

# CONSTITUTION

of the

## **The Polish Saturday School in Manchester – Polska Szkoła Przedmiotow Ojczystych im Sw Stanislawa Kostki w Manchesterze**

Date of constitution: xx xx xxxx

### 1. NAME

The name of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (“the CIO”) is **The Polish Saturday School in Manchester – Polska Szkoła Przedmiotow Ojczystych im. sw. Stanislawa Kostki w Manchesterze.**

### 2. PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND LOCATION

The principal office and location of the CIO is in England.

### 3. OBJECTS

The objects of the CIO are to advance education in the Polish Language, Literature, History, Geography, Roman Catholic Religion, Polish Culture and Traditions in all its forms, to pupils attending The Polish Saturday School in Manchester (“the School”). In Polish the School is known as “Polska Szkoła Przedmiotów Ojczystych im św. Stanisława Kostki w Manchesterze”.

The aims of the CIO in pursuance of its objects are:

- i. To maintain and develop the School by providing resources and teaching as and where necessary.
- ii. To provide the highest quality of education.
- iii. To facilitate the attainment by each pupil of his or her full potential.
- iv. To raise the profile of the School, to provide opportunities for greater integration within the local community and help pupils to contribute positively to society.

### 4. POWERS

In furtherance of the objects but not otherwise, the CIO may exercise the following powers:

- i. To raise funds and to invite, obtain, collect and receive contributions from any persons whatever, by way of grant, donation, legacy, subscription or otherwise, provided that in raising funds the CIO shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant requirement of the law.
- ii. To deposit or invest funds, employ a professional fund-manager, and arrange for the investments or other property of the CIO to be held in the name of a nominee, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do so by the Trustee Act 2000.
- iii. To buy, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and to maintain and equip it for use.
- iv. To sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the property belonging to the CIO. In exercising this power, the CIO must comply as appropriate with sections 117 and 119-123 of the Charities ACT 2011.
- v. To employ on such terms and conditions of employment or otherwise through voluntary or other agreements as the CIO shall determine, or engage such staff, who are not members of the charity trustees, with the exception of the Head Teacher, as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objects and for carrying out the work of the CIO, and to make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of salaries, or refund of expenses incurred by the permanent or voluntary staff.
- vi. To employ or remunerate a charity trustee only to the extent that it is permitted to do so by clause 6 (Benefits and payments to charity trustees and connected persons) and providing it complies with the conditions of that clause.
- vii. To cooperate with other charities, associations, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities (either at a local or national level, including but not limited to the Polish Roman Catholic Church of Divine Mercy in Manchester, the Polish Educational Society, and Manchester City Council), operating in furtherance of the objects of the CIO and to exchange information and advice with them as may be permissible under statutory requirements for data protection.
- viii. To issue regulations concerning the organisation of the school, including, but not limited to, the duties owed to the School by pupils attending the School and similarly the duties owed to the CIO, by the Parents, Carers or Guardians of such pupils.

- ix. In consultation and agreement with the Head Teacher, to control the admission of pupils to the School and, if appropriate, require Parents, Carers or Guardians to withdraw the pupils from the School.
- x. To set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves, which in principle should not exceed the running costs of the CIO for the previous two years.
- xi. To obtain and pay for such goods and services as are necessary for carrying out the work of the CIO.
- xii. To do all such other lawful things as is necessary for the achievement of any or all of the objects.

No alteration of this constitution or any special resolution shall have retrospective effect to invalidate any prior act of the charity trustees.

#### 5. APPLICATION OF INCOME AND PROPERTY

- i. The income and property of the CIO must be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects.
  - a. A charity trustee is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the CIO or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the CIO.
  - b. A charity trustee may benefit from trustee indemnity insurance cover purchased at the CIO's expense in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, section 189 of the Charities Act 2011.
- ii. None of the income or property of the CIO may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the CIO.
- iii. Nothing in this clause shall prevent a charity trustee or connected person receiving any benefit or payment which is authorised by Clause 6.

