**CONSTITUTION of WomanKIND Clydesdale**

**(Revised February 2022, ratified at January 2022 AGM)**

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| CONTENTS |  |  |
| GENERAL | name, objects, powers, general structure | clauses 1-4 |
| MEMBERS | qualifications, application, subscription, register, withdrawal, expulsion | clauses 5-12 |
| GENERAL MEETINGS (meetings of members) | general, notice, procedure | clauses 13-26 |
| MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE | maximum number, eligibility, election/ retiral/re-election, termination of office, register, office bearers, powers, personal interests | clauses 27-44 |
| MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS | procedure | clauses 45-53 |
| ADMINISTRATION | committees, operation of bank accounts etc., minutes, accounting records and annual accounts, notices | clauses 54-62 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | dissolution, alterations to the constitution, interpretation, initial management committee members | clauses 63-70 |

Mission Statement

WomanKIND Clydesdale help individuals in the local and wider community who may be experiencing a difficult time. We devise and deliver projects based upon small acts of kindness which encourage the involvement of our whole community. Cumulatively, small acts of kindness can achieve a great deal and at the same time raise awareness of the (often hidden) problems surrounding us.

1. The name of the association is “WomanKIND Clydesdale”.

**Objects**

2. The association’s objects are:

1. support for those in need by reason of financial hardship, age, ill-health, disability or other

disadvantage

1. encourage the involvement of the wider community in acts of kindness
2. any other purpose that may reasonably be regarded as analogous to any of the proceeding purposes

**Powers**

3. In pursuance of the objects set out in clause 2 (but not otherwise), the association shall have the following powers:-

* 1. To raise funds to support:
1. Members of the local and wider community who struggle due to effects of disadvantage
	1. To accept donations of appropriate items to support the above
	2. To disperse funds and items appropriately according to WomanKind Clydesdale Protocol for Support
	3. To carry on any other activities which further any of the above objects.
	4. To purchase, take on lease, hire, or otherwise acquire, any property or rights which are suitable for the association’s activities.
	5. To improve, manage, develop, or otherwise deal with, all or any part of the property and rights of the association.
	6. To sell, let, hire out, license, or otherwise dispose of, all or any part of the property and rights of the association.
	7. To borrow money, and to give security in support of any such borrowings by the association.
	8. To employ such staff as are considered appropriate for the proper conduct of the association’s activities, and to make reasonable provision for the payment of pension and/or other benefits for members of staff, ex-members of staff and their dependents.
	9. To engage such consultants and advisers as are considered appropriate from time to time.
	10. To effect insurance of all kinds (which may include officers’ liability insurance).
	11. To invest any funds which are not immediately required for the association’s activities in such investments as may be considered appropriate (and to dispose of, and vary, such investments).
	12. To liaise with other voluntary sector bodies, local authorities, UK or Scottish government departments and agencies, and other bodies, all with a view to furthering the association’s objects.
	13. To establish and/or support any other charity, and to make donations for any charitable purpose falling within the association’s objects.
	14. To form any company which is a charity with similar objects to those of the association, and, if considered appropriate, to transfer to any such company (without any payment being required from the company) the whole or any part of the association’s assets and undertaking.
	15. To take such steps as may be deemed appropriate for the purpose of raising funds for the association’s activities.
	16. To accept grants, donations and legacies of all kinds (and to accept any reasonable conditions attaching to them).
	17. To do anything which may be incidental or conducive to the furtherance of any of the association’s objects.

**General structure**

4. The structure of the association shall consist of:-

1. the MEMBERS - who have the right to attend the annual general meeting (and any ordinary meeting) and have important powers under the constitution; in particular, the members elect people to serve on the management committee and take decisions in relation to changes to the constitution itself
2. the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - who hold regular meetings during the period between annual general meetings, and generally control and supervise the activities of the association; in particular, the management committee is responsible for monitoring the financial position of the association.

**Qualifications for membership**

5. Membership shall be open to any person who expresses an interest in the objects of the association. Although membership of the closed Facebook group WomanKIND Clydesdale (Member’s group) is not necessary, it is desirable as this will be the main means of communication between members. Those who do not use social media but wish to be a member, shall be kept informed via email.

