

SOUTH EASTERN AND CHATHAM RAILWAY SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. **TITLE:** The Society shall be called the South Eastern and Chatham Railway Society
 2. **OBJECTS:** The Objects of the Society shall be the promotion of the South Eastern and Chatham Railway, its constituents and successors by co-operative effort in the acquiring and interchange of knowledge, by prototype research, the publication of information, and by the encouragement and presentation of accurate modelling of all facets of the railway.
 3. **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership of the Society shall be by written application to be approved by the Committee, and subject to subscription as set out in Paragraph 4 below. Minimum age for admission shall normally be eighteen years, but applications from younger persons will be considered on merit.
 4. **SUBSCRIPTIONS:** The rate of subscription shall be determined by the Committee and shall be notified to members at least one month before the end of the financial year. Subscriptions for the current year shall be due on 1st February, and be paid at or before the Annual General Meeting for that year. Defaulting members shall forfeit their voting rights at that or subsequent General Meetings. The Committee shall have the power to terminate the membership of any member who is still in arrears at the end of that financial year.
 5. **MANAGEMENT:**
 - a) The Management of the Society shall be carried out by a Committee consisting of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary and up to six other members as promulgated from time to time by the Committee. All Committee members shall be fully paid up members of the Society.
 - b) The Committee shall be nominated, proposed and seconded at the Annual General Meeting each year. Nominations for Society Officers shall be in writing, and forwarded to the Secretary at or before the end of the preceding financial year.
 - c) The election of the Committee shall take place by ballot of members present at the annual General Meeting.
 - d) The Committee shall hold office for one year, but members thereof shall be eligible for re- election.
 - e) A quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be five.
 - f) **The Committee shall have the power to co-opt.**
 - g) The financial year shall run from 1st February, to 31st January following.
 - h) The Accounts shall be audited annually by an independent auditor to be appointed by the Committee, and shall be presented by the Treasurer to the Annual general meeting following the end of the financial year.
- 6 MEETINGS:**
- a) Meetings shall be arranged as necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the Society, such meetings being termed "Ordinary Meetings". All other meetings shall be termed "General Meetings".
 - b) Once in every year a General Meeting (to be called the Annual General Meeting) shall be held to receive the accounts, elect officers for the ensuing year, and transact any outstanding business. Other General Meetings shall be termed "Extraordinary General meetings".
 - c) The Secretary shall arrange and give three weeks notice of Annual general Meetings, which shall be held during the month of March.
 - d) Extra-ordinary General Meetings shall be called as necessary by the Committee.

- e) An Extra-ordinary General Meeting shall be called by the secretary' if required to do so in writing by five members. The notice calling the Extra-ordinary' General Meeting shall state the business for which such meeting is called, and no other business shall be conducted.
 - f) No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum of members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as herein otherwise provided, eight members present in person shall be a quorum.
 - g) If within half an hour of the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned for fourteen days, at the same time and place or to such other day and such other time as the Committee may determine, and if sat the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.
7. **CONSTITUTION:** Each member of the Society shall be provided with a copy of this Constitution, and shall be informed within one month of any alteration thereto. Implementation of membership by the payment of subscription shall be deemed to be acceptance of the provisions of this Constitution. The Constitution may be revoked, added to or altered by a majority comprising two-thirds or more of the members present and entitled to vote at any General Meeting of the Society for which notice has been given under Clause 6 above specifying the intention to propose the revocation, addition or alteration together with full particulars thereof. The Committee shall be empowered to determine any matter not provided for in this Constitution.
8. **DISSOLUTION:** In the event of the dissolution of the Society, any balance of assets over liabilities shall be devoted to such purpose or purposes as shall be agreed at an Extra-ordinary General meeting. In the event of liabilities exceeding assets, the deficit shall be borne in equal shares by all the Members.

9 LIABILITY:

- a) The Society shall not be liable for:
 - i) loss or damage to any property howsoever caused
 - ii) injury sustained by, or death caused to any member or his guest howsoever caused.
- b) Each member shall indemnify the Society in respect of any claim made against the Society arising out of the negligence of the member or his guest.