

Roscommon Environmental Network

Constitution

24th Feb 2020

General

This unincorporated association shall be known under the name Roscommon Environmental Network and is a not-for-profit organisation and community-based group.

The group is established as a network for all those in County Roscommon with an interest in environmental issues, be it individuals or already existing groups. If an existing group becomes a member, then it must nominate one individual to represent them at meetings of the Network.

Objectives:

The primary objective of Roscommon Environmental Network is to protect the environment and promote sustainable development - to create a county that provides a healthy environment for humans, plants and animals, and contains a vibrant eco-system.

In order to achieve this, the Network will:

- work with others within the community to help create positive changes, locally, nationally and internationally, as appropriate.
- sustain a network of existing individuals and groups who share this vision
- look actively for funding to strengthen and ensure the long-term future of the network
- collaborate with other organisations and individuals to achieve the aims and objectives above

Membership:

Membership of the group is open to all those with an interest in their environment and NGOs working on environmental issues in Co. Roscommon.

Membership of Roscommon Environmental Network shall be non-political, non-sectarian and socially inclusive.

There will be no membership fee.

Applications for membership will be considered and approved at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Membership may be revoked by the Executive Committee for stated reasons where a member is deemed to be acting in a manner detrimental to the objectives of the network.

Executive Committee:

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), the Network shall elect an Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall be made up of a chairperson, secretary and treasurer and up to three other members.

One third of the Executive Committee Members shall step down at each AGM. Initially this is done by drawing lots.

No Executive Committee Member may serve for more than 3 years without a break of at least one year.

No Executive Committee Member may serve for more than 6 years in total without a 3 year break.

The committee shall meet at times and venues which will make the meetings accessible for the widest number of members.

It is desirable to have a gender balance on the Executive Committee.
The committee will hold office for a period from one AGM to the next.

The Executive Committee may appoint sub-committees as deemed appropriate for specific purposes. Sub-committees may include members not on the Executive Committee.

Should an Executive Committee vacancy arise during the year, the Executive Committee shall fill the position by holding an election from the ordinary membership. – This appointment will remain in place until the next A.G.M.

Meetings:

A quorum, for the purpose of any properly convened meeting of the Network, shall be 5 members with voting rights.

For voting rights, members should have attended a minimum of 50% of meetings in previous 12 months.

Members will receive notice of meetings from the Secretary by email.

Except in extraordinary circumstances, notice should be sent at least 10 working days prior to a meeting.

The maximum length that may elapse between one Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the next is 18 months.

At the AGM a report of group activities and accounts will be presented.

All members of Roscommon Environmental Network with voting rights and present at the AGM shall have one vote.

Minutes of all meetings shall be kept, with draft minutes being circulated to members within 10 working days of a meeting.

The Chair of the Executive Committee shall preside as chairperson at every meeting of the Network, or if there is no such chairperson, or if he or she is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unwilling to act, the Executive Committee Members present shall elect one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting.

Voting:

Decisions at meetings will be by consensus where possible.

Otherwise, voting on ordinary issues will require a simple majority, except in the case of previous decisions being rescinded, where a 2/3 majority will be needed. Only those present at a meeting and with voting rights are entitled to vote at that meeting.

The Chair will have a casting vote in the event of a tie (in addition to her/his vote as a member).

Voting where it concerns people will always be by secret ballot. Voting on other issues will be at the discretion of the meeting.

Finance:

The financial year will run from 1 January. Roscommon Environmental Network will endeavour to raise funding to support environmental programmes in the County.

The funds of Roscommon Environmental Network will be held in a bank account in an account to be designated.

The Treasurer will keep up-to-date accounts for the finances of the committee. All monies raised by or on behalf of the committee will be applied to further the objectives of the committee and for no other purpose.

All cheques, withdrawals or other monetary transactions must be signed off on by at least two members of the committee of whom at least one will be the Chair, Secretary or Treasurer.

For purchases in excess of €250, committee oversight is required and clearance must be sought.

Review:

Roscommon Environmental Network shall review its activities regularly to review progress and whether it wishes to continue.

Constitution:

Amendments to this Constitution: This constitution may be amended only at an Annual General Meeting by a motion supported by at least 2/3 of those present and entitled to vote.

Motions must be submitted in writing no later than 12 working days before the AGM for circulation to membership.

The Executive Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of this Constitution.

The decision of the Executive Committee upon any question of interpretation, or upon any matter affecting the Network, and not provided for in these rules, shall be binding on the members, subject to appeal to a General Meeting and shall not under any circumstances be subject to appeal to any court of law.

Dissolution:

Roscommon Environmental Network may be dissolved at a General Meeting specially convened for that purpose, but only if supported by at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of those present and entitled to vote.

Such a proposal shall be in writing signed by the proposer and seconder and issued to all members not less than 20 working days before the meeting date.

This meeting will also decide on the disposal of any funds and equipment which may be in the committee's name, or how to meet any outstanding debts.

Any funds remaining will be donated to local charity, selected by the members present from a pool chosen previously by committee.

We certify that this is a current copy of the constitution of Roscommon Environmental Network which was adopted at a Committee meeting held 24th February 2020.

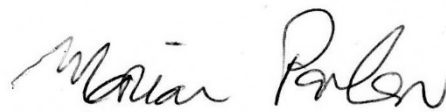
Signed:



Michael Ewing, Chairperson

Date: 24th February 2020

Signed:



Marion Parker, Secretary

Date: 24th February 2020