

# Magnetic Ideals

## Magnetic Ideals Constitution

### A) Name

The name of the collective is Magnetic Ideals.

### B) Aims

We are a collective of community workers, researchers, artists, activists and driven individuals actively pursuing the idea that a collectively imagined better and fairer world is possible, through collective, creative community engagement.

Our Aims

- **To support each other and groups of similar aims, whether as community workers, artists, academics, activists, promoting an ethos of mutual care and responsibility:** Collective responsibility, co-working and skill sharing, is fundamental to how Magnetic Ideals has evolved, we prioritise partnership over competition.
- **To develop skills to increase participation of under-represented groups and build the capacity of community groups to support them:** *Capacity building, active development.* Running accessible activities in skills that are in demand by individuals who are under-represented and/or excluded, and the community organisations and unions that work with and support them.
- **To develop a shared sense of community through the use of the arts:** Running art projects which build new communities and strengthen existing ones.
- **To use creative approaches in research to encourage cultural exchange and grassroots mobilisation:** *facilitative and creative approaches, dialogue.* Working reciprocally with individuals, artists, community groups and unions to make links across borders and barriers. We want to facilitate dialogue that develops knowledge and understanding of difference.
- **To actively engage with sustainability and promote ethical environmental choice in an era of climate crisis:** Creative autonomy, sustainability and ethical choices are the foundation of our ethos. We believe that to make ethical choices that the voices of all members of a community should be heard and that active steps need to be taken to ensure traditionally marginalised voices are centred in debates.

### C) Carrying Out the Purposes

To carry out the purposes, the Steering Committee has the power to: -

- Raise funds, receive, grants and donations
- Take on leases and sub-contracted work
- Co-operate with and support other groups with similar purposes
- Do anything else within the law and ethos of Magnetic Ideals to achieve the aims

## **D) Steering Committee and Operational Structure**

Magnetic Ideals is overseen by a steering committee. The purpose of this is to manage and consider the infrastructure and strategic direction, ensuring work carried out under the banner of Magnetic Ideals fits within the ethos outlined in the aims. They may also act as an advisory body to advise on client engagement, partnerships and funding.

The business of the group will be carried out by a committee decided by consensus (and if there is no consensus a vote) at the Annual General Meeting. The committee will meet when necessary, these meetings may include online forums. The Committee will consist of a minimum of 2 members but may be more. Additional members may be co-opted onto the committee at the discretion of the committee.

The governance model is that of shared responsibility and labour, and we have forgone the traditional roles (Chair/Secretary/Treasurer etc.) in favour of shared responsibilities between equally responsible co-chairs who will decide between them:

- The form of the meeting (i.e. online forum or in-person)
- Who will take minutes
- Reporting responsibilities of members/co-chairs at meetings

If a co-chair stands down during the year a replacement will be decided by the next General Meeting. Any committee member not attending a meeting without apology for six months will be if they wish to remain. Committee meetings will be open to any member of Magnetic Ideals wishing to attend. The committee may invite other people to share skills or knowledge.

Membership to the collective is open to anyone who:

- Supports the aims of the group
- Request to join via [info@magneticideals.org](mailto:info@magneticideals.org)

## **E) Ceasing to be a member**

Members may resign at any time in writing to the co-chairs at [info@magneticideals.org](mailto:info@magneticideals.org) email address, and at their request will be removed from the website as soon as possible (but no later than) within two calendar months.

Any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, or inflammatory remarks, will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way or breaking the equal opportunities policy may be asked not to attend further meetings or to resign from the group depending on the severity of the breach. The individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the committee and the right to have representation or support with them, before a final decision is made.

## **F) Equal opportunities**

Magnetic Ideals will not discriminate on the grounds of background, disability, race, sexual orientation, religious or political belief, gender reassignment, marital status, pregnancy or maternity, age.

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## G) Meetings

**Annual General Meetings:** The AGM will be run by the committee, all members are welcome. Members will be contacted about the date, time at least 1 month before. The AGM will happen at least every 12 months. Members can submit items for discussion up to 1 month before, tabled items will be considered. Committee elections and constitution amendments can take place if desired, and where decisions cannot be made by consensus a vote will be held. The quorum for the AGM will be one-third of the total number of members.

**Special general meetings:** A Special General Meeting can be held at the request of the majority of the committee or at least four other members giving a written request to the committee stating the reason for their request. The meeting will take place within twenty-one days of the request. All members will be given two weeks' notice of such a meeting which may be held via an online forum. The quorum for the Special General Meeting will be one-third of the total number of members.

**General meetings:** General Meetings are open to all members and will be held at least once every 3 months or more often if necessary. These can be held in person or as an online forum. The quorum for a General Meeting shall be one-third of the total number of members.

**Committee meetings:** Committee meetings may be called by a co-chair. Committee members must receive notice of meetings at least 7 days before the meeting. Committee meetings will happen once a year. The quorum for Committee meetings is two Committee members.

## K) Finances

An account will be maintained on behalf of the Association at Wave Community Bank, Hove. Two cheque signatories will be nominated by the Committee. The signatories must not be related nor members of the same household. All payments will be signed by the signatories.

For payments (such as BACS payments, cash withdrawals, debit card payments or cash payments), a requisition note will be signed by two signatories. Records of income and expenditure will be maintained by committee and a financial statement given at each meeting. All money raised centrally by or on behalf of Magnetic Ideals is only to be used to further the aims of the collective.

## L) Amendments to the constitution

- Changes can be made amended via special general meeting or AGM.
- Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given in writing and circulated to all steering committee and members.
- Any proposal to amend the constitution will require membership consensus, if consensus cannot be reached then the agreement of two-thirds of the membership via a vote.

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## M) Dissolution

If a meeting decides that it is necessary to close down the group, it may call a Special General Meeting. The sole business of this meeting will be to dissolve the group. If it is agreed to dissolve the group, all remaining money and other assets, once outstanding debts have been paid, will be donated to a local charitable organisation decided by the group.

*This amended constitutional was agreed at the General Meeting Magnetic Ideals*

*21 March 2022*