



Constitution of Transition Town Haslemere

1. **Name:** The name of the association shall be Transition Town Haslemere, hereafter know as TTH.
2. **Type of association:** TTH is an unincorporated not for profit association
3. **Aims:**
 - 3.1 To raise awareness amongst those living and working in the Haslemere area (defined as Haslemere and local communities to Haslemere) of the issues arising from climate change and future energy scarcity (peak oil).
 - 3.2 To develop and communicate a vision for the Haslemere area as a sustainable community with strategies to guide individuals and organisations
 - 3.3 To develop locally-relevant, practical and positive solutions to the issues arising from climate change and peak oil with individuals and organisations in the Haslemere area.
 - 3.4 To encourage public policy makers to take peak oil and climate change into consideration in all aspects of public planning, and to provide incentives for organisations and residents to adopt policies consistent with TTH objectives.
 - 3.5 To work with regional and national Transition Network groups to research and develop alternative solutions that empower individuals and organisations to become resilient to and sustainable in the light of the effects climate change and energy scarcity.
4. **Activities:**
 - 4.1 Identify and enable practical, visible projects in partnership with other subgroups that demonstrate solutions for a positive, low energy future.
 - 4.2 Develop and maintain the website as an informative and participatory, communication tool.
 - 4.3 Offer an on-going annual programme of events, films, talks, presentations and workshops by experts and professionals.

- 4.4 Establish working subgroups in areas of energy, waste, transport, economy/business, food/agriculture, housing, health and others as appropriate.
- 4.5 Provide educational and training courses for low carbon sustainable skills.
- 4.6 Empower people in the Haslemere area to respond positively to Climate Change and Peak Oil
- 4.7 Design and develop the Haslemere Energy Descent Action Plan to include conducting an audit (carbon footprint) and targeted steps towards a sustainable Haslemere area.

5. Powers: TTH shall have the powers to:

- 5.1 Represent the interests of the Haslemere area in the national Transition Network movement.
- 5.2 Raise funds to pursue the above aims.
- 5.3 Do all such other activities, enterprises, projects or ventures that can in the opinion of TTH be deemed incidental or conducive (either directly or indirectly) to the attainment of the above aims.
- 5.4 Do such things as are lawful and necessary in order to pursue the aims of the organisation.

6. Membership:

- 6.1 All residents, organisations and businesses of the Haslemere area and surroundings that support the above aims and are aged 18 or over may be members. Membership of the group shall be irrespective of race, nationality, class, political views, religious opinion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- 6.2 Membership is also open to all persons under the age of 18 (Junior Members) who live in the Haslemere area and support the group aims. They shall not have the right to vote at meetings but may form their own representation group, which can be attended by a full member who may act as an observer and then represent them at meetings.

7. Structure:

- 7.1 The steering group shall consist of a chair person, a vice chair and a treasurer responsible for maintaining accounts (Steering Group Officers) together with others who are invited or elected to join; collectively known as Trustees

7.2 The Steering Group Officers will be elected by a majority vote of the group members.

7.3 The steering group shall help form and support themed subgroups with remits in areas such as: energy, waste, transport, economy/business, food/agriculture, housing, health and others as appropriate.

8. Meetings:

8.1. The steering group shall meet at least 6 times a year.

8.2. Minute taking and subsequent typing and distribution is to be rotated on a voluntary basis by the group members for each meeting and will be posted on the TTH website.

8.3. Any meeting of TTH is quorate provided at least two thirds of Trustees are present.

8.4. Every year an AGM will be held, with 14 days notice given to all steering group members and theme subgroup members.

9. Decision Making:

Decisions will be undertaken by the Trustees wherever possible by consensus and if necessary by majority voting.

10. Funding and finance:

10.1. TTH aims to look for funding to support its aims and activities.

10.2. TTH has the power to raise money for its operations, and any monies so raised will be held in a bank account administered by the Treasurer.

10.3. Records of income and expenditure will be held by the Treasurer.

10.4 The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of TTH and shall open a bank account in the name of TTH. Reports on finances will be made to the Trustees regularly.

10.5. Signatories to the account will be the officers of TTH. Each cheque will require two signatures, one of whom will be the Treasurer. Signatories will not sign "Blank" cheques

10.6 The accounts shall be regularly examined each year. The examiner shall not be a steering group officer.

11. Amendments:

11.1 Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Chair, and circulated to all Trustees for agreement. Amendments shall require the agreement of two thirds of the Trustees

12. Change of association status:

12.1. Should the Trustees decide by a simple majority vote that it is in the interests of TTH to change its status this shall be done by resolution at either an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of members.

12.2. TTH may by resolution and majority vote of members:

(a) amalgamate with any other associations or society or other body having similar objectives.

(b) convert itself into a company (Limited or otherwise) under the companies acts

(c) convert itself into a charitable trust or incorporated charity under the charity acts

12.3. TTH shall be responsible for any costs associated with amalgamation or conversion.

12.4. All monies and assets held by TTH at the time of amalgamation or conversion will be transferred to the new organisation.

13. Dissolution

TTH shall be wound up or dissolved as agreed by unanimous vote by the Trustees. After all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied, any monies that remain shall not be paid or distributed to the Trustees but shall be given or transferred to some other charity with aims and objectives similar to TTH.

14. Acceptance

This constitution was adopted as the constitution of TTH at a Special General/Annual

General Meeting held at Haslemere Town Hall in

Haslemere on 19/1/09 (date)

Signed:  (Chairperson)

 (Member)