

**Application for a club premises certificate to be granted under
the Licensing Act 2003**



PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form.

If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary.

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

Merlin's Bridge AFC

(Insert name of club)

club applies for a club premises certificate under section 71 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (the club premises).

The club is making this application to you as the relevant licensing authority in accordance with section 68 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Part 1 – Club premises details

Name of club Merlin's Bridge AFC			
Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description Merlin's Bridge AFC changing rooms Welfare Hall, Pembroke Road			
Post Town	Haverfordwest	Postcode	SA61 1JW
Telephone number (if any)	07854 889967		
E-mail address (optional)			

Name of person performing duties of a secretary to the club Lyndon Freeman			
Address of person performing duties of a secretary to the club [REDACTED]			
Post Town	[REDACTED]	Postcode	[REDACTED]
Daytime contact telephone number (if any)	[REDACTED]		
E-mail address (optional)	[REDACTED]		

Non-domestic rateable value of premises	£580
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Are the club premises occupied and habitually used by the club?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Part 2 – Club Operating Schedule

When do you want the club premises certificate to start?

DD	MM	YYYY
2	6	0726

If you wish the certificate to be valid only for a limited period, when do you want it to end?

DD	MM	YYYY

General description of club (please read guidance note 1)

Merlin's Bridge Football Club is situated adjacent to Merlin's Bridge Welfare Hall on Pembroke Road, Haverfordwest. The premises form part of the wider community football club facilities and comprise a clubhouse building used in connection with football and associated social activities. Internally, the premises include a bar area and social area for members, visitors and guests, together with four changing rooms and dedicated storage facilities for club equipment and operational use. Externally, the premises benefit from a small gravelled outside space, a full size football pitch and juniors mini pitch and a large parking area located to the front and side of the building, providing space for vehicles attending the club and associated activities.

If 5,000 or more people are expected to attend the premises at any one time, please state the number expected to attend:

N/A

What qualifying club activities do you intend to conduct on the club premises?

Provision of regulated entertainment (please read guidance note 2)

Please tick all that apply

- a) plays (if ticking yes, fill in box A) ☐
- b) films (if ticking yes, fill in box B) ☐
- c) indoor sporting events (if ticking yes, fill in box C) ☐
- d) boxing or wrestling entertainment (if ticking yes, fill in box D) ☐
- e) live music (if ticking yes, fill in box E) ☐
- f) recorded music (if ticking yes, fill in box F) ☐
- g) performances of dance (if ticking yes, fill in box G) ☐
- h) anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g) (if ticking yes, fill in box H) ☐

The supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to, or to the order of, a member of the club (if ticking yes, fill in box I)

☒

The sale by retail of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to a guest of a member of the club for consumption on the premises where the sale takes place (if ticking yes, fill in box J)

☒

In all cases complete boxes K and L.

A

Plays Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the performance of a play take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish	Please give further details here (please read guidance note 4)		
Mon					
Tue					
			State any seasonal variations for performing plays (please read guidance note 5)		
Wed					
Thur					
			Non standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the performance of a play at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list (please read guidance note 6)		
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

B

Films Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the exhibition of films take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish	Please give further details here (please read guidance note 4)		
Mon					
Tue					
			State any seasonal variations for the exhibition of film (please read guidance note 5)		
Wed					
Thur					
			Non standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the exhibition of film at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list (please read guidance note 6)		
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

C

Indoor sporting events Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<u>Please give further details here</u> (please read guidance note 4)
Day	Start	Finish	
Mon			
Tue			<u>State any seasonal variations for indoor sporting events</u> (please read guidance note 5)
Wed			
Thur			<u>Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for indoor sporting events at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list</u> (please read guidance note 6)
Fri			
Sat			
Sun			

D

Boxing or wrestling entertainments Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the boxing or wrestling entertainment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish			
Mon			Please give further details here (please read guidance note 4)		
Tue					
Wed			State any seasonal variations for boxing or wrestling entertainment (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur					
Fri			Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the boxing or wrestling entertainment at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list (please read guidance note 6)		
Sat					
Sun					

