

WETHERSFIELD CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. NAME:

The Club shall be called “The Wethersfield Club” and shall be non-political and shall be carried on at the Club premises adjoining the Wethersfield Village Hall, or such other place as a majority of the members may determine.

2. OBJECT:

The object of the Club is to provide good fellowship, recreation, and entertainment for the benefit of the members. The Committee may, from time to time, provide other services to the benefit of members and to the broader community, subject to seeking approval of members at the earliest opportunity.

3. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Membership shall be granted under the following headings.

(a) Full Membership. Open to persons over 18.

(b) Junior Membership. Open to persons between 16-18, who are restricted to one guest per day. No alcohol allowed for either Junior Members or their guests if under 18, but they may attend private functions subject to no alcohol.

(c) Discounted Senior Citizens’ Membership available to those over the age of 65.

(d) Discounted Membership for those with a disability.

(e) Children are allowed into the Club if accompanied by an adult member who is responsible for them at all times. Bar staff/Committee members can request that they leave if their behaviour is inappropriate and affecting other members’ enjoyment of the Club or the premises. No alcohol or use of gaming machines or access into the bar area is permitted and other facilities to be used at the discretion of the bar staff/Committee.

(f) Any person wishing to become a member of the Club will be required to complete a Membership Form with all appropriate contact details. They will be granted a two-day grace period with temporary membership, following which a full membership card will be issued.

(g) No persons other than a member or guest of a member may use the Club and no persons other than members or guests shall purchase any alcoholic articles on the Club premises. Every guest and the member introducing such guest shall sign their names in the Book provided for that purpose. No visitor may purchase alcoholic articles unless they have been signed in as a guest.

(h) The Subscription shall be as from time to time determined by the Committee and approved to the Club in a General Meeting and shall be reduced by half for those joining at the last quarter of the financial year.

(i) Annual subscriptions must be paid on or before the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary shall post a notice to this effect in the Club premises, and the subscriptions shall be collected by Committee Members or the Steward/Stewardess, starting four weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

(j) Bar staff or a Committee member shall have the power to ask members, or their children or their designated guests to leave if their conduct or behaviour is inappropriate and affecting other members' enjoyment of the Club or the premises.

(k) The Committee shall have power to reprimand, suspend for a designated period or expel any member whose conduct, or their visitors or their children that they are responsible for, shall in their opinion render them unfit for membership. Any suspension shall remain in place until the next formal Committee Meeting, or an Extraordinary Meeting as required, when the member will be invited to attend the same.

(l) Bar Staff have the discretion to refuse to serve alcohol if they consider it appropriate.

(m) Any member or their guests damaging the premises, equipment or removing equipment not belonging to them from the Club premises shall be deemed to have committed misconduct and, subject to investigation by the Committee, may be barred for a period up to life.

4. ADMISSION OF NON-MEMBERS:

Non-members other than guests may be admitted to the Club at the discretion of the Committee.

(a) Non-members who on the day of admission are or have been engaged in playing any organised game or sport in competition with a team or other representatives of the Club.

(b) Guests of such non-members are subject to any condition which may from time to time be imposed by the Licensing Committee. Such non-members may be supplied by the Club with intoxicating liquor for consumption by themselves and their guests on the premises during permitted hours in accordance with the provisions of the License.

(c) The Club is authorised to allow people who are not Club Members and their children or *bona fide* guests who are not Club Members or *bona fide* guests to use the premises for private functions run by a full Club Member, at the discretion of the Committee.

Non-Members attending such a function shall enjoy the Club facilities on that day only.

(d) Non-Members may make use of the premises and facilities for a function following agreement by the Committee, but a fee will be charged.

(e) Bar Staff and Committee Members can sign in multiple groups of non-members to the Club at their discretion. All non-members are required to sign in with their name and current address.

5. PERMITTED HOURS:

The permitted hours for the supply of intoxicating liquor on the Club premises shall be fixed in accordance with the terms of the License by a resolution of the Committee and notified by the Secretary to the Clerk to the Licensing Committee and no resolution fixing the hours shall have effect until such permission has been given. The permitted hours, together with a notice of the times the Club opens will be displayed on the Club notice board.

6. COMMITTEE:

(a) The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and up to ten Committee Members. One member of the Committee shall be deemed Membership Secretary to deal with all membership matters as necessary.

(b) The Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are elected by a vote annually at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting if required.

A vote in support of the ordinary Committee Members will be taken annually at the Annual General Meeting.

(c) The Committee reserve the right to co-opt a new Committee Member to fill any vacancy that occurs by resignation, death or otherwise, and they will remain in place until the next Annual General Meeting.

(d) The Committee shall meet as and when necessary.

(e) Any member, or members of the Committee may be removed by the votes of two-thirds of the members present at an Extraordinary General Meeting, called for that purpose.

(f) The Committee shall have the power to make decisions to regulate the use of the Club premises, and the conduct of the members thereby, provided that such decisions are not contrary to the Rules of the Club.

7. FINANCE:

The Honorary Treasurer shall keep sufficient Books of Account and shall submit a quarterly Financial Statement at the appropriate Committee Meeting. A Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account of the Club shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting duly prepared by the Honorary Treasurer. The Committee reserves the right to request an independent audit of said accounts should they deem this to be necessary.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS:

(a) Annual General Meeting shall be called in April/May each year on a date to be fixed by the Committee, of which at least twenty-one day's notice shall be posted in the Club. This Annual General Meeting to receive the Financial Statement, Balance Sheet and such other business as may be submitted by the Committee or by a member who shall have given, in writing, at least seven days' notice of the Motion he proposed to make.

(b) Special General Meetings may be convened at any time by resolution of the Committee or on requisition of at least twelve members, delivered to the Honorary Secretary. No business other than that for which the meeting was called shall be dealt with at a Special General Meeting.

9. QUORUM FOR CLUB MEETINGS:

The quorum for a General or Special General Meeting of the Club shall be thirty Members. The quorum for the Committee of the Club shall be six

members including officers. No motion shall be put to a meeting attended by fewer than that number.

10. VOTING AND CONSTITUTION ALTERATION:

(a) A constitution change may only be altered at a General or Special General Meeting called for that purpose and shall be confined to full Club members present, each of whom shall have one vote.

(b) All changes in the constitution in terms of deletion, amendments or addition requires a 2/3 majority of those paid-up members present, a simple majority under 2/3 will fail.

(c) Absentee votes are not counted in changes to the Constitution.

Non-Constitutional Motions and Amendments

(d) In the case of all motions or amendments where there is a tie in the votes and the proposals changes precedence, the Chair will vote against the amendment and proposed changes will be lost.

(e) With no precedence in a tied vote the Chair may vote as they see fit.

(f) Absentee votes can be provided for those at the discretion of the Committee if an AGM cannot be called or a person wants their vote considered but they cannot be present.

11. DISSOLUTION:

A motion for the winding-up of the Club may be put at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. The Honorary Secretary shall give a minimum of twenty-one days' notice in writing to all members on the Club Register. At such a meeting a majority of two-thirds of the members present, and entitled to vote, shall be required.

The Assets of the Club, after payment of all debts and liabilities, shall be devoted to a purpose designated to the meeting.