

# Constitution

**Preamble** – The Forum was established on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011 following four months of public meetings under the guidance of Hesketh Meadows Action Group attended by Lowton East residents and representatives of local organisations.

**Title** – Shall be known as Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum.

**Aims** – To create a greater sense of community spirit in the ward of Lowton East. The Forum will provide opportunities for the more direct involvement of residents over local issues; forge stronger links with Local Government and other agencies serving the community including the commercial sector, churches, schools and youth organisations.

The Forum will seek to co-ordinate the efforts of voluntary organisations serving the community's recreational, social and cultural needs and strive to fill gaps in that provision where there is seen to be a demand.

The Forum will also campaign on local issues, encourage self-help, raise funds for specific events and promote community events.

**Membership** – Open to all Lowton East residents, who collectively are the Forum.

**Management** – Shall be in the hands of the Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and not less than 6 other members; the officers and members shall hold the office for 1 year and be eligible for re-election. The Committee shall have the right to co-opt members throughout the year. Under no circumstances can anybody associated with a political party and or official body hold a senior position. It is of the up most importance that the forum is non political and run for everyone.

**Monthly Meetings** –commencing at 7:30 pm and ending at approximately 9:30 pm in Lowton Social Club, Newton Road, or any other suitable building by notification. The dates for the meetings will be published on our website well in advance. Meetings will be open to all residents and representatives of local organisations. The meetings shall be run in accordance with the Committee's Agenda, circulated beforehand, and residents are welcome to raise issues.

It is expected that meetings will be held in a cordial atmosphere, any person behaving badly will be asked to leave the meeting by the Chairman, and possibly be suspended from future meetings, but also given the right of appeal.



**Annual General Meetings** – Shall be held in the month of January. Fourteen days notice shall be given of that meeting to which all residents, including representatives of local organisations shall be invited to attend.

**Quorum** – Shall be not less than four of the Committee's elected members.

**Finance** – A bank account shall be opened in the name of the Forum and the signatories shall be the Chairman, Treasurer and/or Secretary. The Forum may receive subscriptions, donations and grants into its account and the income and the property of the Forum shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its aims. Account update will be presented at all meetings together with printed copy for perusal.

**Amendments** – The Constitution shall be amended by a two-thirds majority of all those present at any Monthly Meeting, or by the calling of an emergency meeting.

**Dissolution** – In the event of the Forum being wound up, any assets remaining after the payment of proper debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a local charity as determined by the Committee.

Signed: Chairman   
Secretary   
Dated 11/2/2013