

Proposed Amendment to the Charitable Objects

Special Resolution — Requires 75 percent of votes cast

Annual General Meeting of West Kent Community Radio | 10 June 2026

The Proposal

The trustees propose that members approve in principle the replacement of Clause 3 (Objects) of the West Kent Community Radio constitution with four new charitable objects covering Community, Health, Arts and Education.

The proposed new objects are set out in full below. A full trustee paper explaining the history of the objects question and the reasons for this proposal is available to members on request and will be tabled at the meeting.

Proposed New Objects

(1) COMMUNITY	To promote the social welfare and wellbeing of people living in Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Southborough, Pembury, Sevenoaks and surrounding areas of West Kent by providing a community broadcasting service that strengthens community cohesion, supports social inclusion, and provides a recreational and cultural resource for members of the public, in particular those who experience isolation by reason of age, infirmity, disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.
(2) HEALTH	To advance health and prevent sickness for the public benefit amongst people living in Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Southborough, Pembury, Sevenoaks and surrounding areas of West Kent, by broadcasting health education messages that promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the importance of maintaining good personal mental and physical health, and by providing a community broadcasting service that reduces social isolation, using frequency modulation radio, digital radio, online and through social media.
(3) ARTS	To advance public education in and appreciation of the arts — including music, dance and spoken word — for the benefit of people living in Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Southborough, Pembury, Sevenoaks and surrounding areas of West Kent, by broadcasting performances and arts content, and by supporting and delivering community events featuring live original music, spoken word and related artistic activity.
(4) EDUCATION	To advance the education of people of all ages by providing training and practical experience in radio presentation, sound engineering, journalism, administration and communication, with a view to enhancing their skills, confidence and prospects; and to promote media literacy by advancing public understanding of audio and visual information media, including radio, digital audio and online platforms.

Why Is This Change Needed?

The current objects were written in 2018 when the station had strong roots in hospital radio. They cover health purposes only. West Kent Community Radio now delivers a much wider range of activity — arts events, live music broadcasts, volunteer training, community journalism and social inclusion programming — none of which is covered by health-only objects.

Updating the objects will:

- Bring the constitution into line with what the station actually does and intends to do.
- Open up eligibility for arts, community and education grant funding that health-only objects currently exclude.
- Align the charity's purposes with its Ofcom licence obligations, which require education, community engagement and the facilitation of open discussion.
- Remove the legal risk of carrying out activities that fall outside the charity's stated purposes.

About This Resolution

This is a conditional resolution. Members are being asked to approve the proposed objects in principle and to authorise the trustees to apply to the Charity Commission for the consent required by law before the objects can formally change.

If the Charity Commission grants consent without significant changes, the trustees may implement the amendment without calling a further general meeting. If the Charity Commission requires significant changes, the amended version will come back to members for approval before anything is finalised.

Members are not being asked to approve a change that has already happened. They are approving the direction of travel and authorising the trustees to pursue it, with a guarantee that significant changes required by the Charity Commission come back to members.

The Resolution

The members of West Kent Community Radio resolve as follows:

1. The proposed charitable objects as presented to this meeting are approved in principle as the replacement for Clause 3 (Objects) of the West Kent Community Radio constitution.
2. The trustees are authorised to apply to the Charity Commission for prior written consent to amend the charity's objects to the proposed wording.
3. If the Charity Commission grants prior written consent without material alteration to the substance or scope of any of the four proposed objects, the trustees are authorised to pass the implementing resolution and submit the amended constitution to the Charity Commission without the need to reconvene a further general meeting of members.
4. If the Charity Commission requires changes that the trustees consider to be material — including any change that removes or significantly narrows the scope of any of the four objects, or that materially alters the public benefit statement of any object — the amended version shall be brought back to a general meeting of members for approval before adoption.
5. For the purposes of this resolution, a material change means any change that: (a) removes an entire object; (b) restricts the class of beneficiaries of any object to a closed or private group; (c) removes the public benefit statement from any object; or (d) in the reasonable opinion of the trustees, fundamentally alters the purpose expressed in the object. Cosmetic, drafting or structural changes made by the Charity Commission shall not be considered material.
6. This resolution requires the approval of 75 percent of votes cast at this meeting, as required by Clause 28 of the West Kent Community Radio constitution and section 226 of the Charities Act 2011.

Questions about this resolution may be raised at the meeting before the vote is taken, or submitted in advance by emailing committee@westkentradio.co.uk.