E

Live music Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the performance of live music take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish			
Mon			Please give further details here (please read guidance note 4) May occasionally host live music for arranged social events, this would be sporadic in frequency		
Tue					
Wed			State any seasonal variations for the performance of live music (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur					
Fri			Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the performance of live music at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list (please read guidance note 6)		
Sat					
Sun					

F

Recorded music Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the playing of recorded music take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish	Please give further details here (please read guidance note 4)		
Mon					
Tue					
			State any seasonal variations for the playing of recorded music (please read guidance note 5)		
Wed					
Thur					
			Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the playing of recorded music at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list (please read guidance note 6)		
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					

G

Performances of dance Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Will the performance of dance take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish			
Mon			Please give further details here (please read guidance note 4)		
Tue					
Wed			State any seasonal variations for the performance of dance (please read guidance note 5)		
Thur					
Fri			Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the performance of dance at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list (please read guidance note 6)		
Sat					
Sun					

H

Anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g) Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			Please give a description of the type of entertainment that the club will be providing		
Day	Start	Finish	<u>Will this entertainment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</u> (please read guidance note 3)	Indoors	☐
Mon				Outdoors	☐
				Both	☐
Tue			<u>Please give further details here</u> (please read guidance note 4)		
Wed					
Thur			<u>State any seasonal variations for this entertainment</u> (please read guidance note 5)		
Fri					
Sat			<u>Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for this entertainment at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list</u> (please read guidance note 6)		
Sun					

I

Supply of alcohol Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<u>Will the supply of alcohol be for consumption -please tick</u> (please read guidance note 8)	On the premises	☒
				Off the premises	☐
				Both	☐
Day	Start	Finish	<u>State any seasonal variations</u> (please read guidance note 5) May deminish in football off season between may - September		
Mon	17:00	23:00			
Tue	17:00	23:00			
Wed	17:00	23:00			
Thur	17:00	23:00			
			<u>Non-standard timings. Where the club intends to use the premises for the supply of alcohol at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list</u> (please read guidance note 6)		
Fri	17:00	23:00			
Sat	12:00	23:00			
Sun	12:00	23:00			

J

Hours club premises are open to the members and guests Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 7)			<u>State any seasonal variations</u> (please read guidance note 5) Only open to members and Their signed in guests as per the club membership charter for the purchase of Alcohol and entertainment.
Day	Start	Finish	
Mon	17:00	23:00	
Tue	17:00	23:00	
Wed	17:00	23:00	
Thur	17:00	23:00	
Fri	17:00	23:00	
Sat	12:00	23:00	
Sun	12:00	23:00	
			<u>Non standard timings. Where you intend the premises to be open to the members and guests at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list</u> (please read guidance note 6)

K

Please highlight any adult entertainment or services, activities, or other entertainment or matters ancillary to the use of the club premises that may give rise to concern in respect of children (please read guidance note 9).

N/A

L

Describe the steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives:

a) General – all four licensing objectives (b,c,d,e) (please read guidance note 10)

The premises will be operated as a members' football club in accordance with the club's constitution, membership rules and policies. Access to the licensed areas will be controlled by the club committee, nominated officers, authorised bar staff and responsible persons on duty. Alcohol and entertainment will be provided primarily for club members and their signed-in guests. Members will be required to comply with club rules, standards of behaviour and any reasonable instructions given by club officials or staff. Guests will be signed in by a member, who will remain responsible for their conduct while on the premises. The club will promote the licensing objectives through responsible management, clear operating procedures, staff awareness, supervision of events, and appropriate policies relating to conduct, safeguarding, health and safety, alcohol sales and disorder prevention.

b) The prevention of crime and disorder

The premises will be managed by the club committee and authorised persons, with clear membership and guest entry arrangements in place. Only members and properly signed-in guests will be permitted to purchase alcohol. Members will be expected to follow the club's rules and code of conduct, and any member or guest behaving in a disorderly, aggressive or inappropriate manner may be refused service, asked to leave, and subject to further action under club rules. Bar staff and responsible persons will monitor behaviour, refuse alcohol to anyone who appears intoxicated, and prevent irresponsible drinking. Incidents will be recorded where appropriate and the club will cooperate with the police and responsible authorities. The committee will review any incidents and may suspend or remove membership privileges where rules are breached.