6. An employee of the association shall not be eligible for membership; a person who becomes an employee of the association after admission to membership shall automatically cease to be a member

**Application for membership**

7. Any person who wishes to become a member, must request to join the closed facebook page WomanKIND Clydesdale (Member’s group) OR, if not on social media she must contact an existing member and put her name forward – communication with the group in this case will be via email.

8. The management committee may, at its discretion, refuse to admit any person to membership.

**Membership subscription**

9. No membership subscription shall be payable.

**Register of members**

10. The management committee shall maintain a register of members (name, email address and phone number.

**Withdrawal from membership**

11. Any person who wishes to withdraw from membership may do so by leaving the Facebook group, OR if not on social media, by writing to the Management Committee.

**Expulsion from membership**

12. Any person may be expelled from membership by way of a resolution passed by majority vote at a general meeting (meeting of members), providing the following procedures have been observed:-

1. at least 21 days’ notice of the intention to propose the resolution must be given to the member concerned, specifying the grounds for the proposed expulsion
2. the member concerned shall be entitled to be heard on the resolution at the general meeting at which the resolution is proposed.

**General meetings (meetings of members)**

13. The management committee shall convene an annual general meeting in each year (but excluding the year in which the association is formed); not more than 15 months shall elapse between one annual general meeting and the next.

14. The business of each annual general meeting shall include:-

1. a report by the chair on the activities of the association
2. consideration of the annual accounts of the association
3. the election/re-election of members of the management committee, as referred to in clause 30.

15. The management committee may convene a special general meeting at any time.

**Notice of general meetings**

16. At least 14 clear days’ notice must be given (in accordance with clause 62) of any annual general meeting or special general meeting; the notice must indicate the general nature of any business to be dealt with at the meeting and, in the case of a resolution to alter the constitution, must set out the terms of the proposed alteration.

17. The reference to “clear days” in clause 16 shall be taken to mean that, in calculating the period of notice, the day after the notice is posted, and also the day of the meeting, should be excluded.

18. Notice of every general meeting shall be given (in accordance with clause 62) to all the members of the association, and to all the members of the management committee.

**Procedure at general meetings**

19. No business shall be dealt with at any general meeting unless a quorum is present; the quorum for a general meeting shall be 5 members, present in person.

20. If a quorum is not present within 15 minutes after the time at which a general meeting was due to commence - or if, during a meeting, a quorum ceases to be present - the meeting shall stand adjourned to such time and place as may be fixed by the chairperson of the meeting.

21. The chair of the association shall (if present and willing to act as chairperson) preside as chairperson of each general meeting; if the chair is not present and willing to act as chairperson within 15 minutes after the time at which the meeting was due to commence, the members of the management committee present at the meeting shall elect from among themselves the person who will act as chairperson of that meeting.

22. The chairperson of a general meeting may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting to such time and place as the chairperson may determine.

23. Every member shall have one vote, which (whether on a show of hands or on a secret ballot) must be given personally.

24. If there is an equal number of votes for and against any resolution, the chairperson of the meeting shall be entitled to a casting vote.

25. A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by the chairperson (or by at least two members present in person at the meeting); a secret ballot may be demanded either before the show of hands takes place, or immediately after the result of the show of hands is declared.

26. If a secret ballot is demanded, it shall be taken at the meeting and shall be conducted in such a manner as the chairperson may direct; the result of the ballot shall be declared at the meeting at which the ballot was demanded.

**Maximum number of management committee members**

27. The maximum number of members of the management committee shall be 5 but management will have the authority to co-opt others onto the committee for specific projects if required.

**Eligibility**

28. A person shall not be eligible for election/appointment to the management committee unless he/she is a member of the association.

**Election, retiral, re-election**

29. At each annual general meeting, the members may (subject to clause 27) elect any member to be a member of the management committee.

30. The management committee may at any time appoint any member to be a member of the management committee (subject to clause 27).

31. At each annual general meeting, all of the members of the management committee shall retire from office - but shall then be eligible for re-election.

**Termination of office**

32. A member of the management committee shall automatically vacate office

if:-

1. they become debarred under any statutory provision from being a charity trustee
2. they become incapable for medical reasons of fulfilling the duties of her office and such incapacity is expected to continue for a period of more than six months
3. they cease to be a member of the association
4. they become an employee of the association
5. they resign office by notice to the association

**Register of management committee members**

33. The management committee shall maintain a register of management committee members, setting out the full name and address of each member of the management committee, the date on which each such person became a management committee member, and the date on which any person ceased to hold office as a management committee member.

