



THE PET OWNER'S PARLIAMENT

'A POSITIVE VOICE FOR PETS AND THEIR OWNERS'

The Pet Owner's Parliament is a club formed in order to provide representation to British pet owners in matters related to the welfare and governance of domestic pets, legislation affecting domestic pets, long term improvement of education aimed at improving responsible pet ownership and policies designed to enhance the lives of domestic pets, their owners and society at large. The club operates on a democratic one member, one vote system.

1. NAME

The club is The Pet Owner's Parliament which may be abbreviated to 'Pet Parliament' 'Pet Owner's Parliament' or 'POP' with the strap line '*a positive voice for pets and their owners*'.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the club will be:

- ✓ To provide pet owners with a public voice and representation on pet related issues
- ✓ To promote the concept of responsible pet ownership including safe control of pets
- ✓ To call for the highest standards of animal welfare
- ✓ To lobby government on legislation affecting pet owners
- ✓ To highlight and publicise issues which negatively affect pets or the portrayal of pets
- ✓ To debate and formulate proposals and policy recommendations aimed at improving the lives of domestic pets, pet owners and society at large in the United Kingdom

3. MEMBERSHIP

To ensure all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment the club will operate on a one member one vote basis on issues put to membership vote.

Membership should consist of officers and members of the club.

All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of practice that the club has adopted.

Members will be enrolled in one of the following categories:

- ✓ full member.
 - ✓ associate member.
 - ✓ junior member.
 - ✓ honorary member / overseas member (no voting rights)
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4. MEMBERSHIP FEES

There will be no membership fees. Alternative methods of fundraising for Parliament activities will be sought. Membership is limited to UK residents of 16 years and over. Membership fees may be introduced at a later date if ratified by the Management Board at an AGM or EGM.

5. OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

The officers of the club will be:

- ✓ Chair.
- ✓ Vice Chair.
- ✓ Secretary.
- ✓ Treasurer.
- ✓ Publicity Officer
- ✓ Any other relevant position.

Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

All officers will retire each year, with the exception of life members but will be eligible for re-appointment.

6. BOARD

The club will be managed through the Management Board appointed by the president and consisting of:

- ✓ President. Chief Executive. Policy Director. Fundraising Director.
 - ✓ The Management Board will be convened by the Secretary of the club and hold no less than one meeting per year.
 - ✓ The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Board meetings will be four. Further board positions can be created in which case the quorum will change accordingly.
 - ✓ The Management Board will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.
 - ✓ The Management Board will have powers to appoint sub-committees and policy advisers to the Management Board as necessary to fulfil its business.
 - ✓ The Management Board will be responsible for disciplinary hearings and actions taken against members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution.
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6.1. POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

The club's policies will be shaped by members of the non executive policy advisory panel referred to herein as Pet Parliament Policy Advisors:

- ✓ There is no upper limit on the number of members/experts appointed to serve on the policy advisory commission.
- ✓ Service to the advisory commission is on an honorary, non executive basis and carries no voting rights.
- ✓ Policy advisors may also be members/officers/board members.
- ✓ Policy advisors can be proposed by members or the Management Board with their appointments ratified by the president.
- ✓ Policy advisors may come from any field and do not need to be UK resident if they add value to the business of the club.

7. FINANCE

All club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the club.

The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

The financial year of the club will end on 31st day of the 3rd month.

An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Notice of Annual General Meetings will be given by the Club Secretary. Not less than 21 clear days notice to be given to all members.

The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Board and a statement of the audited accounts.

Nominations for officers of the Management Board will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM.

Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM. All members have the right to vote at the AGM. The quorum for AGMs will be 10% of the club's membership. The Management Board has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.



9. DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary.

The Management Board will meet to hear complaints within 15 days of a complaint being lodged. The board has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.

The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within NUMBER days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Board following disciplinary action being announced. The board should consider the appeal within 21 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

10. DISSOLUTION

A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.

11. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote of the Management Board passed at an AGM or EGM.

12. DECLARATION

The Pet Owner's Parliament hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

SIGNED:

DATE:

NAME:

POSITION: President

SIGNED:

DATE:

NAME:

POSITION: Club Secretary
