

Independent Community Autism Activity Network (I CAAN)

CONSTITUTION

Clause 1: Name

The name of the Group shall be the Independent Community Autism Activity Network (I CAAN)

Clause 2: Objectives

To preserve and protect good health for the public benefit of those who are directly or indirectly affected by autism in the West Cumbria (Allerdale and Copeland) area by providing activities for those who suffer from autism and their families and providing opportunities for those affected by autism to meet and provide mutual support.

Clause 3: Membership

Membership shall be open to all people diagnosed with autism in the Allerdale and Copeland areas and their families.

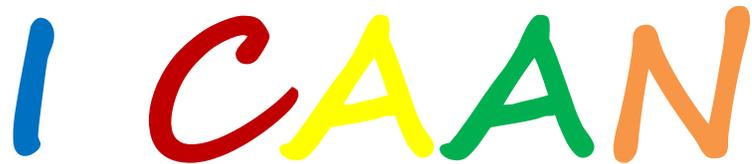
Clause 4: Subscriptions

The Subscriptions shall be such reasonable sums as the Annual General Meeting shall determine from time to time, and it shall be payable on joining the group and then on or before the first day of January each year. Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid on the first day of February each year.

Clause 5: Meetings

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about the month of November of each year to receive the Committee report and audited accounts and to elect Officers and Members of the Committee.

The Committee shall decide when ordinary meetings of the Group shall be held and shall give at least fourteen days notice of such meetings to all members.



Extraordinary General Meetings of the Group shall be held at the written request of members representing not less than one-quarter of the existing membership of the Group and whose subscriptions are fully paid up and one quarter of paid-up members personally present shall constitute a quorum for a extraordinary meeting of the Group.

Clause 6: Officers

Nominations for the election of Officers shall be made at or in writing before the Annual General Meeting. Such nominations shall be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained.

The election of Officers shall be completed prior to the election of further Committee Members.

Voting on the election of Officers and Committee Members shall be limited to the main contact as identified on the member's application form.

The Officers of the Group shall consist of:

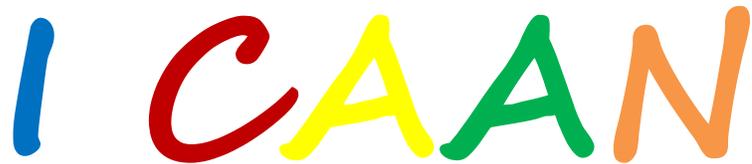
- Chairperson
- Vice-Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Child Protection Officer
- Activity and Events Officer
- Fundraising / Publicity Officer
- Accounts Administrator

Officers shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt as and when required to fill vacancies occurring among the Officers of the Group.

The Group shall be bound to indemnify the Officers against all expenses incurred by the Officers in their duties and liability under such indemnity shall be a proper administration expense.

Clause 7: The Committee

The Committee shall be responsible for the management and administration of the Group. The Committee shall consist of the Officers and up to three members.

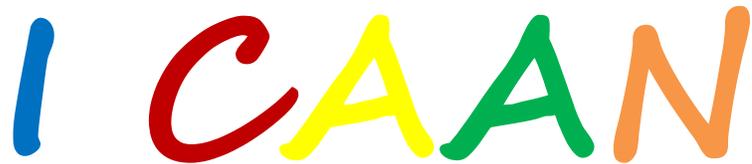


1. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt further members (who shall attend in an advisory and non-voting capacity).
2. In the event of the equality on the votes cast, the Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote.
3. Nominations for election to the Committee shall be made in writing at or before the Annual General Meeting. They must be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been attained. If the nominations exceed the consent of the proposed number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place in such a manner as shall be determined.
4. Members of the Committee shall be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Group. Outgoing members may be re-appointed.
5. The Committee shall meet not less than three times a year at intervals of not more five months. The Secretary shall give all members not less than seven days notice of each meeting.
6. Any member of the Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee without due apology in advance of the meeting will be deemed to have stood down from the Committee. Subsequent re-election to the Committee can be considered.
7. A quorum shall comprise of at least one-half of the members of the Committee and include either the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson.

Clause 8: Expenses and Funds

The Committee shall, out of the funds of the Group, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Group. After the payment of administration and management expenses and the setting aside to reserve of such sums as may be deemed expedient the remaining funds of the Group shall be applied by the Committee in furtherance of the purposes of the Group.

Two signatories specified by the Committee are to be responsible for signing cheques and other documents.



Clause 9: Investments

All monies at any time belonging to the Group and not required for immediate application for its purposes shall be invested by the Committee as they see fit.

Clause 10: Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Group, provided that fourteen days notice of the proposed amendment has been given to all members.

Clause 11: Notices

Any notice required to be given by these Rules shall be deemed to be duly given if left at or sent by prepaid post, addressed to the address of that member last notified to the Secretary or sent to the e-mail address of that member last notified to the Secretary.

Clause 12: Winding Up

The Group may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of members voting at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Group confirmed by a simple majority of members voting at a further Extraordinary General Meeting held not less than fourteen days after the previous Meeting. If a motion for the dissolution of the Group is to be proposed at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting this motion shall be referred to specifically when notice of the meeting is given. In the event of the dissolution of the Group the available funds of the Group shall be transferred to such one or more charitable institutions having objects similar or reasonably similar to those herein before declared as shall be chosen by the Committee and approved by the Meeting of the Group at which the decision to dissolve the Group is confirmed.

I CAAN

Signed

Chairperson

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Secretary

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Treasurer

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____