c) Public safety

The club will take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of members, guests, visitors, players, officials and staff using the premises. The premises will be maintained in a safe and suitable condition, with access routes, exits and communal areas kept clear. Responsible persons will be present during licensed activities and will monitor the bar, social area, changing facilities and external areas as appropriate. The club will manage capacity in the clubhouse and social area, particularly during match days, functions and social events. Any hazards, maintenance issues or safety concerns will be reported to the committee and addressed as soon as reasonably practicable. First aid arrangements, fire safety procedures and general health and safety practices will be maintained in accordance with club policies and relevant requirements.

d) The prevention of public nuisance

The club will operate in a manner that respects neighbouring premises, local residents and users of the adjoining welfare hall. Members and guests will be reminded to leave the premises quietly and to avoid unnecessary noise in the car park and surrounding areas, particularly later in the evening. Music and entertainment will be controlled so as not to cause unreasonable disturbance, and doors and windows will be managed where necessary to limit noise breakout. The large parking areas to the front and side will be monitored where appropriate to discourage nuisance, disorderly behaviour or excessive noise from vehicles. Waste will be managed responsibly, and outdoor areas will be kept tidy. Any complaints regarding noise or nuisance will be reviewed by the club committee and appropriate action taken where required.

e) The protection of children from harm

The club is a community football club used by adults, young people and families. Children and young people will be protected through the club's safeguarding approach, membership rules and supervision arrangements. Children will not be permitted to purchase alcohol, and alcohol will only be supplied by authorised bar staff to persons who are aged 18 or over. An age verification policy will be applied where there is any doubt as to age, and acceptable identification will be requested before service. Junior members and children attending matches, training, events or functions will be expected to be supervised by parents, guardians, coaches or responsible adults as appropriate. The club will not provide adult entertainment or activities likely to give rise to concern for children. Any safeguarding concerns will be reported and managed in accordance with club safeguarding policies and relevant procedures.

Checklist:

Please tick to indicate agreement

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| • I have made or enclosed payment of the fee. | ☒ |
| • I have enclosed the plan of the premises. | ☒ |
| • I have sent copies of this application and plan to the responsible authorities. | ☐ |
| • I have completed and enclosed the club declaration and enclose a copy of the club rules. | ☒ |
| • I understand that I must now advertise my application. | ☒ |
| • I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected. | ☒ |

IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 11)

I Lyndon Freeman

(Insert full name)

make this application on behalf of the club and have authority to bind the club

Signature	
Date	26/06/2025
Capacity	Secretary/Treasurer

Address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 12)

[REDACTED]

Post town

[REDACTED]

Post
code

[REDACTED]

Telephone number (if any)

[REDACTED]

If you would prefer us to correspond with you by e-mail your e-mail address (optional)

[REDACTED]

Notes for Guidance

1. Describe the premises, for example the type of premises, its general situation and layout and any other information which could be relevant to the licensing objectives. Where your application includes off-supplies of alcohol and you intend to provide a place for consumption of these off- supplies you must include a description of where the place will be and its proximity to the premises.
2. In terms of specific regulated entertainments please note that:
 - Plays: no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.
 - Films: no licence is required for 'not-for-profit' film exhibition held in community premises between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day provided that the audience does not exceed 500 and the organiser (a) gets consent to the screening from a person who is responsible for the premises; and (b) ensures that each such screening abides by age classification ratings.
 - Indoor sporting events: no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 1000.
 - Boxing or Wrestling Entertainment: no licence is required for a contest, exhibition or display of Greco-Roman wrestling, or freestyle wrestling between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 1000. Combined fighting sports – defined as a contest, exhibition or display which combines boxing or wrestling with one or more martial arts – are licensable as a boxing or wrestling entertainment rather than an indoor sporting event.
 - Live music: no licence permission is required for:
 - a performance of unamplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, on any premises.
 - a performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.
 - a performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, in a workplace that is not licensed to sell alcohol on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.
 - a performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, in a church hall, village hall, community hall, or other similar community premises, that is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance from a person who is responsible for the premises.
 - a performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, at the non-residential premises of (i) a local authority, or (ii) a school, or (iii) a hospital, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance on the relevant premises from: (i) the local authority concerned, or (ii) the school or (iii) the health care provider for the hospital.
 - Recorded Music: no licence permission is required for:
 - any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.
 - any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, in a church hall, village hall, community hall, or other similar community premises, that is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500,