#### 6. BENEFITS AND PAYMENTS TO CHARITY TRUSTEES AND CONNECTED PERSONS

- i. General provisions

No charity trustee or connected person may:

- a. buy or receive any goods or services from the CIO on terms preferential to those applicable to members of the public;
- b. sell goods, services, or any interest in land to the CIO;

c. be employed by, or receive any remuneration from, the CIO;

d. receive any other financial benefit from the CIO;

unless the payment or benefit is permitted by sub-clause (ii) of this clause or authorised by the court or the Charity Commission (“the Commission”). In this clause, a “financial benefit” means a benefit, direct or indirect, which is either money or has a monetary value.

ii. Scope and powers permitting trustees’ or connected persons’ benefits

a. A charity trustee or connected person may receive a benefit from the CIO as a beneficiary of the CIO provided that a majority of the trustees do not benefit in this way.

b. A charity trustee or connected person may enter into a contract for the supply of services, or of goods that are supplied in connection with the provision of services, to the CIO where that is permitted in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, sections 185 to 188 of the Charities Act 2011.

c. Subject to sub-clause (iii) of this clause a charity trustee or connected person may provide the CIO with goods that are not supplied in connection with services provided to the CIO by the charity trustee or connected person.

d. A charity trustee or connected person may receive interest on money lent to the CIO at a reasonable and proper rate which must be not more than the Bank of England bank rate (also known as the base rate).

e. A charity trustee or connected person may receive rent for premises let by the trustee or connected person to the CIO. The amount of the rent and the other terms of the lease must be reasonable and proper. The charity trustee concerned must withdraw from any meeting at which such a proposal or the rent or other terms of the lease are under discussion.

f. A charity trustee or connected person may take part in the normal trading and fundraising activities of the CIO on the same terms as members of the public.

iii. Payment for supply of goods only – controls

The CIO and its charity trustees may only rely upon the authority provided by sub-clause (ii)(c) of this clause if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

- a. The amount or maximum amount of the payment for the goods is set out in a written agreement between the CIO and the charity trustee or connected person supplying the goods (“the supplier”).
  - b. The amount or maximum amount of the payment for the goods does not exceed what is reasonable in the circumstances for the supply of the goods in question.
  - c. The other charity trustees are satisfied that it is in the best interests of the CIO to contract with the supplier rather than with someone who is not a charity trustee or connected person. In reaching that decision the charity trustees must balance the advantage of contracting with a charity trustee or connected person against the disadvantages of doing so.
  - d. The supplier is absent from the part of any meeting at which there is discussion of the proposal to enter into a contract or arrangement with him or her or it with regard to the supply of goods to the CIO.
  - e. The supplier does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when calculating whether a quorum of charity trustees is present at the meeting.
  - f. The reason for their decision is recorded by the charity trustees in the minute book.
  - g. A majority of the charity trustees then in office are not in receipt of remuneration or payments authorised by clause 6.
- iv. In sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause “connected person” includes any person within the definition set out in clause 30 (Interpretation).

## 7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND CONFLICTS OF LOYALTY

- i. Any charity trustee must declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the CIO or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the CIO which has not previously been declared.
- ii. Any charity trustee must absent himself or herself from any discussions of the charity trustees in which it is possible that a conflict of interest will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the CIO and any personal interest (including but not limited to any financial interest).

- iii. Any charity trustee absenting himself or herself from any discussions in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any decision of the charity trustees on the matter.

## 8. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ASSETS OF THE CIO IF IT IS WOUND UP

If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

## 9. CHARITY TRUSTEES

### i. Functions and duties of charity trustees

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee:

- a. To exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions in his or her capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO
- b. To exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and if he or she acts as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

### ii. Eligibility for trusteeship

- a. Every charity trustee must be a natural person.
- b. No individual may be appointed as a charity trustee of the CIO if he or she is under the age of 18 years
- c. No individual may be appointed as a charity trustee of the CIO if he or she would automatically cease to hold office under the provisions of clause 12.i.e.
- d. No one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged, in whatever way the charity trustees decide, his or her acceptance of the office of charity trustee.

