

Hon President: Patrick Hope Johnstone - Earl of Annandale & Hartfell Chairman: Adrian Finney - contact through the web site please.

Secretary: David J Houghton 2 Fairview Park, Station Road, Wrenbury CW5 8HR 01270 7811113 - davidandjoy@uk2.net

Aims, rules and constitution January 2018

The Wrenbury & District Model Railway Club was formed on the 29th of January 2014. This document will continue to be updated by the Officers as required for the successful running of the club, copies will be found in the Members Guide at each meeting, on the club web site and the club notice-board.

We meet at the Village Hall on Cholmondeley Road in Wrenbury CW5 8HG where we will be meeting every Wednesday between 7 and 10pm. (hours may vary subject to demand).

Here we aim to construct two layouts one each 00 & N gauge on which members can run their own locomotives and rolling stock. 00 will accommodate DC and DCC operation. The ultimate aim will be to exhibit our efforts to the public.

The club will aim to educate on all aspects of railways and its local history. A presentation will be developed for use to outside groups.

We aim to pass on our collective knowledge and skills to anyone taking up our hobby regardless of their age and sex.

The non-refundable annual 'membership fee' payable in a single payment for the calendar year 2018 will be £32 for adults (17 & over).

A new Parent & Child membership is available for those under 17. This costs £32 for the parent plus £6 for the child for the calendar year and requires just one attendance fee of £4 for both. Either parent can accompany the child to a meeting.

For new members joining in the second half of the year their fee will be calculated at £5.50 per month - max £32 (ie join during Oct pay £16.50) £3 for juniors.

In addition all members attending will pay £4 'attendance fee' per visit towards the hall charges.

On arrival at the hall members are required to sign the attendance register. Because of the weight of the club 00 layout a minimum of 3 fully fit and able bodied members are required to lower the board safely. The N gauge layout can be set up and operated by a minimum of 2 members.

Refreshment prices will be 50p per can, mug of tea or coffee, supplies of tea, coffee, cans, sugar, milk and biscuits will be maintained by the treasurer and funded by the club. All members should share the duties in the kitchen which

includes leaving it tidy at the end of each meeting. Clean mugs and refreshment stock should be returned to the club cupboard. Members will be issued with a membership card as a receipt of payment and an identity badge which should be worn within the village hall (for security reasons) and when attending any other club, exhibition or arranged visit. The club will be promoted wherever and whenever possible for free. The secretary will produce a variety of posters, stickered magazines, notices and cards to be placed by members to further promote the club. We have adequate insurance against public liability (£2m) and property damage or loss (£10k).

A Safeguarding Children & Young Persons Policy is in place. A copy is in the Members Guide for all members to read. Anyone under 17 should always be accompanied by an adult.

Officers: The posts required to manage the club are:- Chairman, secretary, treasurer and 2 additional officers - one each from 00 and N gauge interests. Two posts only may be held at one time providing the members vote that individual into post. Anyone being nominated for these roles must have online capability and be a full member. Each officer post carries a single vote in management decisions. Officers will hold post from one AGM to the next unless under exceptional circumstances they are removed from post by a majority postal vote of all members. Treasurer and others are joint signatories on the club bank account, two to sign (treasurer plus one other). Where there is a single nomination for a post a vote will take place at the AGM, however where there is more than one nomination voting for an officer will be by ballot with a closing date for nominations 7 days before the AGM or an EGM to replace an officer.

Additionally the post of Hon. President will be reviewed in December each year.

AGM: Members will nominate, second and elect the officers required to operate our club at an Annual General Meeting to be held on the third Wednesday in January each year. Treasurer is required to produce a balance sheet of income & expenditure. The agenda will be circulated in advance of the AGM. All subscribed members who attend are entitled to vote at the AGM and at any other General Meeting called by the secretary. Voting may only take place when there are sufficient members present at the meeting to form a quorum, that being 60% of the currently registered members. A simple majority of those members present shall be sufficient to carry a resolution. In the event of a tie, the chairman has an additional casting vote.

