CONSTITUTION

Peckham Vision is a resident-led local community consortium of individuals who live, work or run a business in Peckham. Its vision is to support Peckham town centre as a thriving and sustainable social and commercial centre, and to contribute to Peckham being a good place for all in which to live, work and visit.

## 1. NAME

The name of the group shall be Peckham Vision, hereafter referred to as the Group.

## 2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Group are to:

- 2.1 Promote and encourage citizen action to revitalise Peckham town centre so that it is an integrated and resilient place and links past, present and future for the benefit of all who live and work there.
- 2.2 Create and nurture ways of connecting people in Peckham who share enthusiasm and desire to help develop and realise the potential of Peckham, and to make the lessons available beyond Peckham.

## 3. POWERS

In furtherance of the objects, but not otherwise, the Management Board (hereafter referred to as the Board) may exercise the power to:

- 3.1 Exchange information, advice and knowledge; and work with individuals and organisations who share any of these aims, and where appropriate in partnership, especially with local community groups, voluntary organisations, enterprises, and public agencies including Southwark Council and railway companies.
- 3.2 Campaign to improve the management of Peckham town centre.
- 3.3 Facilitate and encourage informed discussion about the future of Peckham town centre, using the restoration of the historic buildings throughout the town centre to stimulate other quality developments, and wider social and economic benefits for Peckham.
- 3.4 Invite and receive contributions including the charging of subscriptions, and raise funds where appropriate to finance the work of the Group, and to open a bank account to manage such funds.
- 3.5 Generate income through trading to support the work, and where appropriate for Board members and other Peckham Vision Associates to receive income from work done in association with Peckham Vision.
- 3.6 Publicise and promote the work of the Group and organise meetings, events and exhibitions, etc.
- 3.7 Employ staff and volunteers as are necessary to conduct activities to meet the objects of the Group.
- 3.8 Take any lawful form of action which may be necessary to achieve the objects of the Group.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

The Group will have two categories of full membership:

4.1 The Board: individuals with relevant experience, local knowledge and networks appointed as Board members according to the terms outlined in section 6. below.

4.2 Individual ordinary members: individuals invited by the Board to act as advisers and critical friends who contribute their senior experience and local knowledge. They will not equal or outnumber the Board members.

The Group will have two categories of other forms of membership:

4.3 Friends of Peckham Vision, who will be individuals in some way active in assisting the Group to achieve its objects and willing to adhere to the behaviours and rules of the Group. Provision will be made for regularly seeking their views on Peckham Vision's priorities.

4.4 Mailing list members: those who wish to be kept informed by Peckham Vision.

In addition:

4.5 Where it is considered membership would be detrimental to the aims and activities of the Group, the Board shall have the power to refuse membership, or may terminate or suspend the membership of any member by no less than a two thirds majority resolution passed at a Board meeting.

4.6 Any member may resign his/her membership by providing the Secretary with written notice.

Arrangements for the operation of the Friends and the mailing list will be made by the Board.

#### **5. BEHAVIOUR**

5.1 Peckham Vision will not act in a way which discriminates against anyone because of nationality, race, colour, sexual orientation, disability, or political or religious belief.

5.2 It shall be a condition of membership and volunteer involvement that members and volunteers at all times conduct themselves in a reasonable and courteous manner in correspondence and all forms of communication, and at meetings or in premises used by Peckham Vision.

#### **6. MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Group shall be administered by a Board of no less than three (3) people and no more than ten (10), who must be at least 18 years of age. Board members will be appointed by the Board for a period of up to three (3) years, renewable thereafter at each AGM.

#### **7. OFFICERS**

The Board shall appoint from its members:

- The Coordinator, who will also act as Chair
- The Treasurer
- The Secretary,

of which two must be appointed as cheque signatories, and any additional officers the Group deems necessary to carry out the required activities

## **8. MEETINGS**

8.1 The Board shall meet at least four (4) times a year. Meetings shall enable the Group to discuss actions and monitor progress to date, and to consider future developments.

8.2 A minimum of 3 and not less than half of Management Board members must be present in order for a meeting to take place.

8.3 If Board members have a conflict of interest they must declare it and leave the meeting while this matter is being discussed or decided

8.4 The Board may agree further operational arrangements for its meetings to achieve good governance, which must not conflict with this constitution or the law.

8.5 The AGM shall take place no later than three months after the end of the financial year. At least fourteen (14) days' notice must be given before the meeting takes place.

8.6 All full members – the Board and individual ordinary members - are entitled to vote at the AGM. Voting shall be made by a show of hands - on a majority basis. In the case of a tied vote, the Chair or an appointed deputy shall have the casting vote.

## **9. FINANCE**

9.1 Any money acquired by the Group, including donations, contributions and bequests, and trading income, shall be paid into an account operated by the Board in the name of the Group. All funds must be applied to the objects of the Group and for no other purpose.

9.2 Bank accounts shall be opened in the name of the Group. Any deeds, cheques, etc relating to the Group's bank account shall be signed by two out of three agreed signatories, two of which need to be from the following Board members: Coordinator; Treasurer; Secretary.

9.3 Any income/expenditure shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer who will be accountable to ensure funds are utilised effectively and that the Group stays within budget. Official accounts shall be maintained, and will be examined annually by an independent accountant who is not a member of the Group. An annual financial report shall be presented at the AGM. The Group's accounting year shall run from 01 April to 31 March.

9.4 Peckham Vision Associates will as necessary be temporarily appointed by the Board in a fee paid capacity to carry out specific responsibilities to further the Group's aims. They will be expected to adhere to the behaviours and rules of the Group as appropriate.

9.5 The terms and process for Board members to act as Peckham Vision Associates will be agreed by the Board which in turn will enable members to share appropriately in the trading income to which they personally contribute, while ensuring conflicts of interest are avoided.

## **10. ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

10.1 Any changes to this constitution must be agreed by a majority vote at a Special General Meeting of the Board.

10.2 Amendments to this constitution or dissolution of the Group must be conveyed to the Secretary formally in writing. The Secretary and other officers shall then decide on the date of a special general meeting to discuss such proposals, giving members at least four weeks (28 days) notice.

## **11. DISSOLUTION**

The Group may be dissolved if deemed necessary by full members in a majority vote at a special meeting. Any assets or remaining funds after debts have been paid shall be returned to their providers or transferred to local charities or similar groups at the discretion of the Board.

## **12. REVIEW**

This constitution will be reviewed in twelve (12) months following its adoption on the date below.

**THIS CONSTITUTION WAS ADOPTED AND OFFICERS APPOINTED AT AN AGM HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013 BY THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Eileen Conn (Coordinator/Chair)**

**Corinne Turner (Treasurer)**

**Frances Beckett (Secretary)**

**Clyde Watson**

**Benedict O'Looney**