- iii. Number of charity trustees  
There must be at least 3 charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.
- iv. First charity trustees  
The list of first charity trustees is appended to the end of this constitution and they are appointed for three years following the registration of the CIO.

## 10. APPOINTMENT OF CHARITY TRUSTEES

- i. Appointed charity trustees
  - a. Apart from the first charity trustees, every appointed trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.
  - b. In selecting individuals for appointment as appointed charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.
- ii. Ex officio trustees
  - a. The following persons for the time being (“the office holder”) shall automatically (“ex-officio”) be a charity trustee, for as long as he or she holds that office:
    - i. A representative of the Polish Ex-Combatants Association, Branch 181 in Manchester or its successor organisation.
    - ii. The Parish Priest at the Polish Roman Catholic Church of Divine Mercy in Manchester.
    - iii. The Head Teacher of the Polish Saturday School in Manchester.
    - iv. A trustee of the Olga Trybuchowska School Fund or its successor organisation.
  - b. If unwilling to act as a charity trustee, the office holder may:
    - i. before accepting appointment as a charity trustee, give notice in writing to the trustees of his or her unwillingness to act in that capacity; or
    - ii. after accepting appointment as a charity trustee, resign under the provisions contained in clause 12 (Retirement and removal of charity trustees).

- c. The office of ex officio charity trustee will then remain vacant until the office holder ceases to hold office.

## 11. INFORMATION FOR NEW CHARITY TRUSTEES

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment:

- i. A copy of the current version of this constitution.
- ii. A copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts.

## 12. RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF CHARITY TRUSTEES

- i. A charity trustee ceases to hold office if he or she:
  - a. Retires by notifying the CIO in writing (but only if enough charity trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation takes effect to form a quorum for meetings);
  - b. Is absent without the permission of the charity trustees from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the trustees resolve that his or her office be vacated;
  - c. Dies;
  - d. Becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering his or her own affairs; or
  - e. Is disqualified from acting as a charity trustee by virtue of sections 178-180 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision).
- ii. Any person retiring as a charity trustee is eligible for reappointment.
- iii. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

## 13. TAKING OF DECISIONS BY CHARITY TRUSTEES

Any decision may be taken either:

- i. at a meeting of the charity trustees; or
- ii. by resolution in writing or electronic form agreed by all of the charity trustees, which may comprise either a single document or several documents containing the text of the resolution in like form to each of which one or more charity trustees has signified their agreement.



#### 14. DELEGATION BY CHARITY TRUSTEES

- i. The charity trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to a committee or committees, and, if they do, they shall determine the terms and conditions on which the delegation is made. The charity trustees may at any time alter those terms and conditions, or revoke the delegation.
- i. This power is in addition to the power of delegation in the General Regulations and any other power of delegation available to the charity trustees, but is subject to the following requirements:
  - a. a committee may consist of two or more persons, but at least one member of each committee must be a charity trustee;
  - b. the acts and proceedings of any committee must be brought to the attention of the charity trustees as a whole as soon as is reasonably practicable; and
  - c. the charity trustees shall from time to time review the arrangements which they have made for the delegation of their powers.

#### 15. MEETINGS OF CHARITY TRUSTEES

- i. Calling meetings
  - a. Any charity trustee may call a meeting of the charity trustees.
  - b. Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.
- ii. Chairing of meetings
  - a. The charity trustees may appoint one of their number to chair their meetings and may at any time revoke such appointment.
  - b. If no-one has been so appointed, or if the person appointed is unwilling to preside or is not present within 10 minutes after the time of the meeting, the charity trustees present may appoint one of their number to chair that meeting.
- iii. Procedure at meetings
  - a. No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. The quorum is two charity trustees, or the number nearest to one third of the total number of charity trustees, whichever is greater, or such larger number as the charity trustees may decide from time to time. A charity trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which he or she is not entitled to vote.

