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CONSTITUTION of Mull Wildlife Group (Formerly the Isle of Mull Bird Club, est. 2001.)

The name of the Group is

MULL WILDLIFE GROUP

(henceforth referred to in this document as 'the Group'.)

1. Mull Wildlife Group is a non-profit organization open to all.

Nb "Wildlife" is deemed to include all natural history on the Isle of Mull;

For the purposes of this Constitution "Mull" is defined as the Mull archipelago, including the entirety of the Treshnish Isles.

2. Aims of the Group.

The aims of Mull Wildlife Group are to advance the enjoyment, knowledge and understanding of the public in the study of natural history in a social context and to contribute, as appropriate, to the conservation and betterment of nature and biodiversity on the Isle of Mull and its surrounds.

3. Objectives of the Group

- To hold regular meetings
- To encourage the conservation and protection of wildlife and the natural environment.
- To encourage Members to be sensitive to the environment in their activities
- To run field trips, outings, surveys and other such activities.
- To produce a newsletter from time to time and to make use of other media, including social media, at the discretion of the Committee.
- To offer affiliation to the Group for other groups with related interests, and affiliate to other groups as appropriate.
- In general to provide a voice for nature on Mull and to take any other steps in pursuance of the aims of the Group as deemed appropriate.

4. Membership

Membership is by annual subscription which falls due on 1st April annually. Changes to the level of subscription will be determined at the AGM. In the event of any change of subscription Members who pay their subscription before the AGM will be eligible to pay at the previous year rate. Members with a valid subscription at 31st March will be entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

New adult Members joining the Group after 1st January for their first subscription will be Members up to 31st March of the following year and will become eligible to vote immediately.

Children and young people up to and including the age of twenty-one or in full time education or training are entitled to free Membership.

Honorary Membership may be awarded to individuals on the recommendation of the Committee and agreed by a simple majority of votes cast at an AGM. Honorary officers and honorary Members who do not pay subscriptions shall have full rights of paying Members.

In the event of any member, in the opinion of the Committee, bringing the Group into disrepute, they may have their Membership suspended or terminated at the discretion of the Committee. Any such member will have a right of appeal to the Committee.

5. Committee

The Committee will consist of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary (Office Bearers) and general Committee Members.

Committee Members should be nominated at the AGM. Nominations for the election of Committee Members should be made by a member with a seconder and sent to the Secretary at least 7 days before the AGM. All Committee Members are eligible for re-election.

Members may be co-opted onto the Committee but not entitled to vote until they become elected Committee Members. Office Bearer roles will be Agreed by the Committee at the first committee meeting after the AGM.

The role of Chairperson may not be held by any one individual for more than five consecutive years.

6. Committee Meetings

A Committee meeting will be quorate when there is a minimum of 4 Members present, consisting of at least 2 Office Bearers and 2 Committee Members.

At all meetings, the Chairperson will have the casting vote.

The frequency of meetings will be at the discretion of the Committee.

7. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held as soon as practicable after the beginning of April.

Members will be given twenty one days notice of the meeting and the AGM will be quorate when there is a minimum of ten Members present.

The Treasurer will prepare audited accounts for the year ended 31st March for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

8. Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting can only be called through a petition, in writing to the Secretary, raised by one third of all Members or by the Committee.

Twenty one days notice of an EGM will be given to all Members and the EGM will be quorate when there is a minimum of ten Members present. In the event of Membership of the Group being fewer than ten all relevant decision-making will devolve to the Committee.

Only paid up Members, Honorary Officers and Honorary Members will be entitled to vote at an AGM or EGM.

The Mull Wildlife Group Constitution can only be changed following a proposal, seconded, and supported by a two thirds majority of votes cast at an AGM or EGM. Notice of any proposed amendments will be sent to Members 21 days prior to the meeting.

Other resolutions may be passed if supported by a simple majority of votes cast at an EGM or AGM.

9. President

The Group may elect a Member to the honorary office of President.

10. Finance

The income and property of the Group shall be applied solely towards the Group's aims. This shall include reimbursement of expenses and tokens of appreciation for services rendered, at the discretion of the Committee.

Cheques drawn on the Group accounts should be signed by the Treasurer and one other designated signatory.

An auditor should be agreed by the Committee.

11. Meetings

A small charge may be made for both regular and exceptional meetings. The level of the charge will be at the discretion the Committee.

Non-Members may attend all meetings and activities but do not have voting rights.

12. Website and Social Media platforms

The Group may maintain a website containing information relevant to its activities and organisation.

Reciprocal links from the website to other relevant sites, groups, and to Members' business activities in wildlife and tourism are permitted at the discretion of the Committee.

A Facebook page and other social media outlets may be maintained at the discretion of the Committee.

13. Dissolution

In the event of the Mull Wildlife Group becoming no longer viable the Secretary will inform all Members and an Extraordinary General Meeting to dissolve the Group will be called by the Committee. A two thirds majority of those present is required for any decisions to be implemented, including the disposal of the Group's assets.

Any such assets should not be distributed to Members but should be dispersed in keeping with the aims and objectives of the Group.

Signed (Chair)

Signed (Secretary)

Date