- and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance from a person who is responsible for the premises.
 - any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, at the non-residential premises of (i) a local authority, or (ii) a school, or (iii) a hospital, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance on the relevant premises from: (i) the local authority concerned, or (ii) the school proprietor or (iii) the health care provider for the hospital.
 - Dance: no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 500. However, a performance which amounts to adult entertainment remains licensable.
 - Cross activity exemptions: no licence is required between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, with no limit on audience size for:
 - any entertainment taking place on the premises of the local authority where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the local authority;
 - any entertainment taking place on the hospital premises of the health care provider where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the health care provider;
 - any entertainment taking place on the premises of the school where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the school proprietor; and
 - any entertainment (excluding films and a boxing or wrestling entertainment) taking place at a travelling circus, provided that (a) it takes place within a moveable structure that accommodates the audience, and (b) that the travelling circus has not been located on the same site for more than 28 consecutive days.
3. Where taking place in a building or other structure please tick as appropriate (indoors may include a tent).
 4. Please state type of activity to be authorised, if not already stated, and give relevant further details, for example (but not exclusively) whether or not music will be amplified or unamplified.
 5. For example (but not exclusively) where the activity will occur on additional days during the summer months.
 6. For example (but not exclusively), where you wish the activity to go on longer on a particular day e.g. Christmas Eve.
 7. Please give timings in 24 hour clock (e.g. 16.00) and only give details for the days of the week when you intend the premises to be used for the activity.
 8. If the club wishes members and their guests to be able to consume alcohol on the premises please tick 'on the premises'. If the club wishes people to be able to purchase alcohol to consume away from the premises please tick 'off the premises'. If the club wishes people to be able to do both please tick 'both'.
 9. Please give information about anything intended to occur at the premises or ancillary to the use of the premises which may give rise to concern in respect of children, regardless of whether you intend children to have access to the premises, for example (but not exclusively) nudity or semi-nudity, films for restricted age groups, gambling machines etc.
 10. Please list here steps you will take to promote all four licensing objectives together.
 11. The application form must be signed.
 12. This is the address which we will use to correspond with the club about this application.

Merlin's Bridge AFC Clubhouse Rules

These rules apply to all members, players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, guardians, spectators, visitors and guests using the Merlin's Bridge AFC clubhouse and surrounding club facilities. They are intended to help keep the clubhouse welcoming, safe, respectful and enjoyable for everyone.

1. General Conduct

- Everyone must treat others with respect, courtesy and consideration at all times.
- Abusive, threatening, aggressive, discriminatory or intimidating behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Swearing, shouting, harassment, bullying or behaviour that causes distress to others is unacceptable.
- Members and guests must respect club officials, bar staff, volunteers, opposition supporters, match officials and neighbours.
- The clubhouse is a family-friendly environment. Behaviour must be suitable for children and young people who may be present.

2. Alcohol and Bar Rules

- Alcohol may only be purchased and consumed in accordance with licensing laws and any conditions set by the club.
- No alcohol will be served to anyone under the legal drinking age or to anyone who appears intoxicated.
- Anyone who appears drunk, disorderly or abusive may be refused service and asked to leave the premises.
- Alcohol must not be brought into the clubhouse or grounds unless permission has been given by the club.
- Members and guests are expected to drink responsibly and look after one another.
- Glassware must not be taken outside unless specifically permitted by club staff.
- Any damage, disorder or misconduct linked to alcohol may result in disciplinary action or a ban from the clubhouse.

