



Revised March 2023

1. TITLE

The Club shall be called:

**“THE PROBUS CLUB OF CHRISTCHURCH” commonly known as
“CHRISTCHURCH PROBUS CLUB”**

2. OBJECT

The object of the Club shall be to promote good fellowship amongst retired professional and businessmen. It shall be non-political and non-sectarian.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3a Membership shall normally be confined to retired and semi-retired professional and businessmen. An applicant for membership must be proposed and seconded by existing members and his application approved by the Committee after which he shall be deemed to be a member of the Club. Membership shall normally be limited to sixty members, including Life Members, and excluding Associate Members. Once sixty members are reached applicants will be put on a membership waiting list.

3b Widows of former members shall be invited to become Associate Members and to attend any events to which members' wives and partners are invited.

4. SUBSCRIPTION

An annual subscription shall be payable once agreed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in March. Life Members and Associate Members shall not pay an annual subscription.

Members who do not pay their subscription within six months of the AGM will be deemed to have resigned unless the cause of such non-payment is accepted by the Committee.

New members will be asked to pay the annual subscription as agreed at the AGM at the time of joining.

5. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

The financial year shall run from 1st January to 31st December. An Income and Expenditure Account for each year shall be prepared for approval at the Annual General Meeting, after certification by an Independent Financial Examiner who has been appointed at the previous AGM.

Prior approval of the Committee must be obtained for any non-budgeted expenditure. Committee members may, however, spend up to £50 per annum, in the course of their duties without prior approval. The President shall have a discretionary fund as approved by the committee.

6. BANKING

The Club's bankers shall be as specified by the members from time to time.

All monies shall be paid into the account and cheques drawn shall be signed by any two of the following:

The Hon. Treasurer and two other members of the committee to be agreed by the committee at its first meeting after the AGM.

Internet access to the account for monitoring and for payments by BACS (Bankers Automated Clearing Services) shall be allowed for the Hon. Treasurer and one other, being a mandated signatory to the account, who shall be appointed by the committee at its first meeting after the AGM.



7. CONSTITUTION

The affairs of the club shall be managed by a committee. Except for the President, all committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee will normally consist of President, Vice-President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, up to two Hon. Social Secretaries, Hon. Dining Secretary, Hon. Webmaster, Hon. Programme Secretary and Hon. Press/Media Secretary and in case of need one other.

50% of the Committee members shall constitute a quorum.

The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt up to three additional committee members and to appoint one or more sub-committees as and when the needs of the club dictate.

The President shall automatically retire from office on completion of one year, unless agreed at the AGM by the members. He will serve for a further year in an ex officio capacity as Past President as a member of the committee without portfolio.

The Vice-President shall automatically become President for the following year.

Nominees for the office of Vice-President should have served a minimum of one year as a member of the committee. If no member who has served on the committee wishes to serve as Vice-President other nominations may be submitted.

Nominations for committee must be handed to the Hon. Secretary by the end of the February meeting of each year, such nominations shall be in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder, and should carry the consent of the member concerned.

In the event of an officer or committee member resigning during the year the Committee shall be empowered to fill the vacancy and such appointment shall be operative until the next AGM.

Appointments to Honorary Membership and/or Life Membership may be recommended by the Committee at a Club Meeting, for endorsement by members.

8. MEETINGS

Club Meetings shall take place at such times and at such venues as decided from time to time by the members.

A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Honorary Secretary or on the written request of not less than 25% of those members whose subscription has been paid up to date.

The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be dealt with at the March monthly meeting.

Voting at all meetings shall normally be by a show of hands. At the discretion of the President voting may be by ballot.

In the event of an equal division of votes the President shall have a second or casting vote



9. ATTENDANCE

The membership of any member who has been absent from four consecutive monthly meetings of the Club, or whose attendance has been 50% or less in any year, shall automatically terminate at the next AGM unless the cause of such absence is accepted by the Committee.

Attendance at meetings shall normally include taking luncheon.

Members unable to attend and those who bring guests shall give adequate notice to the Hon. Dining Secretary so that the caterers may be advised as to the exact numbers attending the monthly meeting.

Members failing to give adequate notice (as determined by the committee) to the Hon. Dining Secretary will be obliged to meet the full cost of the meeting.

The Dining Secretary's decision regarding any charges or refunds will be final.

10. PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS

Members are encouraged to introduce prospective new members at monthly meetings. The prospective new member will receive a free visit.

11. GUESTS

Members may bring guests to monthly meetings or social functions. This will normally be on a fee-paying basis.

12. RULES

Any alteration to these rules shall be subject to due notice and approval by a majority of members at an Annual General Meeting or, at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose.

13. WINDING UP

In the event of the winding up of the Club its assets shall be distributed to local Charities as decided by the members attending the final meeting.

REPRINTED MARCH 2023