

River Sid Catchment Group Constitution

1. Name The name of the group shall be **River Sid Catchment Group**

2. Our purpose

To protect and enhance the health, biodiversity and resilience of the rivers and waterways within the Sid Valley.

3. Our aims

1. Assess and improve the ecological functions of the catchment, particularly by improving fish passage and connectivity.
2. Improve water management to mitigate the impact of climate change on flooding, peak flow and biodiversity loss.
3. Foster appreciation, understanding, and stewardship of the river system within the local community.

4. Participation

1. The River Sid Catchment Group is a voluntary community group.
2. All individuals and organisations that share the aims of the River Sid Catchment Group are welcome as supporters or volunteers.
3. Supporters will be able to receive the RSCG newsletter and list of volunteering opportunities.
4. Participation as a supporter or volunteer does not confer voting rights unless the individual is a member of the Steering Group.

5. Steering Group

1. The River Sid Catchment Group shall be administered by the Steering Group that came together to form the River Sid Catchment Group in 2023. The Steering Group shall act as the governing body of the River Sid Catchment Group.
2. The Steering Group may co-opt additional members if this will further the aims of the River Sid Catchment Group.
3. All Steering Group members are of equal status, but individuals may volunteer for specific duties if the need arises.
4. The steering group will appoint the following officers, Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Communications.

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5. All officers within the Steering Group shall serve for up to two years, after which the Group will vote either to re-elect the incumbent or appoint a new officer. An officer may serve a maximum of six years unless exceptional circumstances exist.
6. The Steering Group will make decisions by a simple majority obtained either during a meeting or by electronic communication.
7. The Steering Group shall meet at such times as shall be deemed necessary but at least 4x a year. The meetings may be physical presence or via electronic means.
8. All meetings shall be minuted.
9. The Steering Group may, after consultation and a majority vote, remove a member whose actions or views are no longer consistent with the aims or best interests of the Group.
10. Where a vote by the steering group is equally balanced the chair shall have a casting vote.
11. Members of the Steering Group must declare any conflict of interest and withdraw from related decisions.

7. Powers

1. The Steering Group may hire or purchase equipment, hire facilitators, fundraise, attend training, charge for activities, and facilitate events, workshops, and outreach activities. They may collaborate with other groups and organisations in order to carry out its aims.
2. The Steering Group or its individual members may not commit to expenditure in excess of the River Sid Catchment Group's assets.
3. The income and property of the River Sid Catchment Group shall be applied solely to the achievement of the group's aims.
4. A Steering Group member may pay out of, or be reimbursed from, the property of the River Sid Catchment Group reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the River Sid Catchment Group.
5. None of the income or property of the River Sid Catchment Group may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the Steering Group.

This does not prevent:

- A person or organisation who is not also a member of the Steering Group from receiving reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the River Sid Catchment Group.
- A Steering Group member from buying goods or services from the River Sid Catchment Group upon the same terms as other supporters or members of the public.

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- All funds and assets shall be used solely in furtherance of the Group's charitable or community objectives.

8. Accounts

1. The River Sid Catchment Group is a non-profit organisation.
2. The funds of the River Sid Catchment Group, including all donations, contributions, and bequests, shall be paid into a designated bank account.
3. The funds belonging to the River Sid Catchment Group shall be applied only to further the aims and objectives of the River Sid Catchment Group and for no other purpose.
4. For financial transactions authorisation is by two signatories.
5. A current record of all income, funding and expenditure will be kept.
6. An annual financial report shall be presented to all supporters via a newsletter, either physical or electronic. The accounting year shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

9. Dissolution

1. The River Sid Catchment Group may be dissolved if deemed necessary by a simple majority of the Steering Group members at the time.
2. If confirmed, the Steering Group shall distribute any remaining assets, after settling liabilities, to one or more charitable organisations with similar aims, or to other charitable purposes as agreed by the Steering Group.

10. Current Steering Group Members

Charles Sinclair, Jan Metcalf, Stella Huyshe-Shires, Peter Brookes, Lyndsay Hooper, Sharon Chamberlain-Keen, Neil Chamberlain-Keen.

All steering group members agree to their contact details being shared internally.

11. Review

The constitution will be reviewed yearly and changes made by simple majority.

Agreed to unanimously at the meeting of the River Sid Catchment Group on 1st December 2025.