3. Safeguarding and Young People

- The welfare of children and young people is a priority at all times.
- Children must be supervised by a responsible adult while in the clubhouse and club facilities.
- Adults must behave appropriately around children and young people and must not use offensive, abusive or unsuitable language.
- Any safeguarding concern should be reported immediately to the Club Safeguarding Officer, a committee member or another appropriate club official.
- Coaches, officials and volunteers must follow the club's safeguarding policies and relevant football association guidance.

4. Respect for the Clubhouse and Facilities

- Please keep the clubhouse, toilets, changing areas, car park and surrounding grounds clean and tidy.
- Rubbish must be placed in the bins provided.
- Club property, furniture, equipment and decorations must not be damaged, removed or misused.
- Any damage or spills should be reported to bar staff, volunteers or a club official as soon as possible.
- Individuals responsible for damage may be asked to pay for repair or replacement costs.

5. Smoking, Vaping and Prohibited Substances

- Smoking and vaping are only permitted in designated outdoor areas, if provided.
- Smoking or vaping is not permitted inside the clubhouse, changing rooms, toilets or other indoor areas.
- Illegal drugs and prohibited substances are strictly forbidden anywhere on club premises.
- Anyone suspected of possessing, using or supplying illegal substances may be asked to leave and may be reported to the appropriate authorities.

6. Visitors and Guests

- Members are responsible for the behaviour of their guests.
- Visitors and opposition supporters are welcome but must follow these clubhouse rules.
- The club reserves the right to refuse entry or ask any person to leave if their behaviour is unacceptable or poses a risk to others.
- Private functions and events must be agreed in advance with the club and must follow any additional conditions set by the committee or bar management.

7. Match Days and Events

- Supporters must show respect to players, coaches, match officials, volunteers and opposition supporters.
- Discriminatory chanting, offensive songs, abusive language or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Only authorised persons may enter restricted areas such as the bar area, kitchen, changing rooms, officials' rooms or storage areas.
- Noise must be kept to a reasonable level, particularly during evening events and when leaving the premises.
- Parking must be considerate and must not block entrances, emergency access, neighbouring properties or public roads.

8. Health, Safety and Emergencies

- Fire exits, walkways and emergency access routes must be kept clear at all times.
- Any accident, injury, hazard or unsafe behaviour should be reported immediately to a club official or member of staff.

- Instructions from club officials, bar staff, stewards or emergency services must be followed without delay.
- Dogs must be kept under control at all times and may be restricted from certain areas at the club's discretion.

9. Breaches of the Rules

- Anyone who breaches these rules may be given a verbal warning, refused service, asked to leave, suspended from clubhouse use or banned from the premises.
- Serious incidents may be referred to the club committee, relevant football authorities or the police where appropriate.
- The club committee's decision on disciplinary matters relating to clubhouse use will be final, subject to any appeal process adopted by the club.
- By entering and using the clubhouse, all members and visitors agree to follow these rules and support a positive club environment.



Merlin's Bridge AFC Members' Club Charter

A shared commitment to football, community, respect, responsible hospitality and the long-term future of the club

1. Purpose of this Charter

This Members' Club Charter sets out the principles, standards and expectations that guide Merlin's Bridge AFC as a football club, a community organisation and a members' club with a bar facility. It applies to players, coaches, volunteers, members, guests, families, supporters and partners.

Merlin's Bridge AFC is a Welsh football club based in Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. The club has a proud local history and a strong tradition of senior, reserve and junior football. This charter is intended to protect that heritage while supporting the club's continued growth, sustainability, responsible hospitality and positive role in the community.

2. Our Vision

Our vision is to be a well-run, inclusive and ambitious community football club with a safe, welcoming members' bar that gives people of all ages and backgrounds the

opportunity to enjoy football, social connection, volunteering and club life in a respectful and responsible environment.

3. Our Values

- **Respect:** We treat team-mates, opponents, officials, volunteers, supporters and visitors with fairness and courtesy.
- **Community:** We represent Merlin's Bridge and the wider Pembrokeshire community with pride.
- **Inclusion:** We welcome people regardless of background, ability, experience or role within the club.
- **Development:** We support players, coaches, officials and volunteers to learn, improve and enjoy football.
- **Integrity:** We act honestly, responsibly and in the best interests of the club.
- **Commitment:** We value effort, reliability, teamwork and service to the club.
- **Responsible Hospitality:** We operate any members' bar, alcohol sales and social events in a lawful, safe and community-minded way.

