Lincolnshire Bat Group

Constitution

- 1. The name of the group will be Lincolnshire Bat Group (the group).
- 2. The aims of the group will be:

- To promote bat conservation to the general public.
- To undertake scientific research on bat behaviour and distribution in Lincolnshire in order to further bat conservation.
- To assist the police, Natural England and others in pursuit of the statutory protection of bats.
- 3. In pursuance of the above aims, the group will:
 - Obtain all necessary permissions from landowners and agencies and liase with relevant public bodies, property owners and other interested groups.
 - Generate and disburse funds as necessary and maintain a detailed account thereof.
 - Keep minutes and correspondence to support the decisions and actions of the group.
 - Hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) open to all members of the group.
 - Keep detailed records of bat populations in Lincolnshire and make the data available to interested parties.
- 4. The group shall be a non-profit making enterprise made up of volunteers with an interest in the group's aims.

The officers of the group, forming the Committee, shall be the Chair Person, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer and all others as necessary. Officers shall be elected by the majority vote of members at the AGM, with existing Officers being eligible to stand for re-election. In the event of an Officer being unable to continue in office, the remaining members of the

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Committee may elect a temporary replacement to serve until the date of the next AGM.

- 5. The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining the group's bank account and be jointly responsible with the other signatory for the withdrawal of funds and the presentation of the accounts on an annual basis. The group shall keep a balance sufficient to cover the excess (currently £250) on the insurance policy acquired through the Bat Conservation Trust.
- 6. The business of the group shall be transacted through meetings of the Committee. To encourage achievement of the aims of the group, meetings of the Committee will be open to all members of the group and should be held no less than three times a year and more often as required for the efficient and effective conduct of business.
- 7. A quorum shall comprise not less than three Committee members. Decisions shall be taken by consensus of those present at a properly convened and quorate meeting. Any member of the group present may ask for a formal vote, in which case the decision shall be by majority in favour and the numbers for and against shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If a vote is tied, the Chair Person or person acting as Chair Person for that meeting shall have the casting vote.
- 8. The Committee shall present accounts of their activities to the membership at the AGM and the membership shall be given the opportunity to comment and vote on the activities of the Committee.
- 9. In the event of any unresolved matters that cannot be settled by discussion at a Committee meeting or AGM, any member of the group, with the support of six other such members may, by giving twenty-one days public notice, call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Committee and members of the group. Such notice to specify in writing the purpose of the EGM. Any amendment to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds majority of those members present at an AGM or EGM and twenty-one days notice of any such proposed amendment shall be required.
- 10. In the event of the group being wound up, any assets (including bat records) remaining upon dissolution after the payment of proper debts and liabilities shall firstly be disposed of in accordance with any legally binding conditions of financial grant. Any remainder shall be transferred to a suitable organisation having similar aims and objectives for the benefit of bats in Lincolnshire.

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SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE BAT GROUP: Dave Hughes 8 February 2011 **Chair Person Date** Helen Scarborough 8 February 2011 **Secretary Date**