

# Oxfordshire Badger Group

C/o 29 Webbs Way, Kidlington, OX5 2EW

## Constitution

**1 The Oxfordshire Badger Group** is a member of The Badger Trust (Charity No. 1111440) and will act in accordance with Badger Trust policy and guidelines.

**2 Objects of the Group within Oxfordshire:**

- 2.1 To promote the conservation and wellbeing of the European Badger (*Meles meles*) and its habitat.
- 2.2 To survey, record and monitor badger setts.
- 2.3 To rescue and facilitate the rehabilitation of injured and orphaned badgers.
- 2.4 To respond appropriately to threats to badgers, their setts and habitats.
- 2.5 To give advice to landowners, statutory agencies, groups and individuals about problems related to badgers.
- 2.6 To provide effective measures to enhance the welfare, protection and conservation of badgers.
- 2.7 To give assistance to the RSPCA, Police and other responsible agencies.
- 2.8 To support The Badger Trust.
- 2.9 To cooperate with other Badger groups, and with other wildlife protection bodies as appropriate.
- 2.10 To give talks on badger issues and to publicise local concerns and problems.
- 2.11 To give training to group members in the skills needed to fulfil the Group's objects.

**3 The Group** shall not be party political or profit making except in raising money to further the Group's objects.

**4 Membership:**

- 4.1 Membership is open to individuals or households on payment of a subscription, and acceptance by a majority of the committee.
- 4.2 A member who fails to pay his annual subscription during the year for which it is due shall cease to be a member.
- 4.3 A member shall cease to be a member if his conduct is found to be detrimental to the Group's objects by a two-thirds majority of the committee at the meeting which has the question of that person's membership on the agenda.

**5 Subscriptions: These shall be agreed annually at the AGM.**

**6 General Meetings:**

- 6.1 The Annual General Meeting shall take place each year between April 1st and September 30th. Notice shall be given to members at least 14 days in advance. The agenda shall include:
  - Report by the Chair
  - Presentation of the Accounts
  - Reports by other officers as appropriate, e.g. survey, publicity, membership
  - Appointment of an Auditor

- Elections of the Committee
- Any other business

6.2 Special General Meeting: A Special General Meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the Chair or if at least four members request such a meeting, stating the business to be considered. At least 21 days notice of the meeting shall be given. The notice must state the business to be considered.

## **7 Elections to the Committee:**

- 7.1 The committee shall be elected by the members at the AGM and shall consist of: - Chairperson (subject to ratification by the new committee) -Secretary -Treasurer -up to nine other members, any of whom may be appointed by the committee to carry out a particular function as the need arises. e.g. Survey Officer, Publicity Officer, Newsletter Editor, Record Keeper, etc
- 7.2 Committee members must be proposed and seconded and agree to stand.
- 7.3 One third of the elected committee shall retire at each AGM but may stand for immediate re-election.
- 7.4 If the number of members proposed shall exceed the number of vacancies there shall be a ballot to elect the committee.
- 7.5 Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.
- 7.6 The committee shall meet not less than two times a year. Activity updates shall be communicated to members quarterly or as appropriate.
- 7.7 The committee shall have power to coopt members to serve between AGMs.

## **8 Finance:**

- 8.1 The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining bank accounts or building society accounts in the Group's name. S/he shall keep proper accounts of the Group's finances and report on them to the committee as required. All cheques or withdrawals from the accounts must be signed by at least two authorised committee members.
- 8.2 At the end of each financial year the accounts shall be audited by a qualified person who is not a member of the committee.

## **9 Minutes:**

- 9.1 The Secretary or other person specially appointed shall take minutes of all meetings.

## **10 Amendment of the Constitution:**

- 10.1 This can only be done by a general meeting of the Group. All members must be notified of the change and given least 21 days in which to register their agreement or objections. A two thirds majority will be required to effect the amendment.

## **11 Dissolution:**

- 11.1 If for any reason it should become desirable or necessary to dissolve the Group, the Committee shall call a meeting of all members with at least 21 days notice, stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed. A two-thirds majority of those present shall have the power to realise the assets held by or on behalf of the Group. these assets are to be used to discharge any proper debts and liabilities of the Group, and the balance of funds will be given to the National Federation of Badger Groups.