4. Membership Principles

Membership of Merlin's Bridge AFC is a privilege and a shared responsibility. Members are expected to support the club's objectives, uphold this charter and contribute positively to the reputation and running of the club.

- Membership categories will be Single Membership and Family Membership, with subscriptions and any associated rights communicated clearly to members.
- Membership is included as an element of club subs where a person is registered with the club and has paid the relevant subscription.
- Membership may also be purchased separately for £5 annually, subject to a minimum 48-hour vetting period and committee sign-off before membership is confirmed.
- Members must pay any agreed subscriptions or fees by the stated deadline unless alternative arrangements have been approved.
- Members are encouraged to attend club meetings, support club events, volunteer where possible and promote the club positively.
- The club may refuse, suspend or terminate membership where conduct seriously breaches this charter, club rules or relevant football regulations.
- Each member may sign in up to two guests at any one time, provided those guests comply with club rules, bar rules and licensing requirements.
- Members using the bar must follow club rules, licensing conditions, opening hours, guest arrangements and any instructions given by authorised bar staff or committee members.

5. Standards of Conduct

All members, players, coaches, parents, guardians, volunteers and supporters are expected to uphold high standards of behaviour at training, matches, club events, online and when representing Merlin's Bridge AFC.

- Show respect to referees, match officials and opposition teams at all times.
- Encourage players positively and avoid abusive, discriminatory, threatening or intimidating language.
- Accept selection, coaching and match decisions respectfully, using the appropriate channels to raise concerns.
- Protect the reputation of the club when using social media or other public platforms.
- Follow the rules of competitions, leagues, governing bodies and facility providers.
- Act safely and responsibly around club facilities, equipment and changing areas.
- Use the members' bar responsibly, avoid excessive drinking, and do not pressure others to consume alcohol.

6. Safeguarding and Welfare

Merlin's Bridge AFC is committed to providing a safe environment for children, young people and adults at risk. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

- The club will maintain appropriate safeguarding policies and appoint suitable welfare or safeguarding contacts.
- Concerns about welfare, bullying, abuse, discrimination or unsafe conduct must be reported promptly through the club's safeguarding process.
- Coaches and volunteers working with children or vulnerable groups must complete required checks, training and procedures.
- Information relating to safeguarding matters will be handled sensitively and shared only with appropriate people or authorities.

7. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The club is committed to being open, fair and inclusive. Discrimination, harassment, victimisation or abuse will not be tolerated.

Merlin's Bridge AFC will seek to remove barriers to participation, promote respectful behaviour and ensure that football at the club is accessible and enjoyable for as many people as possible.

8. Governance and Decision-Making

The club will be managed in a transparent and accountable way by its officers and committee, acting in the best interests of Merlin's Bridge AFC and its members.

- The committee will meet regularly and keep appropriate records of decisions.
- Key decisions affecting the club's future, finances, facilities or membership will be communicated clearly to members where appropriate.
- Conflicts of interest should be declared and managed fairly.
- The club will hold an Annual General Meeting where members can receive updates, ask questions and participate in agreed elections or votes.

9. Committee Members

- Michael Preddy – Senior Chair
- Kevin Thomas – Juniors Chair
- Duncan Hart – Juniors Vice Chair
- Jamie Palmer – Seniors Vice Chair
- Lyndon Freeman – Treasurer/Secretary
- Mike Isaac – Safeguarding Officer
- Karl Davies – Groundskeeper

10. Players, Coaches and Football Development

The club will support football development across its teams by encouraging good coaching, regular participation, fair opportunity and a positive playing culture.

- Players should attend training and matches reliably, communicate availability promptly and support team standards.
- Coaches should promote enjoyment, learning, respect and player welfare alongside performance.
- Selection decisions should be made fairly, consistently and in line with team needs, development aims and conduct expectations.
- The club will encourage links between junior, reserve and senior football to support progression where appropriate.

