

## DRAFT CONSTITUTION-Lochalsh Deer Management Group

### 1. Name

The name of the Group shall be: Lochalsh Deer Management Group

### 2. Aims/Objectives

*The objective of the Lochalsh Deer Management Group shall be to facilitate collaborative and sustainable deer management in line with the ADMG's Principles of Collaboration which will meet both the management aims and objectives of all the group landowners and the aims and objectives of the SNH 'Code of Practice on Deer Management'.*

### 3. Membership

Membership of the Group is open to landowners who manage land holdings within the area covered by the Lochalsh Deer Management Group and who share a common interest in the collaborative management of the deer population within the area of the Group. Members are permitted to nominate managers, stalkers or other persons to represent their interest at meetings. Such representatives shall have one vote per member.

### 4. The Committee

A Committee comprising a representative of each member shall manage the affairs of the Group. The Committee may co-opt persons with special knowledge or experience. Co-opted persons may serve for such a period as the Committee shall decide but no such co-opted person shall be entitled to vote. The Committee may at its discretion invite any person to attend and speak at its meetings, but any such person shall not be entitled to vote.

### 5. Officers

At each Annual General Meeting the Group shall appoint from its membership a Chairperson and a Treasurer. The Committee may act to fill such a vacancy should it arise between such meetings. The Committee shall appoint a Secretary who need not be a member of the Group.

### 6. Paid Advisers or Agents

The Committee may at its discretion appoint paid advisers or agents.

### 7. Committee Meetings

Any member may request the Secretary to convene a meeting of the Committee. A quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be not less than half the membership either in person or by proxy.

### 8. Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting of the members of the Group must be held within six months of the end of each financial year for the purposes of receiving the annual report of the Committee, adopting the accounts, fixing the membership subscriptions and electing the Officers.

## 9. Procedure at Meetings

(i) The Chairperson or person presiding at a General or Committee meeting shall not, in the event of a tie, have a second or casting vote.

(ii) A quorum at any General Meeting shall be not less than two-thirds of the membership, present in person or by proxy.

(iii) The Committee shall keep minutes of General and Committee Meetings.

(iv) Notice for all General Meetings shall be not less than fourteen days. Such notice may be given in writing or by electronic means.

## 10. Finance

(i) The financial year shall run from 1st June to 30th May.

(ii) The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of the Group.

(iii) Members shall pay such subscriptions as agreed at the Annual General Meeting.

(iv) The income and property of the Group shall be applied solely towards the objects/aims of the Group as set out in Clause 2.

(v) Subject only to reasonable notice, the accounts shall be open for examination by any member.

## 11. Trustees

The Committee may appoint not less than two persons to act as trustees for the purposes of holding the assets of the Group.

## 12. Dissolution

If the Committee decides it is desirable the Group shall be dissolved, it shall call a Special General Meeting of the Group by giving twenty-one days' notice in writing to each member stating the terms of any resolution to be proposed thereat. If it is decided at the Special General Meeting by not less than two thirds of the members present, in person or by proxy, that the Group shall be dissolved, the Committee shall wind up the Group's affairs. Any monies remaining, after satisfaction of liabilities properly payable, shall be distributed pro rata amongst those who have made financial contribution during the last three years in which membership fees were charged.

## 13. Amendments

The Constitution may be amended by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members present, in person or by proxy, at any General Meeting provided that fourteen days' Notice of the meeting in writing stating the term of the resolution to be proposed shall have been sent to all members.