Destinations Alliance Constitution

1. Name

The name of the group shall be The Oysters trading as the Destinations Alliance. (formerly The Oysters)

2. Aims

The aims of the Destinations Alliance group will be:

- To bring together and foster understanding amongst the meetings, conference, incentive and exhibition promotional agencies of overseas (ex England, Wales and Scotland) destinations
- To promote the interests of members
- To encourage joint participation and synergy between members in their promotional activities

3. Membership

- Membership is open to any formalized organisation whose activity is to promote a city, region, country or other form of destination and engage the services of a named representative, whether directly employed or via a third-party representation agency.
- Membership applications are to be sent to the Secretary and communicated to the membership at the next meeting. Any objections to the membership are to be tabled as an agenda item at the next General Meeting.
- Cities within a Country that is an existing members may apply for membership – no member has a veto however the Country member will be informed of the application as a matter of courtesy.
- The membership year is annual. Membership will begin as soon membership is confirmed and first payment has been received.
- There will be an annual membership fee which will be agreed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and will be payable by all members.
- A list of all members will be kept by the membership secretary. Ceasing to be a member:
- Members may resign at any time in writing to the Secretary. They forfeit all funds for the current year in doing so.
- Any member who has not paid their membership fee and is three months overdue will be contacted by the committee, who will then decide whether that member is deemed to have resigned.
- Non-payment of Membership dues can result in temporary exclusion in future years from membership and the Committee reserve the right to exclude a member who has not paid their membership for a period of up to three (3) years.
- Any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist or inflammatory remarks, will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way or breaking the equal opportunities policy in clause 4 may

be asked not to attend further meetings or to resign from the group if an apology is not given or the behaviour is repeated. The individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the management committee before a final decision is made.

4. Equal Opportunities

The Destinations Alliance group is an inclusive organisation that will not discriminate against any destination member on the grounds of gender, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexuality, disability, religious or political beliefs. Any decision to omit any member must be agreed at a General Meeting.

5. Officers and committee

The business of the group will be carried out by a Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will meet as necessary.

The Committee will consist of up to 6 members and be composed of up to 4 co-chairs of equal standing and a Treasurer from the group's members and 1 committee member from the Secretariat. Up to 2 additional members may be co-opted onto the committee at the discretion of the committee.

In the event of an officer standing down during the year a replacement will be elected by the next General Meeting of members.

Any committee member not attending three consecutive meetings without explanation will be contacted by the committee and asked to resign.

Sub-committee

The committee may appoint sub-committees for special purposes

When setting up sub committees the Committee shall determine its terms of reference, compositions and powers.

Sub-committees shall have a co-ordinator and a recorder.

Sub-committees shall have the power to co-opt additional persons as and when required.

6. Meetings

6.1 Annual General Meetings

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held within fifteen months of the previous AGM.

All members will be notified in writing at least 3 weeks before the date of the meeting, giving the venue, date and time.

Nominations for the committee may be made to the Secretary before the meeting, or at the meeting.

The quorum for the AGM will be 30% of the membership or 8 members, whichever is the greater number.

At the AGM:-

The Committee will present a report of the work of The Destinations Alliance over the year.

The Committee will present the accounts of The Destinations Alliancegroup for the previous year.

The officers and Committee for the next year will be elected.

Any proposals given to the Secretary at least 7 days in advance of the meeting will be discussed.

6.2 Special General Meetings

The Secretary will call a Special General Meeting at the request of the majority of the committee or at least eight other members giving a written request to the Chair or Secretary stating the reason for their request.

The meeting will take place within twenty-one days of the request.

All members will be given two weeks' notice of such a meeting, giving the venue, date, time and agenda, and notice may be by telephone, email or post.

The quorum for the Special General Meeting will be 30% of the membership or 8 members, whichever is the greater number.

6.3 General Meetings

General Meetings are open to all members and will be held at least once every 4 months or more often if necessary.

All members will be given two weeks' notice of such a meeting, giving the venue, date, time and agenda, and notice may be by telephone, email or post.

The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 10% of the membership or 5 members, whichever is the greater number.

7. Finances

The financial year shall run from 1st April to 31st March.

An account will be maintained on behalf of the Association at a bank agreed by the committee. Three cheque signatories will be nominated by the Committee (one to be the Treasurer). Requests for payment will be sent by the Secretary and any one of the co-chairs and Treasurer must authorise payment. The signatories must not be related nor members of the same household.

Records of income and expenditure will be maintained by the Treasurer and a financial statement given to each meeting.

All money raised by or on behalf of The Destinations Alliance is only to be used to further the aims of the group, as specified in item 2 of this constitution.

Only members of the group can be invoiced unless specifically agreed by the Committee.

All members will be invoiced equally for all events.

8. Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to the constitution may only be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. Notwithstanding in the event that there needs to be an unforeseen amendment the Committee may make the amendment, inform the members at that time, and full agreement will be sought at the next AGM. The members may object to the amendment change by seeking a Special General Meeting.

Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Secretary in writing. The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting.

Any proposal to amend the constitution will require a two thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote.

9. Dissolution

If a meeting, by simple majority, decides that it is necessary to close down the group it may call a Special General Meeting to do so. The sole business of this meeting will be to dissolve the group.

If it is agreed to dissolve the group all remaining money and other assets, once outstanding debts have been paid, will be donated to a local charitable organisation. The organisation to be agreed at the meeting which agrees the dissolution.

This constitution was agreed at the Annual General Meeting of The Destinations Alliance on:-

Date: 8th March 2023

We certify that this is a current copy of the constitution of The Destinations Alliance, which was adopted at an AGM held on above date: 8th March 2023 to amend name.

Name and position in group ………KEITH BARRON - CO-CHAIR…………………………………

Signed ………………………………………….

Name and position in group ……MARGARET MANN – CO-CHAIR……………………………………

Signed ………………………………………….

Name and position in group ……ALICE FONSECA – CO-CHAIR…………………………………….

Signed ………………………………………….

Witness - Name and position in group ………HAMISH REID - SECRETARY………………………………….

Signed ………………………………………….