

Newcastle Reform Synagogue – נר תמיד

The Croft, off Kenton Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4RF
Tel. 0191-284 8621 www.nertamid.org.uk
Registered charity no. 246816

Constitution

(15 May 2011, replacing version of 8 March 1998)

1. The name of the Association shall be "Newcastle Reform Synagogue". The Synagogue is an unincorporated association formed and managed by its members with the objective of providing and maintaining a place or places of public worship and for the furtherance and advancement of religious, educational and charitable objectives. The Synagogue is a constituent of the Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ).
2. The affairs of the Synagogue shall be managed by its members in General Meeting and subject thereto by a duly elected Council and its Executive Officers in accordance with what is provided for in this Constitution and in the Rules of the Synagogue from time to time, made and in force. The use herein and hereafter of the term "the Rules" shall be construed as being a reference to the Rules of Newcastle Reform Synagogue.
3. Divine Services shall be held and conducted on such days, at such times and places and by the, use of such rites, ceremonies and in such form as shall be specified in the Rules or otherwise as shall be determined by Council.
4. Any person who is a Jew shall be eligible for membership of the Synagogue. The admission to and continuing membership of the Synagogue shall be subject to such conditions precedent, provisos and requirements and upon payment of such fees, levies and subscriptions as shall be specified in the Rules.
5. The following persons shall constitute the Executive Officers of the Synagogue, namely (1) The Chair, (2) The Vice-Chair, (3) The Treasurer, (4) The Secretary (each of whom shall be elected and take office upon election as is provided for in the Rules). The Executive shall make up and constitute the Executive Committee of the Synagogue. The Chair with the approval of the Executive Officers may co-opt any person, ad hoc and without voting rights, to assist the Executive in committee for a specified or unspecified period.
6. The Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by the Members at each Annual General meeting of the Synagogue as is provided for in the Rules. The Rules shall provide for the form and conduct of the Annual General Meeting and for all other Meetings of the Members, the Council, the Executive and all Sub and Ad Hoc Committees.
7. The appointment of any person or persons to the office of President, Vice President or the award of any "lifetime" title shall not confer upon the person(s) respectively nominated for or appointed to such office, any status, rights and/or duties not otherwise enjoyed and discharged by all other members of the Synagogue. Any such nomination is made and any such office is bestowed and is confirmed by the will of the membership in General meeting by way of recognition of services rendered to the Synagogue and its members and so as to honour the holder but for no other purpose and to no other effect.
8. The Synagogue may receive, hold and/or disclaim property of any kind including real property and whether or not subject to any encumbrances, express conditions or trusts. The Synagogue may purchase or otherwise acquire and hold property and may sell,

lease and otherwise deal with and dispose of the same. All property, assets and investments belonging to the Synagogue shall be vested in the names of not less than two and not more than four Trustees (or in a Trust Corporation) as shall, from time to time, be specified and directed by the will of Council who shall have the power to remove and replace any such trustees in accordance with the provisions of Section 36 Trustee Act, 1925.

9. The finances and funds of the Synagogue shall be managed - and all income and property received by it shall be applied - as is laid down in the Rules or otherwise as shall be directed by the Council with the approval of the members in the General Meeting. The Rules shall provide and define the powers and duties of the Treasurer and of other persons (if any) appointed, nominated or authorised to deal with such funds and property. Funds of the Synagogue not required for immediate use and/or application may be invested in any security for the time being authorised by law as a Trust security upon such terms and conditions (if any) as the Council may, from time to time approve. The Council may, from time to time, direct the Trustees to sell, vary and/or transfer such investments and property. All cheques drawn up on the Synagogue's banking account(s) shall be signed by at least two Executive Officers.
10. Without prejudice to the powers of the Trustees, the Council, on behalf of the members of the Synagogue may borrow for the purposes of and for the benefit of the Synagogue such sums as may be required and the Trustees, if so directed by the Council but only upon the authority of a General Meeting called for that purpose, may give effect to such borrowing by providing such security over the property of the Synagogue as may be required to secure payment of the capital and interest thereon.
11. The Rules herein referred to as the Rules of the Synagogue shall be drawn up by or for and on behalf of the Council and Executive and they shall, before coming into force, be approved for adoption by the Council and by a two-thirds majority of the Members present at that meeting. Once approved and adopted, the Rules shall be of such force and affect as is provided by its terms and they shall stay in force unless and until altered, amended and/or revoked in accordance with the provisions made in the Rules for that purpose.
12. In this Constitution -
 - a) the term "Jew" shall be construed as referring to a person so defined in the Rules.
 - b) the term "Council" shall be construed as referring to a number of Members of the Synagogue, duly elected by the membership in General Meeting as is provided for in the Rules.
 - c) the term "The Trustees" shall be taken to refer to the persons for the time being appointed by the Council to act in that capacity as provided for in this constitution.
 - d) the singular shall include the plural wherever the meaning so demands or allows.
13. The Constitution of the Synagogue may be altered and/or amended but only at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting or a Special Meeting of the Members and after 28 days notice thereof shall have been given of any such General Meeting to every Member of the Synagogue. In order to effect a proposed alteration and/or amendment to the Constitution, at least two-thirds of the Members present, entitled and voting thereat shall vote in favour of any proposed change. No provision, howsoever and whensoever made or set out in the Rules for votes to be given by Proxy or in writing by any Members not actually in attendance shall have application to or affect the provisions of this clause of the Constitution. No amendment to any proposed alteration and/or amendment to the Constitution shall be allowed unless appropriate notice thereof has first been sent to every Member of the Synagogue.

14. Any matter or question not herein or in the Rules expressly provided for shall be guided by the laws, regulations and/or practices of the MRJ but to the extent only to which such laws, regulations and/or practices are not inconsistent with this Constitution, the Rules of the Synagogue, its Charitable Status, and the general and particular objects and aims of the Synagogue as they are herein declared. Save as aforesaid and in the event of any ambiguity, differences of opinions or disputes concerning or turning on the purport, meaning, construction and/or interpretation of any part or clause of this Constitution or the Rules currently in force, shall be referred to the Council for resolution or determination and the decision of the Council in committee upon such question or issue shall be final and binding.

This Constitution was adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the members of Newcastle Reform Synagogue held upon 8th day of March 1998 [and amended] 15th day of May 2011 by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

We the undersigned who were present at the Annual General Meeting on the date stated above and at the adoption of this Constitution as aforesaid have hereto appended our signatures in the presence of each other as witness thereof.

Chair: Mrs. Brenda Dinsdale

Signed Witness

Secretary: Ms. Gabrielle Mandell

Signed Witness

Dated 15 May 2011