



## Yes Dunbar Constitution

*Including amendments up to 30 September 2022*

1. The name of the group shall be **Yes Dunbar**.
2. The purpose and aims of the group will be:
  - To be non-party political.
  - To advocate for Scottish Independence from the UK.
  - To actively promote political engagement within the local community.
  - To work with organisations, and assist campaigns seeking a better Scotland.
3. Membership is open to anyone who:
  - lives in Dunbar, East Linton or surrounding areas; and,
  - supports the aims of the group and participates in the activities.

Membership shall be actively encouraged through promotion of the group.

A list of members contact details will be held securely by the Secretary with a backup copy held by one other officer approved by the Committee.

Any offensive behaviour and inappropriate behaviour will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way and/or breaking legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010 will be asked not to attend further meetings or to resign from the group, save as in exceptional circumstances where appropriate remedial action can be agreed and arranged.

A member may resign by asking the Secretary to remove his/her name. The Committee may also remove a member if they consider he/she cannot be reached or no longer meets the criteria for membership, but only after attempting to contact the member and inviting him/her to respond.

4. Yes Dunbar will promote equal opportunities and will not discriminate on the grounds protected under the Equality Act 2010.

5. The business of the group will be carried out by a Committee of Members elected by the AGM, though the Committee may co-opt additional committee members to full specific roles or in the event of a casual vacancy. The Committee will include be four office bearers whose roles are as follows:

Two Co-Convenors, one of whom shall take the chair at each general meeting and and committee meeting.

A Secretary, who shall be responsible for the taking of minutes, the distribution of all papers and for keeping records of members.

A Treasurer who shall be responsible for maintaining accounts.

Other Committee Members be appointed as required.

6. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held within fifteen months of the previous AGM. All members will be notified in writing at least 3 weeks before the date of the meeting, giving the venue, date and time. Nominations for the committee may be made to the Secretary before the meeting, or at the meeting. The business of the AGM shall be Yearly Reports, Office Bearer election

and Committee Review. In this constitution the term “in writing” includes communication by email provided the member has provided an email address to the Secretary.

7. The Secretary will call a Special General Meeting (SGM) at the request of the majority of the committee or at least four members giving a written request to one of the Co-Convenors or Secretary 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 written notice of such a meeting, giving the venue, date, time and agenda.

8. As far as possible, the Co-Convenors shall seek to achieve decisions by consensus whether at an AGM, SGM or Committee meeting, but if this is not possible, decisions shall be taken by majority vote. Voting is only open to those participating in the meeting concerned, although where an urgent issue arises and with the approval of at least one of the Co-Convenors, the Committee may take decisions by email.

9. An account will be maintained on behalf of the Association at a bank agreed by the committee. Three signatories will be nominated by the Committee. All payments must be authorised by at least two members of the Committee - however, the bank may be instructed to make payments electronically provided the Treasurer has prior approval by email from another Committee member (not related or from the same household).

Records of income and expenditure will be maintained by the Treasurer and a financial statement produced once a year for presentation to the AGM. The Committee may determine the financial year to be used.

All money raised by or on behalf of Yes Dunbar is only to be used to further the aims of the group, as specified in item 2 of this constitution. Petty cash shall be held by the Treasurer.

10. Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any member, and seconded by any other member. Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Secretary in writing. The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting. An amendment may only be passed by a two thirds majority vote of members present at voting at an AGM or SGM.

11. If a meeting, by simple majority, decides that it is necessary to close down the group it may call a Special General Meeting to do so. The sole business of this meeting will be to dissolve the group. Dissolution will generally be achievement of the group’s purpose and aims as outlined in 2, above or a decision that for some other reason that it is not viable for the group to continue. 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 organisation/s. The organisation/s to be agreed at the meeting which agrees the dissolution.

---

*The adoption of this Constitution was carried unanimously at the Inaugural Meeting held on 10 January 2020 at the Bleachingfields Centre, Dunbar. Minor amendments to clause 9 were agreed unanimously at the AGM held on 30 September 2022, also at Bleachingfields Centre. (Note: Yes Dunbar had been operating informally for some time prior to the adoption of this Constitution – originally at the time of the 2014 Referendum and then re-activated from June 2018.)*