

BOWERHILL RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP CONSTITUTION

AIMS

The Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG) exists to provide a means of discovering the needs of the Bowerhill residents and representing them to official bodies and to increase awareness of future developments within the community. This shall be done without prejudice of creed, colour, race or political persuasion.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the activities of the Action Group shall be open to all residents of Bowerhill. Bowerhill is defined as the area of land bounded to the North by the A365 Melksham to Devizes road, bounded to the South by the line of the old railway, bounded to the West by the Bowerhill Industrial Estate and bounded to the East by the boundary of Bowerhill Lane.

BRAG COMMITTEE MEETINGS

BRAG meetings shall be held at least once per quarter and take place in a public place. The time, place and agenda of such meetings shall be advertised in the area at least seven days in advance of the meeting. At these meetings the business of the Action Group shall be reported and it is open to any member of BRAG to discuss this or introduce new business. The Action group shall take steps to ensure that all parts of the community are represented in the activities of the Group.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This shall be held by the end of May each year. The AGM shall receive reports on the year's events and elect a new Committee. Retiring members may stand for re-election. Twelve members of the Association may be elected to serve on the Committee, which shall appoint its officers of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer at its first meeting. The Chair of the Committee shall also chair the meetings. The AGM shall be chaired by the retiring Chair.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

An EGM may be called by either:

1. The Committee.
2. A residents meeting.
3. At least 10 residents.

At least seven days notice of such a meeting must be given.

ACTION GROUP COMMITTEE

The Committee shall be responsible to the residents of Bowerhill for its actions. In particular it shall be responsible for:

1. Raising funds to cover the cost of the Action Group.
2. Communicating decisions, requests and enquiries of the Action Group to various bodies and individuals.
3. Undertaking such immediate action as may be deemed necessary for the well being of the Community.

A quorum of five Committee members is required to make any decision. BRAG shall have its own bank account to cover its expenses and have its own public liability insurance to cover any events organised outside of the Bowerhill Village Hall. Three members of the committee are signatories to the account of which at least two must sign any cheques on behalf of BRAG. BRAG has the authority to co-opt members to serve on focus groups but those members do not have voting rights at meetings. Melksham Without Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Police Team shall each nominate a committee member in addition to the twelve members elected at the AGM. These members have voting rights. Decisions shall be reached by a majority vote of those present who have voting rights. In the event of a tied vote the Chair has the casting vote.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN CASE OF CLOSURE OF BRAG

An agreement to formally close BRAG shall be taken at either the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Any funds still in the possession of BRAG after all debts and liabilities have been paid will be passed to the Melksham Without Parish Council for them to determine how they should best be used for the benefit of the Bowerhill community.

CONSTITUTION

This constitution was adopted by a meeting of residents on May 7th 2008. Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a resolution of the AGM or EGM, so long as the proposed amendment has been publicised in the agenda.