

Extracts from information provided by THE CIVIC TRUST.

Civic Trust founded 1957. Over 1000 local amenity societies registered.

for MEETING AT 53 PARK AVENUE 7.30 p.m. 18 MARCH 1988

OBJECTS (from C.T. Draft Constitution)

- (i) To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting area.
- (ii) To educate public in geography, history, natural history & architecture of area.
- (iii) To secure preservation, protection, development & improvement of features of historic or public interest.

REGENERATION UNIT has these aims • purposeful, Phased programme of environmental improvements designed to restore self-confidence;

- Commitment to belief that good environment is a good investment;
- never settling for second-best in design;
- gaining community-wide support & involvement;
- sensitive attention to real local needs;
- offering inspiration & leadership where needed;
- retaining & enhancing local identity;
- deploying local skills to the full
- marshalling & channelling all available sources of funds
- building partnerships between various interests involved, whether business, professional, Government or voluntary.

Starting Society It is important to avoid giving impression that Society is a mere protest group... most effective societies... offer constructive solutions to problems & carry out practical work. Members should share a genuine non-partisan interest in area's environment... should represent as broad a cross-section of community as possible who can form informal steering committee wh. organises inaugural meeting & makes provisional plans for first few months' activities.

INAUGURAL MEETING needs to be well-planned & publicised. At least 4 wks notice should be given & it should take place in comfortable public hall. Publicity should begin with 'appetiser' Press Notice; another should be issued 10/14 days before meeting. Distribute posters as widely as possible. Letters should go to existing societies. Possibly invite Guest speaker. Draft Constitution can usually only be approved if everyone has one but it can be pointed out the Civic Trust model has been refined over years, is approved by Charity Commissioners & appears in Encyclopedia of Forms & Precedents. Election of Officers Steering Committee may wish to put names forward. If Committee numbers 15 it might be best to allow for 7 nominations from floor.

Powers of Society through Executive Committee (from Draft Constitution, selected):

- To promote civic pride in area.
- To promote research into subjects directly connected with Objects of Society & to publish results.
- To act as co-ordinating body & cooperate with local authorities, planning committees, voluntary organisations, charities etc
- To make surveys, prepare maps & plans & collect information in relation to any place, erection or building of beauty or historic interest within area.
- To hold meetings, lectures & exhibitions.
- To educate public opinion, give advice & information.

Registration with Civic Trust Society registered with Civic Trust pays £ 25 p.a. Free first year.

6 main requirements for registration: 1. Main aim must be to stimulate public interest in area & encourage high standards of architecture. 2. Membership must be open to all. 3. Must not overlap with other registered society. 4. Area must be large enough. 5. Provision must be made for members to declare professional or financial interest in an item. 6. Civic T. must be informed, if Society is ^{to be} dissolved, 6 wks before.

GRANTS for conservation are available.

Constitution suggests adding SOCIETY to name of place. Environment Week 23 April - 2 May '88

Subscription rate should be as low as possible.

(PRUK)