- b. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote.
- c. In the case of an equality of votes, the person who chairs the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

#### 16. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CIO

- i. The members of the CIO shall be its charity trustees for the time being. The only persons eligible to be members of the CIO are its charity trustees. Membership of the CIO cannot be transferred to anyone else.
- ii. Any member and charity trustee who ceases to be a charity trustee automatically ceases to be a member of the CIO.

#### 17. INFORMAL OR ASSOCIATE (NON VOTING) MEMBERSHIP

- i. The charity trustees may create associate or other classes of non-voting membership, and may determine the rights and obligations of any such members (including payment of membership fees), and the conditions for admission to, and termination of membership of any such class of members.
- ii. Other references in this constitution to “members” and “membership” do not apply to non-voting members, and non-voting members do not qualify as members for any purpose under the Charities Acts, General Regulations or Dissolution Regulations.

#### 18. DECISIONS WHICH MUST BE MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE CIO

- i. Any decision to:
  - a. amend the constitution of the CIO;
  - b. amalgamate the CIO with, or transfer its undertaking to, one or more other CIOs, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011; or
  - c. wind up or dissolve the CIO (including transferring its business to any other charity)must be made by a resolution of the members of the CIO (rather than a resolution of the charity trustees).
- ii. Decisions of the members may be made either:
  - a. by resolution at a general meeting; or
  - b. by resolution in writing, in accordance with sub-clause (iv) of this clause.

- iii. Any decision specified in sub-clause (i) of this clause must be made in accordance with the provisions of clause 28 (amendment of constitution), clause 29 (Voluntary winding up or dissolution), or the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the General Regulations or the Dissolution Regulations as applicable. Those provisions require the resolution to be agreed by a 75% majority of those members voting at a general meeting, or agreed by all members in writing.
- iv. Except where a resolution in writing must be agreed by all the members, such a resolution may be agreed by a simple majority of all the members who are entitled to vote on it. Such a resolution shall be effective provided that:
  - a. a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to all the members eligible to vote; and
  - b. the required majority of members has signified its agreement to the resolution in a document or documents which are received at the principal office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date. The document signifying a member's agreement must be authenticated by their signature, by a statement of their identity accompanying the document, or in such other manner as the CIO has specified.

The resolution in writing may comprise several copies to which one or more members has signified their agreement. Eligibility to vote on the resolution is limited to members who are members of the CIO on the date when the proposal is first circulated.

## 19. GENERAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

- i. Calling of general meetings of members

The charity trustees may designate any of their meetings as a general meeting of the members of the CIO. The purpose of such a meeting is to discharge any business which must by law be discharged by a resolution of the members of the CIO as specified in clause 18 (Decisions which must be made by the members of the CIO).
- ii. Notice of general meetings of members
  - a. The minimum period of notice required to hold a general meeting of the members of the CIO is 14 days.

- b. Except where a specified period of notice is strictly required by another clause in this constitution, by the Charities Act 2011 or by the General Regulations, a general meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority of the members of the CIO.
  - c. Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted; or that an electronic form of notice was properly addressed and sent, shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Notice shall be deemed to be given 48 hours after it was posted or sent.
- iii. Procedure at general meetings of members
- The provisions in clause 15 (ii)-(iii) governing the chairing of meetings, procedure at meetings and participation in meetings by electronic means apply to any general meeting of the members, with all references to trustees to be taken as references to members.

## 20. SAVING PROVISIONS

- i. Subject to sub-clause (ii) of this clause, all decisions of the charity trustees, or of a committee of charity trustees, shall be valid notwithstanding the participation in any vote of a charity trustee:
  - a. who was disqualified from holding office;
  - b. who had previously retired or who had been obliged by the constitution to vacate office;
  - c. who was not entitled to vote on the matter, whether by reason of a conflict of interest or otherwise;if, without the vote of that charity trustee and that charity trustee being counted in the quorum, the decision has been made by a majority of the charity trustees at a quorate meeting.
- ii. Sub-clause (i) of this clause does not permit a charity trustee to keep any benefit that may be conferred upon him or her by a resolution of the charity trustees or of a committee of charity trustees if, but for sub-clause (i), the resolution would have been void, or if the charity trustee has not complied with clause 7 (Conflicts of interest).