Where there is a single nomination for a post a vote will take place at the AGM, however where there is more than one nomination voting for an officer will be by ballot with a closing date for nominations 7 days before the AGM or an EGM to replace an officer.

Should an issue arise and the officers decide that it needs to be referred to the membership a postal vote of *all* registered members will be called and results notified 14 days later.

Weekly meetings: When the opportunity arises, guest speakers will be invited to join us during our meetings to impart their specific knowledge and skill to the members. They will be allocated the first one hour maximum of meeting time.

00 running will be on the first Wednesday each month and the N gauge running on the third Wednesday.

Behaviour: All members are expected to respect other members, guests and visitors. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. Topics of conversation likely to create dispute such as politics & religion should be avoided. The officers can demand a member explain any breach of club rules and request an apology where necessary. Should that member refuse to apologise or fail to explain their behaviour the officers will take appropriate action. Under exceptional circumstances a membership can be cancelled. This decision can only be reached by a majority of officers. If this should occur the officers can then opt to refund a part of a year's membership when the member is notified by letter of their decision.

Visitors: Non-members are always welcome at no cost for a maximum of three visits.

Visitors making additional visits in any one calendar year will need to pay the £4 attendance fee.

Club officers should always be the first to respond and priority given to a visitor.

Visitor badges are available and should be worn at all times.

Our Venue: The hall provides us with level access to parking and ramped access to the hall, toilets and kitchen. We must not wander into the large hall when it is being used.

The hall is a no smoking building with no external provision for smokers. We must ensure that all litter and waste is removed before each meeting finishes.

Members must familiarise themselves with the hall fire evacuation procedures.

Safety of members and visitors is always a priority.

The points raised by the Hall Management must be considered at all times. We must respect other hall users, whether that be their access through our meetings or noise created during construction.

Any damage whether caused or noticed should be notified to the Secretary who will liaise with the Hall Management.

Members must always respect the properties adjoining and across from the hall when arriving and leaving meetings. We share toilet and kitchen with the large hall users.

Web site and Facebook: Keith Dutton will continue to maintain:http://wrenburymodelrailwayclub.btck.co.uk and Bill Webb will keep our Facebook presence updated.

Where suppliers and other groups have been supportive of our efforts they will receive either a mention or a link from our site. Members layouts and other related projects can be submitted for display on this site.

E-bay: The Treasurer will continue to operate an active selling account. Should any new items be donated that are best converted into cash.

The Library: The club will create a library of booklets, magazines, DVDs' and information covering all aspects of our hobby and railways in general. The Secretary will maintain a list of items available and members are required to book items in and out of that listing. This service is free to members. (see the Member's Guide)

John Cannon is the club librarian.

Club Equipment: Tools and equipment owned by the club can be borrowed on a weekly basis. A note should be made in the attendance book of items taken, on the understanding that they are returned for the next weekly meeting.

Any personal property left at the hall is left at the owner's risk.

Club merchandise: A range of embroidered clothing and printed items is available - see the list in the Members Guide. Prices reflect a small profit for club funds.

Benefits: As and when discounted terms are offered to the membership, full details will be held in the Members Guide.

We have received confirmation of a discount being offered by Chester Model Centre 71-73 Bridge Street Row East (formerly the Model Zone). They have offered a 10% discount on most items, nothing extra on locos as they are already 15% off retail. You need to produce your membership card to claim any discount.

Dave's Railway Films have offered members their DVD range at just £5 each (full list in the Members Guide)

Funding sources: The treasurer will pursue outside funding opportunities. Members will endeavour to raise funds should the opportunity arise through open doors events on the back of any events taking place in Wrenbury and district.

Providing enough members volunteer, we will attend outside events where no cost to the club is involved.

Winding up: If the Club is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied (including making good the hall wall), there remains property, then such property to be sold and the proceeds after costs, together with any cash held in the Club Bank Account, to be distributed equally between all Members currently registered at the date of dissolution.

Updated February 2018 - latest alterations are highlighted

Chairman :- Adrian Finney Secretary :- David J Houghton