**Office bearers**

34. The management committee members shall elect from among themselves a chair, a treasurer and a secretary, and such other office bearers (if any) as they consider appropriate.

35. All of the office bearers shall cease to hold office at the conclusion of each annual general meeting, but shall then be eligible for re-election.

36. A person elected to any office shall cease to hold that office if they cease to be a member of the management committee or if they resign from that office by written notice to that effect.

**Powers of management committee**

37. Except as otherwise provided in this constitution, the association and its assets and undertaking shall be managed by the management committee, who may exercise all the powers of the association.

38. A meeting of the management committee at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the management committee.

**Personal interests**

39. A member of the management committee who has a personal interest in any transaction or other arrangement which the association is proposing to enter into, must declare that interest at a meeting of the management committee; they will be debarred (in terms of clause 52) from voting on the question of whether or not the association should

enter into that arrangement.

40. For the purposes of clause 39, a person shall be deemed to have a personal interest in an arrangement if any partner or other close relative of theirs or any firm of which they a partner or any limited company of which they are a substantial shareholder or director, has a personal interest in that arrangement.

41. Provided

1. they have declared their interest
2. they have not voted on the question of whether or not the association should enter into the relevant arrangement and
3. the requirements of clause 43 are complied with

a member of the management committee will not be debarred from entering into an arrangement with the association in which they have a personal interest (or is deemed to have a personal interest under clause 40) and may retain any personal benefit which they gain from their participation in that arrangement.

42. No member of the management committee may serve as an employee (full time or part time) of the association, and no member of the management committee may be given any remuneration by the association for carrying out their duties as a member of the

management committee.

43. Where a management committee member provides services to the association or might benefit from any remuneration paid to a connected party for such services, then

1. the maximum amount of the remuneration must be specified in a written agreement and must be reasonable
2. the management committee members must be satisfied that it would be in the interests of the association to enter into the arrangement (taking account of that maximum amount)
3. less than half of the management committee members must be receiving remuneration from the association (or benefit from remuneration of that nature).

44. The members of the management committee may be paid all travelling and other expenses reasonably incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the management committee, general meetings, or meetings of committees, or otherwise in connection with the carrying-out of their duties.

**Procedure at management committee meetings**

45. Any member of the management committee may call a meeting of the management committee or request the secretary to call a meeting of the management committee.

46. Questions arising at a meeting of the management committee shall be decided by a majority of votes; if an equality of votes arises, the chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

47. No business shall be dealt with at a meeting of the management committee unless a quorum is present; the quorum for meetings of the management committee shall be 3.

48. If at any time the number of management committee members in office falls below the number fixed as the quorum, the remaining management committee member(s) may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.

49. Unless unwilling to do so, the chair of the association shall preside as at every management committee meeting at which they present; if the chair is unwilling to act as chairperson or is not present within 15 minutes after the time when the meeting was due to commence, the management committee members present shall elect

from among themselves the person who will act as chairperson of the meeting.

50. The management committee may, at its discretion, allow any person who they reasonably consider appropriate, to attend and speak at any meeting of the management committee; for the avoidance of doubt, any such person who is invited to attend a management committee meeting shall not be entitled to vote.

51. A management committee member shall not vote at a management committee meeting (or at a meeting of a committee) on any resolution concerning a matter in which they have a personal interest which conflicts (or may conflict) with the interests of the association; they must withdraw from the meeting while an item of that nature is being dealt with.

52. For the purposes of clause 51, a person shall be deemed to have a personal interest in a particular matter if any partner or other close relative of theirs or any firm of which they are a partner or any limited company of which they are a substantial shareholder or director, has a personal interest in that matter.

