

Mission Statement:

Grand Canal Dock Residents Association(GCDRA) is devoted to enhancing the quality of life for its members and all the residents of the Grand Canal Dock area in a fair, democratic and inclusive way.

Constitution:**1. Title**

The “Grand Canal Dock Residents Association”, hereinafter termed “The Association”, shall be non-political and non-sectarian.

2. Grand Canal Dock area

Grand Canal Dock is an area near the city center of Dublin, in the easternmost part of Dublin 2 and the westernmost part of Ringsend in Dublin 4, surrounding the Grand Canal Docks, an enclosed harbour or docking area between the River Liffey and the Grand Canal.

For the Associations purposes the area referred to as Grand Canal Dock is bound by (clockwise) Sir John Rogersons Quay, Britain Quay, South Dock Road, Ringsend Road, Barrow Street, Grand Canal Street Upper, Grand Canal Street Lower, Clanwilliam Terrace, Grand Canal Quay, Pearse Street, Macken Street, Cardiff Lane.

3. Objectives

The Association shall do all in its power:

- a. to preserve and develop all amenities in or available to residents in Grand Canal Dock.
- b. to support the development of such amenities in Grand Canal Dock as are sought by the residents in Grand Canal Dock or by members of the Association.
- c. to advance schemes for co-operative action for the benefit of its members.
- d. to assist other bodies and associations having similar objectives.

4. Membership

4.1 Membership shall be open to all residents in the Grand Canal Dock area as shall be approved by the Committee.

4.3 Membership shall imply acceptance of the constitution / association rules.

4.4 The Committee reserves the right to suspend or refuse membership of any member whose actions are considered by the Committee to be detrimental to the interests of the Association.

4.5 The Committee is empowered to terminate the membership of any individual whose conduct is considered detrimental to the interests of the Association.)

5. Committee

5.1 The affairs of the Association shall be administered by a Committee consisting of at least five members and not more than 12 who will be elected at an Annual General Meeting.

5.2 The elected Committee shall at its first meeting subsequent to the Annual General Meeting proceed to the election of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer ...

5.3 In the event of failure to elect the required minimum number of Committee members, the incoming Committee shall have the power to co-opt members to the minimum number required.

5.4 The quorum for a Committee Meeting shall be five.

5.5 The Committee shall meet at least four times in each year. Additional meetings may be called at the request of three Committee members. The Secretary shall record all decisions of the Associations' meetings.

5.6 The Committee shall have power to remove any of its members for unsatisfactory attendance, i.e. absence from three consecutive meetings, and/or misconduct at meetings and shall have the power to co-opt replacements as necessary.

5.7 The Committee shall hold office for a period of one year or until a General Meeting convened to elect a new committee. No officer of the Committee shall serve in the same position for more than four years on a consecutive basis.

5.8 The Committee is empowered to invite to their meetings any individual whose advice or assistance is desired.

6. Annual General Meeting

6.1 The Annual General Meeting(AGM) shall be held in the first calendar quarter each year at which a Committee shall be elected.

The Annual General Meeting shall receive reports and accounts of the

Committee's activities for the previous year and shall consider any other business as may be submitted.

The agenda of the Annual General Meeting shall comprise of:

- a. report by the Chairman
- b. report by Honorary Secretary
- c. report by Honorary Treasurer, including an audited statement of the accounts and balance sheet
- d. election of a committee
- e. Proposals / motions for consideration
- f. any other business.

6.2 Members shall receive at least four weeks notice of the Annual General Meeting.

6.3 Nominations for the Committee and all motions for consideration at the AGM shall be given in writing/email to the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting and shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Association. In the absence of sufficient or any postal nominations the Chairman is empowered to call for nominations from the floor.

6.4 A copy of the Agenda and Annual Report shall be circulated to the members at least seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Annual Report shall consist of the accounts of the previous year, a report of the Committee's activities and any other relevant material.

7. General Meeting

7.1 General Meetings may be called at the request of the Committee or on a petition signed by at least one fifth of members and presented to the Secretary who shall convene such a meeting between three and six weeks after receipt of the request. Before granting this request, the Committee may request a meeting with the members concerned.

7.2 Only business as set forth in the Agenda may be dealt with at such meetings.

7.3 Nine members shall form a quorum for a General Meeting.

7.4 If a quorum is not reached, the meeting shall be re-convened and all members informed of the new date and venue. Those present at a re-convened meeting shall constitute a quorum.

8. Elections and Voting

8.1 Election for Committee shall be by a show of hands, unless a majority of

those present request that the election should be by secret ballot, or unless there are more than 12 nominations.

8.2 Voting on all other matters shall be by a show of hands.

8.3 A simple majority shall be sufficient to carry a motion. In the case of a tie the Chairman shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

8.4 Only members shall have a vote at any properly convened meeting of the Association.

9. Finance

9.1 The annual subscription shall be decided by the Committee. The annual subscription shall be payable within 30 days of 1st January of each year. Members who join for the first time after 30 June shall pay half the appropriate subscription in that year and the full appropriate subscription in all subsequent years. Failure to renew the subscription before 31st December of that year incurs cancellation of membership.

9.2 The Association shall have an account in a financial institution - e.g. either a bank or a building society - into which all monies received shall be lodged.

9.3 All withdrawals shall bear the signatures of two of the following: Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Chairman, Assistant Chairman or committee approved members.

9.4 Outgoing Treasurers shall relinquish responsibility for the Association's accounts by signing all necessary forms within fourteen days after the election of a Treasurer by the incoming Committee.

9.5 The account of the Association shall be closed for audit purposes on the last day of December in each year.

9.6 Two members shall be appointed to audit the associations accounts.

9.7 A member shall have the right to inspect the books, records and accounts of the Association on providing a valid reason and on giving four weeks notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary.

10. Indemnity

All Officers of the Association shall be indemnified by the Association for any expenses incurred in executing their duties on behalf of, and on the direction of, the Committee of the Association.

11. Dissolution of the Association

The Association may be dissolved by the consent of two-thirds of the

members of the Association, testified by their signatures. After discharging all liabilities the balance left over shall be disposed of by a decision of the members at an Extraordinary General Meeting after hearing the Committee's proposals and receiving written suggestions from the members of the Association.

12. Interpretation of and Amendments to Rules

12.1 The committee will have the authority to decide on any uncertainty in these rules, or on any matter not covered by these rules and shall be responsible for proposing the appropriate amendment at the earliest possible time.

12.2 Amendments to this Constitution shall only be made at a General Meeting if approved by a two-thirds majority of those present.

Appendix 1. Duties of Officers:

The Chairperson:

- to ensure that the Association complies with its constitution
- to give a strategic direction to the Association
- to ensure the Association's policies are carried out
- to deliver the Chairpersons report to the AGM.

The chairperson may take emergency decisions in conjunction with other Honorary Officers in-between meetings, if required to do so, within the rules of the constitution.

The Vice-Chairperson:

- to stand in for the Chairperson, when absent from meetings

The Secretary:

- to ensure that a register of members is maintained
- to deal with the organisation's correspondence
- to issue notifications of Committee and of General Meetings
- to help plan meetings and to ensure they are carried out effectively and efficiently
- to record the attendance at meetings
- to keep minutes of each meeting
- to present a secretaries report to the AGM.

The Treasurer:

- to look after the Associations finances
- to receive monies on behalf of the Association and to invest them, as the Committee may decide
- to make payments as authorised by the Committee.
- to present a financial report and audited accounts to the AGM.