## 21. EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

- i. The CIO shall execute documents by signature.

- ii. A document is validly executed by signature if it is signed by at least two of the charity trustees.

## 22. USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The CIO will comply with the requirements of the Communications Provisions in the General Regulations and in particular:

- i. the requirement to provide within 21 days to any member on request a hard copy of any document or information sent to the member otherwise than in hard copy form;
- ii. any requirements to provide information to the Commission in a particular form or manner.

## 23. KEEPING OF REGISTERS

The Charity shall comply with its obligations under the General Regulations in relation to the keeping of, and provision of access to, registers of its members and charity trustees.

## 24. MINUTES

The charity trustees must keep minutes of all:

- i. Appointments of officers made by the charity trustees.
- ii. Proceeding at General Meetings of the CIO.
- iii. Meetings of the charity trustees and committees of charity trustees including:
  - a. The names of the trustees present at the meeting,
  - b. The decisions made at the meetings, and
  - c. Where appropriate, the reasons for the decisions.
- iv. Decisions made by the charity trustees otherwise than in meetings.

## 25. ACCOUNTING RECORDS, ACCOUNTS, ANNUAL REPORTS & RETURNS, REGISTER MAINTENANCE

- i. The charity trustees shall comply with the requirements of Part 6 of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, to the preparation and scrutiny of statements of accounts, and to the preparation of annual reports and returns.
- ii. The statement of accounts, reports and returns must be sent to the Charity Commission, regardless of the income of the CIO, within 10 months of the financial year end.

- iii. The charity trustees must comply with their obligation to inform the Commission within 28 days of any change in the particulars of the CIO entered on the Central Register of Charities.

## 26. RULES

The charity trustees may from time to time make such reasonable and proper rules or byelaws as they may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct and management of the CIO, but such rules or bye laws must not be inconsistent with any provision of this constitution. Copies of any such rules or bye laws currently in force must be made available to any member of the CIO on request.

## 27. DISPUTES

If a dispute arises between members of the CIO about the validity or propriety of anything done by the members under this constitution, and the dispute cannot be resolved by agreement, the parties to the dispute must first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.

## 28. ACCOUNTING RECORDS, ACCOUNTS, ANNUAL REPORTS AND RETURNS, REGISTER MAINTENANCE

- i. The charity trustees must comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, to the preparation and scrutiny of statements of account, and to the preparation of annual reports and returns. The statements of account, reports and returns must be sent to the Charity Commission, regardless of the income of the CIO, within 10 months of the financial year end.
- ii. The charity trustees must comply with their obligation to inform the Commission within 28 days of any change in the particulars of the CIO entered on the Central Register of Charities

## 29. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

As provided by sections 224-227 of the Charities Act 2011:

- i. This constitution can only be amended:
  - a. by resolution agreed in writing by all members of the CIO; or
  - b. by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of those voting at a general meeting of the members of the CIO called in accordance with clause 19 (General meetings of members).

- ii. Any alteration of clause 3 (Objects), clause 29 (Voluntary winding up or dissolution), this clause, or of any provision where the alteration would provide authorisation for any benefit to be obtained by charity trustees or members of the CIO or persons connected with them, requires the prior written consent of the Charity Commission.
- iii. No amendment that is inconsistent with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 or the General Regulations shall be valid.
- iv. A copy of every resolution amending the constitution, together with a copy of the CIO's constitution as amended must be sent to the Commission by the end of the period of 15 days beginning with the date of passing of the resolution, and the amendment does not take effect until it has been recorded in the Register of Charities.

