

Constitution of the Malmesbury Flood Working Group

Objectives

Malmesbury Flood Working Group (the Group) is a non-profit making association with the following objectives;

1. To assist in managing and reducing flood risk in Malmesbury town and the adjoining area of the parish of Malmesbury St. Paul Without, taking into account any effects on downstream properties.
2. To cooperate with Malmesbury Town Council, and ensure that they are fully briefed on all issues, to submit reports and recommendations and make presentations to its Committees and the Council for their approval and action.
3. To act as a forum for flood coordinators, flood wardens, affected residents, property owners and Council members.
4. To carry out community tasks such as operating Cowbridge sluices in cooperation with the Environment Agency and affected riparian interests.
5. To engage with the Environment Agency and Wiltshire Council to progress both short and long term reductions in flood risk.
6. To act as a public consultee body for the town as requested by the Environment Agency.
7. To consult with residents and keep them informed.
8. To clear watercourses and encourage riparian owners to maintain them in fulfilment of their responsibilities as outlined in the Environment Agency document "Living on the edge", and to encourage the Environment Agency to maintain water courses and maintain and operate weirs, sluices and other structures in their ownership.

Membership

Membership shall be open to anyone or organisation interested in furthering the objectives set out above and membership shall be free of charge.

Management

The Management Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall comprise a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. Other members may be elected at the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Committee. It is not expected membership of the Committee will exceed six.

Rules relating to Meetings

A General Meeting shall be held annually with not more than 15 months elapsing between such Annual General Meetings (AGM). At AGMs the following will be on the agenda;

1. Approval of the minutes of previous year's AGM
2. Chairman's report on activities.
3. Treasurer's report on finances.
4. Election of Management Committee.
5. Any relevant business.

Each member shall have one vote and decisions will be decided by a simple majority with the Chairman of the meeting having a deciding vote in the event of a tie.

Finance

All money raised or donated to the association will be paid into a Bank Account in the name of the Group. All payments will be authorised by two Committee members. The Treasurer will prepare annual accounts to be presented at the AGM.

Dissolution

If the Committee decides it is necessary to dissolve the Group it shall call a meeting of all members giving 21 days notice of the meeting and of the intention. If the proposal is confirmed by two thirds of the members present the liabilities of the Group will be discharged and any remaining assets shall be given to Malmesbury Town Council.