



BASINGSTOKE & DEANE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CONSTITUTION

DATE OF ADOPTION: 27 May 2026

VERSION: 2.0

1. NAME AND VALUES

The name of the organisation is Basingstoke & Deane Neighbourhood Watch Association (BDNWA). We are a not-for-profit, inclusive group that welcomes everyone regardless of their background, religion, or political views. We are committed to equality and diversity in everything we do.

2. OUR MEMBERSHIP

Our Association is made up of:

- **Scheme Members:** People belonging to local approved Neighbourhood Watch schemes, represented by their Coordinators.
- **Individual Members:** Residents not attached to a local scheme, represented by Area Coordinators.
- **Committee Members:** Any member who applies and is appointed to help lead the Association.
- Membership of the Association may be subject to a police check.

3. OUR GOALS

In line with our national strategy, we aim to:

- **Connect:** Maintain an open and helpful link between our members, the Police and other parties.
- **Support:** Provide advice and share best practices to help local schemes grow and succeed.
- **Inform:** Use effective systems to keep our Coordinators and members updated.
- **Protect:** Work together to prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime and encourage everyone to look out for one another.

4. THE COMMITTEE

The Association is managed by a committee of volunteers.

- **Officers:** The Committee includes a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- **Elections:** Members are elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for a two-year term. We strive to have representatives from all areas of Basingstoke and Deane.
- **Co-opting:** The Committee can invite members with specific skills to help for up to one year.
- **Meetings:** The Committee meets at least six times a year. To ensure consistency, members should attend at least four of these meetings, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

- **Quorum:** For a meeting to make official decisions, at least three members must be present, one of whom must be an Officer.

5. GENERAL MEETINGS

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

We hold an AGM every year, usually in April. We provide at least 14 days' notice to all members via email or in writing.

- **Purpose:** We share the year's highlights, present accounts and elect the Committee.
- **Flexibility:** If unforeseen circumstances prevent an in-person meeting, we may conduct AGM business electronically or as part of a regular Association meeting.

Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)

An EGM can be called by the Committee or by a written request from 5% of our members to discuss a specific urgent matter.

6. CONDUCT AND MEMBERSHIP

We value a respectful community. The Committee may decline or end a membership if someone's behaviour is illegal, unacceptable, or brings the name of Neighbourhood Watch into disrepute. Anyone facing this will be given a fair chance to speak to the Committee before a final decision is made.

7. FINANCE AND RECORDS

- **Funding:** We raise funds through grants, donations and activities to support our community goals.
- **Banking:** Our funds are held in a bank account in the Association's name.
- **Electronic Payments:** At least two Committee members must be authorised to approve any payments or withdrawals.
- **Audit:** Our financial year ends on 31 March. Every year, our accounts are checked by an independent examiner.
- **Transparency:** We keep records of all meetings. Members can request to see these minutes, though we may remove sensitive or private details where appropriate.

8. CHANGES AND DISSOLUTION

- **Updates:** Changes to this constitution require a 75% majority vote by the Committee. Minor administrative updates can be made by a simple majority, provided they don't change our core objectives.
- **Closing the Association:** If it is decided that the Association should close, a 75% majority vote at an EGM is required. Any remaining assets or funds will be given to a similar charitable cause or Neighbourhood Watch purpose.

9. DECLARATION OF ADOPTION

On behalf of the Basingstoke & Deane Neighbourhood Watch Association, I hereby declare that this constitution was approved and adopted at our Annual General Meeting held at:

[AGM location address]:	
on [AGM date]:	
Signature:	Signature:
Name:	Name:
Role:	Role:
Date:	Date: