The Sidings Community Centre
Special Resolution to the Annual General Meeting 24th November 2026
Proposed Changes to the Articles of Association

Why Change?

1. The proposed changes reflect two main reasons:
    a. Legislative changes
    b. Practical changes

2. Legislative Changes

a. The Sidings Community Centre was established in 1983 and its Articles of Association as a company limited by guarantee were approved in June 1987 in the context of the Companies Act 1985. They have not been amended since that date.

b. The Companies Act 2006 updated the requirements for charitable companies limited by guarantee.

c. The Charities Act 2011 also consolidated and updated the requirements for charities.

d. The proposed changes are consistent with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Practical Changes

a. The original Articles of Association referred to a Management Committee which has now been replaced with a Board of Trustees who are the directors of the company.

b. The original Articles described a complex make up of committee members elected by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and representing different groups. The Board of Trustees is still elected by the AGM but is made up of a number of individuals willing to serve, rather than specifically representative of different groups. Any member can apply to be a Trustee.

c. The original Articles specified a maximum number of members; it is proposed that should be no limit on the number of members, if they meet the criteria for membership.

d. It is proposed that the quorum for general meetings, including the AGM, shall be 10% of membership; changed from 1/3 of members previously.

e. The original Articles included a requirement for the audited annual accounts to be laid before the AGM and available for inspection. This is no longer required in the new Articles however it would be good practice still to do this and that is our intention.

f. Language in the Articles has been adjusted to reflect 21st century norms.

What has not changed?

1. The Objects of the Sidings Community Centre. These are still:

   (*a*) *to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Kilburn and West Hampstead and the neighbourhood - thereinafter called the Area of Benefit, without distinction of sex, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants*.

   (b) to establish and secure the establishment of a community centre thereinafter called the Centre, and to maintain and manage, or to co-operate with any local statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the Association and its constituent bodies in furtherance of the above objects.

2. The powers and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees (previously the Management Committee).

3. The requirements for an Annual General Meeting, preparation of annual accounts and annual report and submission to the Charities Commission.

4. Arrangements for general meetings, the Annual General Meeting, and meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Can we see the proposed new Articles of Association?

The draft proposed new Articles of Association can be seen on the Sidings Community Centre website www.sidings.org.uk

What Happens Next?

1. If the Special Resolution proposing the revised Articles of Association is approved by 75% of the members present at the Annual General Meeting and the meeting is quorate (1/3 of members) they will be submitted to Companies House and to the Charities Commission for approval.

2. A revised Memorandum of Association will be signed by the Trustees and submitted along with the revised Articles of Association.

3. The revised Articles of Association and Memorandum of Association will be made public on The Sidings Community Centre website, once they have been approved.

Cath Attlee
On behalf of the Board of Trustees November 2026