

CONSTITUTION

Aber Taiko



1. NAME

The group's name is 'Aber Taiko'.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE GROUP AND ITS ETHOS

Aber Taiko is a community drumming group based in Swansea. We practise '*Taiko*' – Japanese-style drumming on Japanese-style drums. We have fun playing Taiko; it improves our physical and mental well-being by relieving stress, increasing stamina and coordination and strengthening our bodies; Taiko improves our ability to work together. It motivates us to create rhythm and movement that are pleasing to the eye and to the ear. It is very engaging and demands full attention and concentration.

We aim to create a supportive environment of sharing, learning and enjoying Taiko. We will respect each other and our different ways of learning and engaging with Taiko.

3. AIMS OF THE GROUP

We enjoy this beautiful art form and want to share the joy with as many people as possible. We would like to inspire others to join our community.

- We will strive to become better drummers, better team players and better performers.
- We will learn new pieces and practise them on a regular basis.
- We will invite other Taiko players to teach the group and when possible, give public workshops in Swansea.
- We will compose new songs.
- Whenever we can, we would also like to collaborate with other artists – musicians, dancers, designers – and build a collaborative community in Swansea for the benefit of both the members of *Aber Taiko* and the general public.
- We will perform in local concerts and in special Taiko festivals.
- We will run courses and workshops for adults, children and families in order to enable people to enjoy this art form.

To achieve these aims *Aber Taiko* may:

- Raise funds by way of contributions, donations, subscriptions, legacies, busking, paid performances and any other lawful method.
- Do all such other lawful things as are deemed necessary.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of *Aber Taiko* is open to any person, regardless of race, age, gender or sexual orientation, who feels enticed by Taiko and would like to commit to practising regularly and supporting other people in the group in their Taiko journey. Members will pay a monthly subscription. The number of practice sessions will be determined by the Management Committee. Subscriptions shall be payable monthly, in advance, and there shall be a concessionary rate for students, the unwaged and those who cannot afford the full rate; this concessionary rate will be 40% of the full rate.

All members have the right to vote at a General Meeting.

Members have the right to agree the membership fee at an AGM.

5. MANAGEMENT

- *Aber Taiko* will be managed by a Committee elected from the membership each year at an Annual General Meeting.
- The Committee will be made up of a minimum of 3 members and maximum of half of the membership (or 10, whichever is smaller).
- At their first meeting after the AGM the committee will appoint from within their number a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.
- All elected Committee members will retire annually but can be re-appointed if willing to stand.
- In the event of the retirement or death of an elected officer the vacancy will be filled by nomination by the Committee.
- A written record will be kept of all Committee meetings and decisions made there at and will be available to all group members.
- The quorum for a Committee meeting will be no less than half of the Committee.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in *September/October* each year. *Seven* days' notice will be given of the agenda, date, and time of the meeting.

At each AGM the Committee will:

- Report on the previous year's activities
- Give a financial report for the previous year
- Conduct an election of Committee members
- Put forward any proposed amendments to this constitution and/or any other properly notified business.

With the exception of alterations to this Constitution (see Section 9 below), all decisions voted on at the AGM will be made by a simple majority of those present. In the case of equality of votes the Chair shall have a casting vote.

The quorum for an AGM shall be no less than one third of current members.

7. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Committee or any member may call a special general meeting at any time. *Seven days'* notice will be given to members of the date, time and venue of the meeting and business to be discussed.

8. FINANCE

- All funds raised by or on behalf of *Aber Taiko* will be used to further the aims of the group and for no other purpose.
- The treasurer will keep a proper record of the finances of the group and allow independent checking of these records if requested.
- *Aber Taiko* will hold its funds in an account with *Lloyds Bank* or with such other bank/building society as the Committee shall from time to time decide. This account will be in the group's name and two signatures from *Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer* will be required to authorise expenditure. No two members of the same family or partners shall be signatories for the funds of the group. Oversight of financial details takes place as agreed by the committee.
- A report of the year's income and expenses will be prepared up to the end of *August* each year for presentation to members at the Annual General Meeting.
- No individual member will make any personal financial or material gain from *Aber Taiko's* funds. Legitimate expenses only will be met.

9. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at a properly notified and quorate General Meeting. The notice must include details of the proposed changes.

10. DISSOLUTION

If the Committee considers that, on the grounds of finance or otherwise, it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the group it will call a meeting of all members giving not less than thirty days notice of the resolution to be considered. If such a decision is approved by a simple two thirds majority of those members present and voting *Aber Taiko* will be dissolved. In this event, any assets remaining after the payment of proper debts will be transferred to *a charity of the members' choice or a voluntary organisation with similar aims.*

Signed

Aber Taiko

October 22nd, 2023