**Conduct of members of the management committee**

53. Each of the members of the management committee shall, in exercising their functions as a member of the management committee of the association, act in the interests of the association; and, in particular, must

1. seek, in good faith, to ensure that the association acts in a manner which is in accordance with its objects (as set out in this constitution)
2. act with the care and diligence which it is reasonable to expect of a person who is man
3. in circumstances giving rise to the possibility of a conflict of interest between the association and any other party
4. put the interests of the association before that of the other party, in taking decisions as a member of the management committee
5. where any other duty prevents them from doing so, disclose the conflicting interest to the association and refrain from participating in any discussions or decisions involving the other members of the management committee with regard to the matter in question
6. ensure that the association complies with any direction, requirement, notice or duty imposed on it by the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

**Delegation to sub-committees**

54. The management committee may delegate any of their powers to any sub-committee consisting of one or more member that the management committee may determine; they may also delegate to the chair of the association (or the holder of any other post) such of their powers as they may consider appropriate.

55. Any delegation of powers under clause 54 may be made subject to such conditions as the management committee may impose and may be revoked or altered.

56. The rules of procedure for any sub-committee shall be as prescribed by the management committee.

**Operation of accounts and holding of property**

57. Online digital banking with a “one-signature” requirement is permitted as long as there is an additional system of 2 acknowledged pre-authorisation emails (two out of five signatories appointed by the management committee) raised in relation to all operations (other than lodgement of funds) on the bank accounts held by the association; at least one out of the two signatures must be the signature of a member of the management committee. Each email must be saved to the appropriate file in WomanKIND Clydesdale online records.

58. The title to all property (including any land or buildings, the tenant’s interest under any lease and (so far as appropriate) any investments) shall be held either in the names of the chair, treasurer and secretary of the association (and their successors in office) or in name of a nominee company holding such property in trust for the association; any person

or body in whose name the association’s property is held shall act in accordance with the directions issued from time to time by the management committee.

**Minutes**

59. The management committee shall ensure that minutes are made of all

proceedings at general meetings, management committee meetings and

meetings of committees; a minute of any meeting shall include the names of

those present, and (as far as possible) shall be signed by the chairperson of

the meeting.

Accounting records and annual accounts

60. The management committee shall ensure that proper accounting records are maintained in accordance with all applicable statutory requirements.

61. The management committee shall prepare annual accounts, complying with all relev statutory provisions or if they otherwise think fit, they shall ensure that an audit of such accounts is carried out by a qualified auditor.

**Notices**

62. Any notice which requires to be given to a member under this constitution shall be in writing; such a notice may either be sent using Facebook Messenger, sent by email to the email address last intimated by them to the association or given personally to the member.

**Dissolution**

63. If the management committee determines that it is necessary or appropriate that the association be dissolved, it shall convene a meeting of the members; not less than 21 days’ notice of the meeting (stating the terms of the proposed resolution) shall be given.

64. If a proposal by the management committee to dissolve the association is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the general meeting convened under clause 64, the management committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or on behalf of the association - and any assets remaining after satisfaction of

the debts and liabilities of the association shall be transferred to some other charity or charities having objects similar to those of the association; the identity of the body or bodies to which such assets are transferred shall be determined by the members of the association at, or prior to, the time of dissolution.

65. For the avoidance of doubt, no part of the income or property of the association shall (otherwise than in pursuance of the association’s charitable purposes) be paid or transferred (directly or indirectly) to the members, either in the course of the association’s existence or on dissolution.

**Alterations to the constitution**

66. Subject to clause 68, the constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of those present and voting at a general meeting, providing due notice of the meeting, and of the resolution, is given in accordance with clauses 17, 18 and 19.

67. No amendment to clauses 3, 43, 65 or 66 of the constitution may be made if the effect would be that the association would cease to be a charity.

**Interpretation**

68. For the purposes of this constitution,

• (a) the expression “charity” shall mean a body which is either a “Scottish charity” within the meaning of section 13 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 or a “charity” within the meaning of section 96 of the Charities Act 1993

• (b) the expression “charitable purpose” shall mean charitable

 under section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 which is also regarded as a charitable purpose in relation to the application of the Taxes Acts;

69. Any reference in this constitution to a provision of any legislation shall include any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision in force from time to time.

**Initial members of the management committee**

70. The positions held by the management committee, shall be as follows: Chair; Minutes Secretary; Membership Secretary; Treasurer

This constitution was adapted from the original of November 2015 and adopted on 13th March 2019 at a normal meeting

Signature Janice Currie

Name Janice Currie

Position Chair