



North Humber RAYNET

Group Constitution

Article One – Organisation Name

The Organisation shall be known as *North Humber RAYNET*, hereafter referred to as *the Group*.

Article Two – Aims of the Organisation

The aim of The Group shall be to further the interests of licensed radio amateurs and radio enthusiasts who wish to provide an emergency or safety radio communications service to a designated user service, local authority, public interest group or charity and to carry out training exercises as preparation for the same.

Article Three - Membership

3.1 Admission and Registration

3.1.1 Membership of the Group is at the discretion of the Group Committee and is open to persons aged 14 or over, having demonstrable interest in furtherance of the Group's aims.

3.1.2 Admission to persons between the ages of 14 and 18 years requires written consent of parent or guardian. Such persons will not have the right to vote at any meeting, or be eligible for election to any office within the Group.

3.1.3 Membership of the Group shall be deemed to have lapsed if the member has not taken part in any of the Group's activities for a period of 12 consecutive months, or the subscription has not been paid.

3.1.4 Registration of Group members to The Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network will be made via the Group's Secretary.

3.2 Discipline

The Group Committee shall have the power to censure or expel any member guilty of conduct prejudicial to the aims of the Group; provided that no such censure or expulsion shall be made before the member in question had had the opportunity to:

- a) face those alleging such conduct or

- b) to explain his or her conduct before the Committee

Article Four - Administration

4.1 Committee

The Group shall be administered by the elected Committee which shall comprise a Chairman, who shall be the Group Controller:

Deputy Chairman / Deputy Controller
Secretary (who may also be the Registrations Officer)
Treasurer
Two to Five other members.

4.2 Casual Vacancies

The Committee, by resolution, may replace any member elected at the AGM who retires during the year.

4.3 Co-Option

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt provided the co-opted members do not exceed the elected members.

4.4 General Powers

Acting in the general interests of the Group the Committee shall have the authority to determine the activities and Organisation of the Group and the spending of the Group finances by majority vote.

4.5 Voting

Each elected member of the Committee shall have one vote. In the event of a tied vote in Committee, the Chairman shall have another casting vote.

4.6 Election

4.6.1 The members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

4.6.2 No person shall be eligible to stand for the Committee who has not been a member of the Group for at least one year (except in the case of the first AGM).

4.6.3 A separate ballot shall be held for the election of all named officers, that is: Chairman/Controller, Deputy Controller, Secretary, Treasurer.

4.6.4 A ballot by multiple votes shall be held for the election of the three ordinary members of the Committee.

4.6.5 Voting in any ballot shall be by simple majority.

4.6.6 A secret ballot will be held for contested posts.

4.7 Term of Office

Any person who has already served on the Committee may be re-elected as may any other member who has not already served on the Committee.

Article Five - Finance

5.1 Membership Subscription

A subscription may be levied among members to assist in the financing of the Group's operations. Any amount shall be set by the Committee and becomes due immediately before the Annual General Meeting each year. The Treasurer shall be responsible to the Group's members for all finance.

5.2 Financial Year

The Financial Year of the Group shall be from the date of the first AGM.

5.3 Requirements for Audit

The Treasurer shall have the accounts audited, independent of the Committee, by such person(s) elected at the previous AGM, before submission to the membership at the AGM. If the elected auditors are unavailable, the Chairman will appoint alternative auditors. The AGM, by voting on the acceptance of the accounts, will ratify or otherwise the alternative auditors.

Article Six - Meetings

6.1 Registered Member

The term "registered members" shall mean any person who is an acknowledged member of North Humber RAYNET and whose subscription, if any, is paid to date. Only such persons will be eligible to vote.

6.2 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

6.2.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held annually in the month of the first AGM.

6.2.1 At least 21 days written notice shall be given to members of the AGM, but non-receipt of such notice shall not invalidate the proceedings.