### 30. VOLUNTARY WINDING UP OR DISSOLUTION

- i. As provided by the Dissolution Regulations, the CIO may be dissolved by resolution of its members. Any decision by the members to wind up or dissolve the CIO can only be made:
  - a. at a general meeting of the members of the CIO called in accordance with clause 19 (General meetings of members), of which not less than 14 days' notice has been given to those eligible to attend and vote:
    - i. by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of those voting, or
    - ii. by a resolution passed by decision taken without a vote and without any expression of dissent in response to the question put to the general meeting; or
  - b. by a resolution agreed in writing by all members of the CIO.
- ii. Subject to the payment of all the CIO's debts:
  - a. Any resolution for the winding up of the CIO, or for the dissolution of the CIO without winding up, may contain a provision directing how any remaining assets of the CIO shall be applied.
  - b. If the resolution does not contain such a provision, the charity trustees must decide how any remaining assets of the CIO shall be applied.
  - c. In either case the remaining assets must be applied for charitable purposes the same as or similar to those of the CIO.

- iii. The CIO must observe the requirements of the Dissolution Regulations in applying to the Commission for the CIO to be removed from the Register of Charities, and in particular:
  - a. the charity trustees must send with their application to the Commission:
    - i. a copy of the resolution passed by the members of the CIO;
    - ii. a declaration by the charity trustees that any debts and other liabilities of the CIO have been settled or otherwise provided for in full; and
    - iii. a statement by the charity trustees setting out the way in which any property of the CIO has been or is to be applied prior to its dissolution in accordance with this constitution;
  - b. the charity trustees must ensure that a copy of the application is sent within seven days to every member and employee of the CIO, and to any charity trustee of the CIO who was not privy to the application.
- iv. If the CIO is to be wound up or dissolved in any other circumstances, the provisions of the Dissolution Regulations must be followed.
- v. In no circumstances shall the net assets of the CIO be paid to or distributed among the members of the CIO.
- vi. If the CIO is wound up, the members or Trustees of the CIO shall have no liability to contribute to the assets, and no personal responsibility for settling the debts or liabilities.

### 31. INTERPRETATION

In this constitution:

“connected person” means:

- (a) a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister of the charity trustee;
- (b) the spouse or civil partner of the charity trustee or of any person falling within sub-clause (a) above;
- (c) a person carrying on business in partnership with the charity trustee or with any person falling within sub-clause (a) or (b) above;
- (d) an institution which is controlled –
  - (i) by the charity trustee or any connected person falling within sub-clause (a), (b), or (c) above; or



(ii) by two or more persons falling within sub-clause (d)(i), when taken together

(e) a body corporate in which –

(i) the charity trustee or any connected person falling within sub-clauses (a) to (c) has a substantial interest; or

(ii) two or more persons falling within sub-clause (e)(i) who, when taken together, have a substantial interest.

Section 118 of the Charities Act 2011 apply for the purposes of interpreting the terms used in this constitution.

“General Regulations” means the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012.

“Dissolution Regulations” means the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (Insolvency and Dissolution) Regulations 2012.

The “Communications Provisions” means the Communications Provisions in [Part 10, Chapter 4] of the General Regulations.

“charity trustee” means a charity trustee of the CIO.

A “poll” means a counted vote or ballot, usually (but not necessarily) in writing.

## 32. ADMINISTRATION

Once the CIO is registered with the Charities Commission;

- i. The goodwill, all assets and liabilities of the Polish Saturday School in Manchester established in 1949 by the Polish Ex-Combatants Association in Manchester and operated since then as an unincorporated association by a Board of Governors are transferred to the CIO from the effective date of registration of the CIO.
- ii. Subject to the matters set out in this constitution, the Polish Saturday School in Manchester and its assets and property shall be administered and managed by a committee (“the Executive Committee”) comprising the charity trustees, officers and other members elected or otherwise appointed in accordance with the specific rules established by the charity trustees for the Executive Committee.

