

Adopted at the meeting held on 6th August 2009

1. The name will be the “Federation of Cambridge Residents Associations”, the FeCRA.
2. The constituency of the Federation will be “Residents’ Associations of Cambridge City”.
3. The purpose of the FeCRA will be to act on behalf of residents of Cambridge who are members of affiliated Residents Associations (RAs) in respect of the built environment and the provided public services, particularly in relation to strategic planning of the city and its services, and the policies relating to those plans and services.
4. Membership will be all City RAs, providing they are properly constituted. “Properly constituted” means they have a defined membership, a constitution, officers and a regular AGM. The Chair and Secretary will be responsible for validating membership.
5. It will be necessary to make a charge to constituent RAs to cover the costs of events, meetings etc. Decisions about the amounts to be levied will be made at the annual AGM in respect of the forthcoming year
6. Each member RA shall be entitled to appoint one spokesperson to each Federation meeting; it will be expected that representatives of RAs can demonstrate the legitimacy of their mandate.
7. The work of the Federation will normally be carried out by subgroups, each focussing on a particular area of activity, and reporting their findings back to all Federation members. Decisions on subgroup topics and core membership will be made at full Federation meetings. Subgroups will have the authority to co-opt additional members. Such co-opted members may also attend and contribute.
8. There will be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) held each year. Not more than fifteen months shall elapse between AGMs.
9. If the Federation does not hold an AGM for over 18 months, the Federation is automatically wound up. The retiring Treasurer will pass any remaining funds to a local charity that serves the homeless in Cambridge and environs.
10. At the AGM, elections will be held for the offices of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to six Ordinary Committee Members for the forthcoming year.
11. Nominations for these positions should be submitted to the Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the AGM. Not more than two Committee members can belong to the same RA.
11. The Officers shall be authorised to open a bank account in the name of the Federation. Cheques drawn on the bank will be signed by two of the authorised signatories. The Treasurer will also be responsible for any disbursements made on behalf of the Federation; these will include room hire and any receipted out-of-pocket expenses incurred by members engaged on accountable business of the Federation that is approved by the Chair and Secretary or Treasurer.
12. Correspondence will normally be by email. The Secretary and Treasurer will
 - Maintain a list of member RAs with contact details, and will normally be responsible for circulating all papers and information.
 - Prepare annual accounts that will be independently examined by two members of the Federation, other than the elected Officers, as determined at the AGM. The independently examined accounts will be presented to the AGM for approval.
13. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Federation may be called by any three members, at any time, by their writing to the Secretary requesting such a meeting. The Secretary will issue a call for the meeting within 21 days of the receipt of such a request.
14. The constitution may be amended at a quorate AGM or EGM by the affirmative vote of two thirds of member RAs who are present and voting at the meeting.
15. The Committee shall have power to adopt and issue Standing Orders and/or Rules for the conduct of Federation business and/or Rules for the use of the Federation. Such Standing Orders and Rules shall come into operation immediately, provided always that they shall be subject to review by the Annual General Meeting and shall be consistent with the provisions of this Constitution.
16. It is the policy of FeCRA to welcome and treat all members and volunteers fairly and equally regardless of sex, sexual orientation, marital status, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, religion, age, or disability.