"Dedicated to the preservation, improvement and development of amenity in and around Peebles"

Constitution of Peebles Civic Society

(Revised November 2022)

Name

The name of the Society shall be the Peebles Civic Society.

Aims

The aims of the Society shall be:

- 1. To encourage public interest in the heritage and future development of Peebles and surrounding areas, including awareness of current issues and concerns.
- 2. To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of amenity in and around Peebles.
- 3. To encourage high standards of architecture and town planning.
- 4. To promote public awareness and participation in planning decisions.
- 5. To pursue these ends by means of any or all of the following: meetings, exhibitions, lectures, publications, representations to the relevant authorities and other means deemed appropriate by the Committee.

Membership

Membership shall be open to all who are interested in the aims of the Society and shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid after a minimum of six months after it is due.

Subscription

The subscription shall be a sum approved by the Committee and ratified at the Annual General Meeting.

Meetings

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about November of each year to receive the Committee's Report and audited Accounts and to elect Officers and Members of the Committee.

Special General Meetings of the Society shall be held on the authority of the Committee or at the request in writing of twenty-five members. Ten members personally present shall constitute a quorum for such meetings of the Society.

Management

A Committee of Officers and not more than ten further members shall be responsible for managing the affairs of the Society, and may take decisions on its behalf. The Officers of the Society shall be the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and Committee meetings shall be chaired on rotation by members of the committee if a Chair is not elected or present. A quorum for meetings of the Committee shall consist of four voting members including at least one Officer.

The Officers and Committee members shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting, when current Officers and members shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations for the election of Officers and Committee members shall be made at or before the Annual General Meeting. Such nominations shall be supported by a seconder, and the consent of any nominee must first have been obtained. The election of Officers shall be completed prior to the election of further Committee members. If the nominations for any position exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place. If nominations are fewer than the number of vacancies, the Committee shall have power to co-opt further voting members who shall serve on the Committee for the year of co-option and shall be eligible for election at the next ensuing Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall also have power to co-opt further members to the Committee, and to invite ex officio representatives from other local Societies, all of whom shall attend in an advisory and non-voting capacity.

Appeals

The Committee shall have power to make appeals, solicit donations and canvass monies to carry out the aims of the Society.

Expenses of Administration

The Committee shall, out of the monies received by the Society, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society, and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit for, or towards, the aims of the Society.

Investment

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not required for immediate application for its aims shall be invested by the Committee in such a manner as it may think fit.

Amendments

The Constitution of the Society may only be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting.

Equal Opportunities

Peebles Civic Society is dedicated to promoting equal opportunity, inclusion and diversity in all of its activities. In line with the Equality Act 2010, we will not discriminate on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race (including colour, nationality, and ethnic or national origin), religion and belief, sex or sexual orientation.

Conflict of Interests

Committee members shall declare any personal interest in matters being discussed by the Committee and absent themselves from the relevant discussions and decisions.

Winding up

In the event of the winding up of the Society the available funds and any other assets of the Society shall be transferred to one or more bodies having aims similar to those herein before declared, as may be chosen by the Committee.