### 33. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CIO

- i. Associate (non voting) membership of the CIO shall be compulsory for the Parents, Carers or Guardians of pupils, or for adult students who attend the School.
- ii. Associate membership shall be realized by means of a subscription payable annually or for each period of such amount as shall be laid down from time to time by the charity trustees.
- iii. Associate membership of the CIO shall also be open to any persons over the age of 18 years interested in furthering the objects of the CIO and who has paid any such subscription as determined by the charity trustees.
- iv. Associate membership may also be open to any other organisations or associations, interested in furthering the objects of the CIO, and which shall be called an “associate member organisation”.
  - a. Any such associate membership will be subject to acceptance by the charity trustees.
  - b. Each associate member organisation, shall appoint an individual to represent it, or appoint an alternative to replace its appointed representative at any meeting of the CIO if unable to attend in person.
  - c. Each associate member organisation shall notify the name of the representative appointed by it and its alternative, to the secretary of the CIO.
- v. The charity trustees may refuse an application for associate membership if they believe it is in the best interests of the CIO for them to do so, and:
  - a. The charity trustees shall, if they decide to refuse an application for associate membership, give the applicant their reasons for doing so, within 21 days of the decision being taken, and give the applicant the opportunity to appeal against the refusal.
  - b. The charity trustees shall give fair consideration to any such appeal, and shall inform the applicant of their decision, but any decision to confirm refusal of the application for associate membership shall be final.
- vi. Associate membership of the CIO cannot be transferred to anyone else.
- vii. Associate membership of the CIO comes to an end if:
  - a. The child or children of the associate member, or if the adult student, ceases to attend the School.

- b. The associate member dies, or, in the case of a representative of an organisation, that organisation ceases to exist.
  - c. The associate member sends a notice of resignation to the charity trustees.
  - d. Any sum of money owed by the associate member to the CIO is not paid in full within six months of its falling due.
  - e. The charity trustees decide that it is in the best interests of the CIO that the associate member in question should be removed from associate membership, and passes a resolution to that effect.
- viii. Before the charity trustees take any decision to remove someone from associate membership of the CIO they must:
- a. Inform the associate member of the reasons why it is proposed to remove him, her or it from membership.
  - b. Give the associate member at least 21 clear days notice in which to make representations to the charity trustees as to why he, she or it should not be removed from associate membership.
  - c. At a duly constituted meeting of the charity trustees, consider whether or not the associate member should be removed from associate membership.
  - d. Consider at that meeting any representations which the associate member makes as to why that associate member should not be removed.
  - e. Allow the associate member, or the associate member's representative, to make those representations in person at that meeting, if the associate member so chooses.

#### 34. OFFICERS OF THE CIO

- i. The officers of the CIO shall comprise the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and other such officers as the charity trustees deem necessary.
- ii. The officers of the CIO shall be appointed by members of the charity trustees from amongst themselves at the first meeting of the charity trustees. Preference for officers of the CIO shall be from the non "ex-officio" members.
- iii. The procedures for nomination of charity trustees shall be according to the rules established by the charity trustees.

- iv. Election of charity trustees may be determined by show of hands/voting cards or secret ballot if requested by a member.
- v. A charity trustee may not appoint anyone to act on his or her behalf.

### 35. INDEPENDENT AUDITORS OF THE CHARITY

- i. A Committee of Independent Auditors of the CIO of at least 3 people shall be appointed for an initial term of five years.
- ii. The members of the Committee of Independent Auditors shall not be members of the charity trustees.
- iii. The function of the Committee of Independent Auditors will be to review the financial activities of the CIO, and for that purpose, they shall meet as often as required, in any event, at least once annually.

### 36. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

- i. The funds belonging to the CIO shall be applied only in furthering the objects of the CIO.
- ii. The funds of the CIO, including all donations, contributions, bequests, etc., shall be paid into an account, or accounts, operated by the charity trustees in the name of the CIO, at such bank as the charity trustees shall from time to time decide.
- iii. At least 4 members of the charity trustees should be designated as authorised signatories for signing cheques or making withdrawals from the CIO's bank accounts.
- iv. All cheques or withdrawals from the CIO's bank accounts shall require the signature of two of the designated signatories.
- v. The charity trustees shall keep proper records of the CIO's finances.
- vi. Each year the charity trustees shall arrange for an independent examination of the CIO's finances by the auditors of the CIO or external auditors as necessary.

### 37. PROPERTY

- i. All property, in whatever form, shall be administered by the charity trustees as decided at their meetings.
- ii. A record shall be kept of all CIO property and assets by the charity trustees.