6.2.2 AGM business will include:

- a) Minutes of the last AGM, and any EGM held since the last AGM. Matters arising
- b) Chairman's report

- c) Secretary's report
- d) Receive and, if approved, adopt the Treasurer's financial report for the year.
- e) Elect Officers of the Committee (Article 4.7)
- f) Elect Auditors
- g) Consider any Other Business

6.2.3 A quorum shall comprise half the registered membership or 8 members, whichever is the smaller.

6.2.4 Only persons who are fully paid up and registered members of the Group shall be eligible to vote at the AGM.

6.3 Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

6.3.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened by direction of the Committee or on the requisition to the Chairman stating the business for which the EGM is required, and signed by not less than one-quarter of the Group's registered members. If the meeting so requisitioned is not convened within 2 months, the said members may convene such a meeting.

6.3.2 At least 21 days written notice shall be given to members of the EGM, but non-receipt of such notice shall not invalidate the proceedings.

6.3.3 The EGM shall deal only with the business for which it was specifically called.

6.3.4 EGM Quorum shall be the same as for the AGM.

6.3.5 Only persons who are registered members of the Group shall be eligible to vote (see 6.1)

6.4 Committee Meetings

6.4.1 Committee meetings shall be convened from time to time by the Chairman.

6.4.2 A quorum shall be half the elected Committee members plus one.

6.5 Ordinary Meetings

6.5.1 An ordinary meeting shall be called at the discretion of the Chairman for any purpose, including training, after reasonable notice to members.

6.5.2 No quorum will be required at Ordinary meetings unless Group business is to be conducted involving a binding vote, in which case the quorum and voting rights shall be the same as for the AGM.

Article 7 - Voting

7.1 Voting Method

Voting shall normally be by show of hands, by registered members of the Group.

7.2 Proxy Voting

Proxy voting will not be permitted.

7.3 Secret Ballots

If a secret ballot is called, or deemed appropriate by the Chairman, ballot papers shall only be issued to registered members. Two tellers shall be appointed by the Chairman.

Article 8 – Dissolution of the Group

8.1 Calling a Meeting

If the Committee, by a simple majority, decide at any time that on grounds of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Group, it shall call a meeting of all registered members of the Group.

8.2 Period of Notice

Not less than 21 days notice of such a meeting shall be given, in writing, stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed.

8.3 Quorum

A Quorum shall be the same as for the AGM.

8.4 Power to Dispose of Assets

If such decision is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of the members voting at the meeting, the Committee shall have the power to dispose of any assets held by or on behalf of the Group.

8.5 Disposal of Residual Assets

Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be transferred to such other charitable institution having objects similar to the objects of the Group as the Committee may determine and if and in so far as effect cannot be given to this provision then to some other charitable purpose.

8.6 Disposal of Residual Assets

Article 9 – Amendments to the Constitution

9.1 Voting Requirements

Any amendments to the Group's Constitution shall be by two-thirds supporting vote of those present at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

Article 10 – Assets

10.1 Donated items

10.1.1 Any equipment, moral or intellectual rights donated to the Group shall be recorded by the Secretary and signed by the benefactor.

10.1.1 Any equipment, moral or intellectual rights donated to the Group shall be deemed assets of the Group in perpetuity.

10.2 Loaned items

10.2.1 Any equipment Loaned to the Group shall be recorded as a Loan Agreement by the Secretary, noting the date, the owner and the duration of the loan and signed by the benefactor.

10.2.2 Any equipment may not be held on loan by the group for a period greater than one year.

10.2.3 On expiry of a Loan Agreement the Group shall make all reasonable endeavours to return the equipment and/or secure a further Loan Agreement.

10.3 Disposal

10.3.1 Any of the group's equipment which becomes surplus to requirements shall be offered for sale by auction at the Annual General Meeting except where such equipment was donated, or otherwise by a benefactor.

10.3.2 Any of the group's equipment which was originally donated by a benefactor and becomes surplus to requirements shall be offered back to the original donor, and if the offer is declined, it may then be dealt with by auction at the Annual General Meeting.