

DENGIE HUNDRED PROBUS CLUB

CLUB CONSTITUTION (Revised April 2022)

1 TITLE

The Club shall be called “The Dengie Hundred Probus Club”

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Club is to enable good fellowship through regular luncheon meetings with guest speakers, a programme of occasional visits and other activities of interest to members.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to retired and semi-retired men from professional or business backgrounds or similar fields of endeavour.

A member leaving the district may retain his membership.

An applicant for membership must be introduced by an existing member and his application approved by the Committee. The Committee may at any time call upon a member to resign if it thinks this to be in the best interest of the Club.

4 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

In recognition of a Member’s significant contribution to the fulfilment of the aims, objectives and support of the Club the Committee may at its discretion, confer upon him the award of Honorary Membership. Honorary Members shall have the same rights, privileges and obligations as ordinary members but will be exempt from subscriptions.

An Honorary Member’s badge will be presented to him to mark the achievement.

5 THE CLUB

The Club shall be independent of any other organisation and its affairs shall be conducted under the authority of its own membership.

6 **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The joining fee and annual subscription shall be determined by the Committee.

The annual subscription shall be due on the 1st April each year and shall be paid no later than the June meeting. Subscriptions will be reduced by 50% (for the relevant year) for members joining after 30th September.

7 **MANAGEMENT**

The affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Committee elected at the AGM. The Committee shall comprise the five Officers (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Luncheon Secretary) and other members appointed with special responsibilities as required.

In addition to these elected persons, a retired Chairman may remain a member of the Committee for one year after his retirement.

A quorum is achieved when more than one third of the members of the Committee, including at least two Officers, are present.

8 **POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee may co-opt new Committee members from the membership to cover any vacancies which may arise during the year, including Officer vacancies, until the next AGM.

The Committee may assign Committee members to other posts as required, and shall have the power to appoint sub-committees as necessary.

9 **FORMAL MEETINGS**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year at such time and place as shall be determined by the Committee, and at least three weeks' notice shall be given to members in writing, electronically or otherwise.

Special General Meetings may be called by the Honorary Secretary on the direction of the Chairman or at the written request of at least twelve members. The Secretary shall give members at least three weeks' notice of such a meeting, together with the reason.

Voting at such meetings shall be by a show of hands, or by ballot if so determined. In the event of an equal division of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. An exception to the above shall be found at Clause 16 (Dissolution of the Club).

10 **ACCOUNTS**

An income and expenditure account for the period to the end of March each year shall be prepared and presented for approval at the AGM, after examination by a person appointed at the previous AGM.

11 **GUESTS**

A member may introduce a guest who is eligible for membership to luncheon meetings, provided that the same guest is not invited more than three times in one membership year. This limit does not apply to members of the Rotary Club. All guests must be notified to the Luncheon Secretary at least five days prior to the meeting.

Wives, partners and widows of members may be invited to luncheons and other events when determined by the Committee.

12 **SUBJECTS**

Subjects such as politics, religion, racial matters or personal business interests are discouraged from the Club.

13 **AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended at the AGM or Special General Meeting of the Club properly constituted. Such amendments must be announced at the meeting before the one at which they are to be considered, and notice in writing must be submitted to the Secretary at least one week before such meeting.

14 **MATTERS OF CONCERN**

A member may raise any matter of concern to the Club, provided he gives notice in writing to the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting at which he intends raising it.

15 **ATTENDANCE AT LUNCHEON MEETINGS**

It is assumed that unless non-attendance is advised to the Luncheon Secretary by 6.00pm of the preceding Sunday, members will be present for the following lunch.

Accordingly, the numbers resulting from this arrangement will form the basis of the meal booked with the caterers and their subsequent charges to the Club. Members not advising of their absence (or that of their guests) will be charged for the meal to avoid loss to the Club funds.

16 **DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

The Club may be dissolved at an AGM or Special General Meeting properly constituted, provided that the subject of dissolution has been notified in writing to all members at least three weeks prior to the meeting.

This notice shall provide for a postal or electronic ballot to allow members who are unable to attend the meeting to cast a vote.

Dissolution shall be agreed if there is a two-thirds majority of those voting. In the event of dissolution, the assets of the Club shall be distributed to local organisations at the discretion of the Committee.