



MOIRA PLAYERS

Community Theatre Group Since 2017

Amateur Dramatic Group CONSTITUTION

Northern Ireland Charity Number – (not applied for)

1 **NAME**

The Association shall be called the
MOIRA PLAYERS COMMUNITY THEATRE GROUP
(hereinafter called “the Group”).

2 **OBJECTS**

- 2.1 The Group is established to promote the development and advancement of the community in Moira/ Magheralin and surrounding area (hereinafter called the “area of benefit”) in the understanding and appreciation of the Arts by the presentation of theatrical productions and in particular to:
- 2.1.1 promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the community in the area of benefit;
 - 2.1.2 encourage participation in and appreciation for Performing Arts activities by the community in the area of benefit;
 - 2.1.3 encourage and stimulate the artistic creativity of people in the area of benefit by the provision of artistic performances, facilities, training, support opportunities for artistic expression;
 - 2.1.4 present, promote, organise, manage and produce plays of cultural, educational and entertainment value.
- 2.2 In furtherance of the above aims but not further or otherwise the Group has the power to:
- 2.2.1 co-ordinate the organisation of rehearsals for and performances of plays in the area of benefit;
 - 2.2.2 secure the provision and maintenance of educational and recreational facilities in the area of benefit;
 - 2.2.3 recruit, train and employ volunteers with relevant skills, for the furtherance of the above aims;
 - 2.2.4 promote and carry out or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys and investigations in the area of benefit, provided the useful results are published;

- 2.2.5 co-operate to such extent as may be necessary with statutory authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in the furtherance of the above objects or any of them;
- 2.2.6 raise and accept money by way of grants, donations, bequests, legacies or other lawful method and give, donate or disburse grants and loans to such related organisations or projects as are by law deemed charitable PROVIDED that in the exercise thereof the Group shall not engage in any form of permanent non primary-purpose trading;
- 2.2.7 purchase, take or lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and any rights and privileges necessary for the attainment of the said objects;
- 2.2.8 all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects.

3 MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 People in the area of benefit without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, ethnic origin, nationality, religion or political affiliation, shall be eligible for membership of the Group.
 - 3.1.1 People aged 16 years or over may join the Group as Full Members and shall be entitled to vote at general meetings of the Group. Full Members aged 18 years or over shall be eligible for nomination to the Management Committee;
 - 3.1.2 People under the age of 16 years may join the Group as Associate Members but shall not be entitled to vote until they achieve Full Member status.
 - 3.1.3 Well-wishers or people anywhere who wish to support the Group may join as Supporters or Friends of the Group. Supporters and Friends shall NOT be entitled to vote at general meetings of the Group unless they are also Full Members.
- 3.2 The Committee shall make rules governing the conditions for and rights and privileges of members, and shall make regulations for the admission to and termination of membership PROVIDED THAT any member affected by a proposal to terminate her or his membership shall have the right to state a case against such proposal.

4 MEETINGS

4.1 Annual Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such place and time, not being more than 15 months since the previous Annual General Meeting, as the Committee shall decide.

4.2 The business of the Annual Meeting shall be:

- 4.2.1 to receive and approve reports on the activities of the past year from members of the Committee;
- 4.2.2 to receive and approve the audited accounts of the Group;

- 4.2.3 to appoint auditors;
 - 4.2.4 to elect the Officers and Committee according to such nomination and voting procedure as the Group may from time to time decide;
 - 4.2.5 to deal with resolutions and such other matters, notice of which shall have been given 14 days in advance of the AGM to the Secretary of the Group by the member proposing such resolutions or other matters.
- 4.3 Other Meetings of the Group shall be called General Meetings (or in the case of alteration of the Constitution or dissolution of the Group, Extraordinary General Meetings) and shall be called at not less than 14 days' notice to members.
- 4.4 Extraordinary General Meeting
The Committee shall have the power to call a General or Extraordinary General Meeting, and shall be bound to do so within 21 days of receiving notice in writing signed by not less than 4 members. The business to be transacted must appear on the agenda, and no other business shall be discussed.

5 MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Except as provided otherwise in this Constitution, the Group shall be managed by a Committee, consisting of a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer and not less than 5 members of the Group elected by and from amongst the members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting.
- 5.2 The Committee so constituted shall have power to co-opt further members PROVIDED THAT the number of co-options shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee.
- 5.3 The Committee shall meet for the conduct of business, as they shall see fit, but in any event shall meet not less than 3 times a year.

6 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may among other things:

- 6.1 make such regulations as they consider appropriate for the efficient conduct of the business of the Committee and of the Group;
- 6.2 establish sub-committees, consisting of members of the Group or other persons, and shall determine their terms of reference, membership and duration. All such sub-committees shall make full and prompt reports on their work to the Committee.
- 6.3 have authority, through the Chairman and Treasurer, to borrow money up to £10,000 on behalf of the Group.

7 FINANCE

- 7.1 All income of the Group, wheresoever derived, shall be applied to the purposes of the Group and to no other purpose PROVIDED THAT nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment of reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses to members of the Group engaged upon the approved business of the Group.
- 7.2 The financial year of the Group shall run from 1 April to 31 March.
- 7.3 The Committee shall open a bank account or accounts in the name of the Group and shall specify those members of the Committee (being not less than two members of the Committee) authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Group.
- 7.4 The Committee shall authorise the keeping of proper books of account, and shall designate responsibility for the preparation of an annual Statement of Accounts for submission to an Annual General Meeting.

8 ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Any alteration to this Constitution shall receive the assent of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Group present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting called at not less than 14 days' notice to members for that purpose, PROVIDED THAT no alteration shall be approved which would cause the Group to cease to be a charity at law.

9 DISSOLUTION

- 9.1 If on the grounds of expense or otherwise the Committee shall decide upon the dissolution of the Group, a resolution to dissolve shall be considered by an Extraordinary General Meeting called at not less than 14 days' notice to members for that purpose.
- 9.2 The Group shall be dissolved only by a majority of two-thirds of members present and voting at such Meeting.
- 9.3 Following a decision to dissolve, the assets of the Group shall, following satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, be transferred to one or more charitable associations having objects similar or related to those of the Group, as determined by simple majority at such Meetings.

10 INDEMNITY

The Group shall indemnify and keep indemnified every officer, member and volunteer of the Group from and against all claims, demands, actions and proceedings (and all costs and expenses in connection therewith or arising therefrom) made or brought against the Group in connection with its activities, the actions of its officers, members or volunteers, or in connection with its property and equipment EXCEPT THAT this indemnity shall not extend to liabilities arising from wilful and individual fraud, wrongdoing, or wrongful omission on the part of the member sought to be made liable. The Treasurer shall effect a policy of insurance in respect of this indemnity.

*This Constitution, which incorporates and supercedes any previous Constitution in the name of Moira Players, was adopted at an Annual General Meeting of **MOIRA PLAYERS COMMUNITY THEATRE GROUP** held at Home Of Acting Chairman Garvan Tohill on 22th September 2018*