

Would the KCACR benefit by
being a charity?

The benefits of being registered as a charity

- Able to claim Gift Aid
 - increasing the value of subscriptions (paid by taxpayers) by 25%
 - other associations have benefitted significantly
- Access to funding, grant-making bodies and trusts
 - enabling potential projects to access grants
 - many funding bodies limit their support to registered charities
- Members elect trustees to manage the Association
 - ensuring accountability

The benefits of being incorporated

- incorporation means that the KCACR would become a legal entity in its own right
- financial and legal liabilities fall to the organisation rather than the members and officers personally
 - for example, liability for payment to a supplier would lie with the organisation, not the officer or member who made the purchase, as at present
- provides legal protection to members, officers and trustees (except for illegal activity or negligence)

The benefits of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

- a Charitable Incorporated Organisation is a legal structure, approved by the Charity Commission
 - designed for a membership body such as the KCACR
 - with a robust constitution covering all legal and statutory requirements
 - based on the Charity Commission's extensive experience
- members would continue to elect the trustees, officers and the committee
- the association would be able to make rules as necessary for the management of KCACR activities (much as now)

Worth noting

- there would be no financial liability for members should the charity have to be wound up with debts outstanding
- the existing Bell Restoration Fund charity would be transferred to the new Association charity, its funds remaining 'restricted', that is, ring-fenced
- registering as a charity ensures accountability to members and the general public

Next steps

- members are invited to consider the General Committee's proposal to incorporate the Association as a registered charity
- to ask a question or offer feedback about this proposal, please contact David Grimwood, on behalf of the General Committee
 - training@kcacr.org.uk
 - tel. 07960 369681
- agreement will be sought at an AGM