

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMUNITY WETLANDS FORUM CLG

This document sets out the “Terms of Membership of the Community Wetlands Forum CLG” as referred to in the Constitution of the Community Wetlands Forum CLG and should (in relation to “Full Members”) be read in conjunction with the Articles of Association section of that Constitution. The Community Wetlands Forum CLG has three types of membership for which it applies a fee i.e. Full Members, Stakeholder Members and Individual Members. Only Full Members are legal members of the Community Wetlands Forum CLG. Stakeholder Members and Individual Members are not legal company law members of the Community Wetlands Forum CLG and have no membership rights under company law.

Mission

The Community Wetlands Forum CLG was established to promote, develop and support community-led wetland conservation for the public benefit; and, to provide a representative platform for community-led wetland conservation groups.

Values

The Community Wetlands Forum CLG’s values reflect the values of community development, and it is these that underpin the work of the organisation i.e. empowerment, participation, Inclusion, equality of opportunity and anti-discrimination, self-determination, partnership.

Membership and Voting Rights.

Regardless of their membership type, all members of Working, Advisory or Consultative Groups operating under Terms of Reference set by the Board of Directors shall have the same voting rights.

Benefits of membership:-

1. Members will be kept up to date on current developments in community led wetland restoration in Ireland and internationally.
2. Members will receive regular, up to date, easy to read information, briefings, updates and newsletters.
3. Members will have an opportunity to contribute their knowledge, experience and expertise to the Community Wetlands Forum’s practice, policy and publications.
4. Members will be invited to all CWF seminars, conferences, workshops and events - to meet and share experiences with others who are involved in, or support, community led conservation in Ireland and internationally.
5. Members will have access to training, mentoring and networking opportunities that support them in their own work.

Applications for Membership and Membership Year.

- Applicants for membership, who satisfy the criteria for their particular category of membership, are eligible for membership subject to approval by Board of Directors.
- The membership year runs from January to December, and membership fees are due on January 1st. Membership lapses within two months if membership fees are unpaid.

Full Members

1. Full membership of the Community Wetlands Forum CLG is open to Community Groups who are in the process of developing community wetlands or who wish to do so; and,
2. Support the work of the Community Wetlands Forum and agree to be bound by the rules and policies of the Communities Wetlands Forum.
3. These terms should be read in conjunction with the Constitution, Memorandum and Articles of Association section of the Community Wetlands Forum.

Stakeholder Membership

1. Stakeholder Membership is open to any organisation which does not meet the criteria to be eligible as a Full Member, and
2. Wishes to support the work of the Community Wetlands Forum by its advice, influence, and activity.
3. Agrees to be bound by the rules and policies of the Community Wetlands Forum.

Individual Membership

1. Individual Membership is open to any individual who wishes to support the work of the Community Wetlands Forum by his/her advice, influence, and activity.
2. Agrees to be bound by the rules and policies of the Community Wetlands Forum.

Responsibilities of Members

Members of the Community Wetlands Forum are expected:-

1. to comply with the CWFs governance arrangements, policies and procedures.
2. to respect fellow members and employees of the CWF, and the role(s) they play, treating them with courtesy at all times.
3. to act in the best interests of the organisation and its members.
4. to protect and promote the organisation's reputation.

5. to declare any interest that may conflict with their responsibilities to the CWF and its members.

6. to maintain and strengthen the public's trust and confidence in the integrity of the CWF and its members.

7. to avoid speaking or purporting to speak on behalf of the CWF unless authorised to do so