



## CONSTITUTION FOR THE LAA WESSEX STRUT

### 1. TITLE AND AFFILIATION

1.1 The Club shall be called The LAA Wessex Strut, hereafter to be referred to as 'the Club'.

1.2 The Club shall be a member club of the Light Aircraft Association (LAA) and of no other body without written approval from the LAA Board.

### 2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 To organise a range of activities on a regular basis for Club members and others, providing:-

- A focus for recreational light aviation activities, for the Wiltshire/Somerset/Dorset areas.
- A forum for promotion of, and of information exchange concerning light aviation.
- Enjoyable flying and social activities
- Improved safety knowledge and understanding
- Opportunities to acquire/enhance aircraft building and maintenance skills

2.2 To promote the aims and ideals of the LAA

2.3 To encourage non-members to join LAA.

2.4 To advance the cause of light aviation through publicity, community activities, and education activities for local people of all ages.

2.5 To attract through appropriate publicity both LAA members and non-members.

2.6 To maintain awareness of threats or potential restrictions on light aviation activity (e.g. strips/airfields facing opposition or needing planning support) and to report such information to the LAA.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Membership of the Club shall be open to any aviation minded person of good standing, regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, who completes a Membership Application Form and pays the relevant membership fee as determined by the Club. Membership will become effective upon an applicant's name being entered into the Membership Register following approval by the Club Committee.

3.2 The Members of the Club from time to time shall be those persons listed in the Membership Register (which shall be maintained by the Club Co-ordinator or Secretary). Membership of the Club is available in the following categories **Tick if applicable**

3.2.1 Full Member

3.2.2 Associate Member (who are not Full or Full Plus members of the LAA)

3.3 Annual Membership Fees. An annual fee payable by each member shall be determined from time to time by the Club Committee. The Club Committee may set different fees for different membership categories. The Club membership fee is in addition to any LAA membership fees. Any fees shall be payable on a successful application for membership and annually by each member.

3.4 Resignation of Members. A member shall cease to be a member of the Club if, and from the date of which, he/she gives notice to the Club Committee of their resignation. A member whose annual membership fee is more than three months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned.

3.5 Misconduct and Expulsion. Any Member or Officer deemed guilty of misconduct may be cautioned or expelled from Club by majority decision of the Club Committee; any person expelled shall have the right of appeal to the Club Committee within twenty-eight days and the LAA shall be informed.

3.6 No member shall purport to speak or act on behalf of a Club or the LAA without specific authority to do so.

### 4. CLUB OFFICERS

4.1 The Officers of the Club shall be the:-

- Chairman
- Treasurer
- Secretary/Membership Secretary
- Safety Officer

## **5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- 5.1 At the AGM, the club shall elect the president who shall then be responsible for running the election of the committee.
- 5.2 The members shall elect 4 or more club members to be on the committee.
- 5.3 The new committee shall elect the officers of the club from within its membership.
- 5.4 The LAA club procedure lists the following posts:-
- a. Chairman (coordinator) - Must be a full LAA member
  - b. Safety Officer - Must be a full LAA member
  - c. Treasurer
  - d. Secretary/Membership Secretary
  - e. Any other posts as deemed necessary by the club. (e.g. web master, newsletter editor)
  - f. It is perfectly acceptable for one person to hold more than one post but that person only holds one vote in committee decisions
- 5.5 Voting in elections shall be by simple majority with the chairman or president (as appropriate) having a casting vote.

## **6. THE CLUB COMMITTEE**

6.1 The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a Club Committee comprising the Club Officers elected by the Annual General Meeting. The Club Committee shall meet at least once per year for an AGM, otherwise at agreed intervals.

6.2 The duties of the Club Committee shall be:-

6.2.1 To control the affairs of the Club on behalf of the Members and in accordance with the LAA Rules & Regulations.

6.2.2 To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Club through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Club Members. The club shall maintain a bank account. Any withdrawal against Club funds should be approved by the Treasurer and by one other Officer.

6.2.3 To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote on the Committee.

6.2.4 To appoint Sub-Committees as necessary to fulfil the Club's business.

6.2.5 To appoint Officers of the Club to act with the authority of the Club Committee in the organisation and control of events.

6.3 The Club Committee shall make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second and casting vote.

## **7. GENERAL MEETINGS**

7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the end of November each year. Twenty one days written notice shall be given to members of the Annual General Meeting by either circulating a copy of the notice to every member at their home address, by email or by posting the notice on the Club Notice Board or webpage. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any business to be considered at the Annual General Meeting at least fourteen days before a meeting. The Club Co-ordinator/Secretary shall circulate or give notice of the agenda for the meeting to Members not less than seven days before the meeting.

7.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:-

7.2.1 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meetings held since the last Annual General Meeting.

7.2.2 Receive the accounts for the year from the Treasurer.

7.2.3 Receive the annual report of the Committee.

7.2.4 Elect the Committee members of the Club.

7.2.5 Transact such other business received in writing by the Club Co-ordinator/Secretary from Members fourteen days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda.

7.3 Special General Meetings may be convened by the Club Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing from not less than five Full Members of the Club. At least twenty-one days notice of the meeting shall be given.

7.4 Nomination of candidates for election to the committee shall be made in writing to the Club Co-ordinator/Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of the Annual General Meeting date.

7.5 At all General Meetings, the Chair will be taken by the Chairman or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the Full Members attending the meeting.

7.6 Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from those Full Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second and additional casting vote.

7.7 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be 25% of the Full Membership of the Club or 30 Full Members, whichever is the lesser.

7.8 Each Full Member shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings. Other classes of membership may attend the meeting as observers and may speak by invitation of the Chairman but may not vote.

### 8. ALTERATIONS TO THE CLUB CONSTITUTION

8.1 Any proposed alterations to the Club's Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be duly proposed and seconded by Full Members. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of those Full Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved.

### 9. INDEMNITY CLAUSE

If a member has been authorized to undertake duties on behalf of the Club and in so doing, they incur costs, expenses or liabilities in the proper execution of these duties, the member shall be entitled to be indemnified out of Club funds, except in any case where the actions arise from negligence, default or breach of duty or trust.

### 10. DISSOLUTION

10.1 If, at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

10.2 If, at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.

10.3 After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation such as The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance.

Signed:.......... Chair

Date:.....21/11/2024.....

Signed:.......... Officer of the Club

Date:.....21/11/2024.....