11. Volunteers and Club Service

Volunteers are essential to the running of Merlin's Bridge AFC. The club will value, support and respect those who give their time to coaching, administration, matchdays, fundraising, maintenance, events and community activity.

Members are encouraged to contribute where they can, recognising that a strong club depends on shared effort rather than a small number of individuals carrying all responsibilities.

12. Members' Bar and Responsible Alcohol Sales

The members' bar is intended to support the social life, fundraising and sustainability of Merlin's Bridge AFC. It should be operated as a benefit for members and their permitted guests, not as a separate commercial venture.

Alcohol must only be supplied, sold or consumed in accordance with the club's licence or club premises certificate, the Licensing Act 2003, any conditions imposed by the local licensing authority, and the club's own bar rules.

- The club will maintain any required licence, club premises certificate or temporary event authorisation before alcohol is supplied or sold.
- The licence or certificate summary permitted hours and key conditions should be displayed or made available as required.
- Only authorised persons aged 18 or over may serve alcohol, supervise bar activity or purchase alcohol for the club.
- Alcohol may only be supplied to members and permitted guests in line with the club's rules, including the limit of up to two guests signed in by each member, and the terms of the relevant authorisation.
- No person may personally profit from the purchase or sale of alcohol except where any benefit is lawful and accrues to the club as a whole.
- Bar takings, stock, expenses and cash handling must be recorded accurately and overseen by the committee or nominated officers.

The club supports the licensing objectives: prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance, and protection of children from harm.

- Bar staff and volunteers may refuse service to anyone who is intoxicated, abusive, aggressive, underage, unable to provide acceptable identification, or acting contrary to club rules.
- The club may operate a Challenge 25 approach and request proof of age where appropriate.
- Members must not buy alcohol for anyone under 18 or for anyone who has been refused service.
- Children and young people may only be present in bar areas in accordance with club rules, safeguarding requirements and licensing conditions.
- Opening hours, last orders, guest signing-in arrangements and private event rules must be followed.
- Members are responsible for the conduct of any guests they sign in while those guests are on club premises.
- Noise, behaviour outside the premises, parking and departure from the club must be managed with respect for neighbours and the local community.

Any serious breach of bar rules, licensing conditions or responsible drinking expectations may result in refusal of service, removal from the premises, suspension of bar privileges, disciplinary action or termination of membership.

13. Facilities, Equipment and Club Property

Club facilities, kit, equipment, bar areas, stock, cash, fixtures and property must be treated with care. Members should help keep changing areas, pitches, spectator areas, bar areas and shared spaces clean, safe and welcoming.

- Damage, hazards or maintenance issues should be reported promptly.
- Club equipment should only be used for authorised club activity unless permission has been given.
- Members should follow any rules set by facility providers, landlords, local authorities or governing bodies.

14. Finance and Sustainability

The club will manage its finances responsibly to support day-to-day operations, football development, facility needs and long-term sustainability.

- Income and expenditure will be recorded accurately.
- Club funds will be used for legitimate club purposes.
- Fundraising, sponsorship and grant activity should be handled transparently and in line with club aims.
- Income from the members' bar must be used to support legitimate club purposes, including football development, facilities, community activity and club sustainability.
- Members should respect the importance of paying agreed fees, returning kit and supporting fundraising where possible.

15. Complaints, Concerns and Discipline

The club will aim to resolve concerns fairly, promptly and respectfully. Members should raise issues through the appropriate club channel rather than through public criticism or social media disputes.

- Informal concerns should be raised with the relevant coach, team manager or committee member where appropriate.
- Formal complaints should be submitted in writing to the club secretary or nominated officer.
- Disciplinary matters will be considered fairly, with those involved given an opportunity to respond.
- Sanctions may include warnings, suspension, removal from club activity or termination of membership, depending on the seriousness of the matter.
- Breaches relating to alcohol, intoxication, disorderly behaviour, serving rules, underage access, guest conduct, or licensing conditions may be treated as serious disciplinary matters.

16. Communication

Clear and respectful communication helps the club run smoothly. The club will use appropriate channels to share fixtures, training updates, events, policies, meetings and other important information.

Members should ensure that their contact details are up to date and should use club communication channels responsibly.

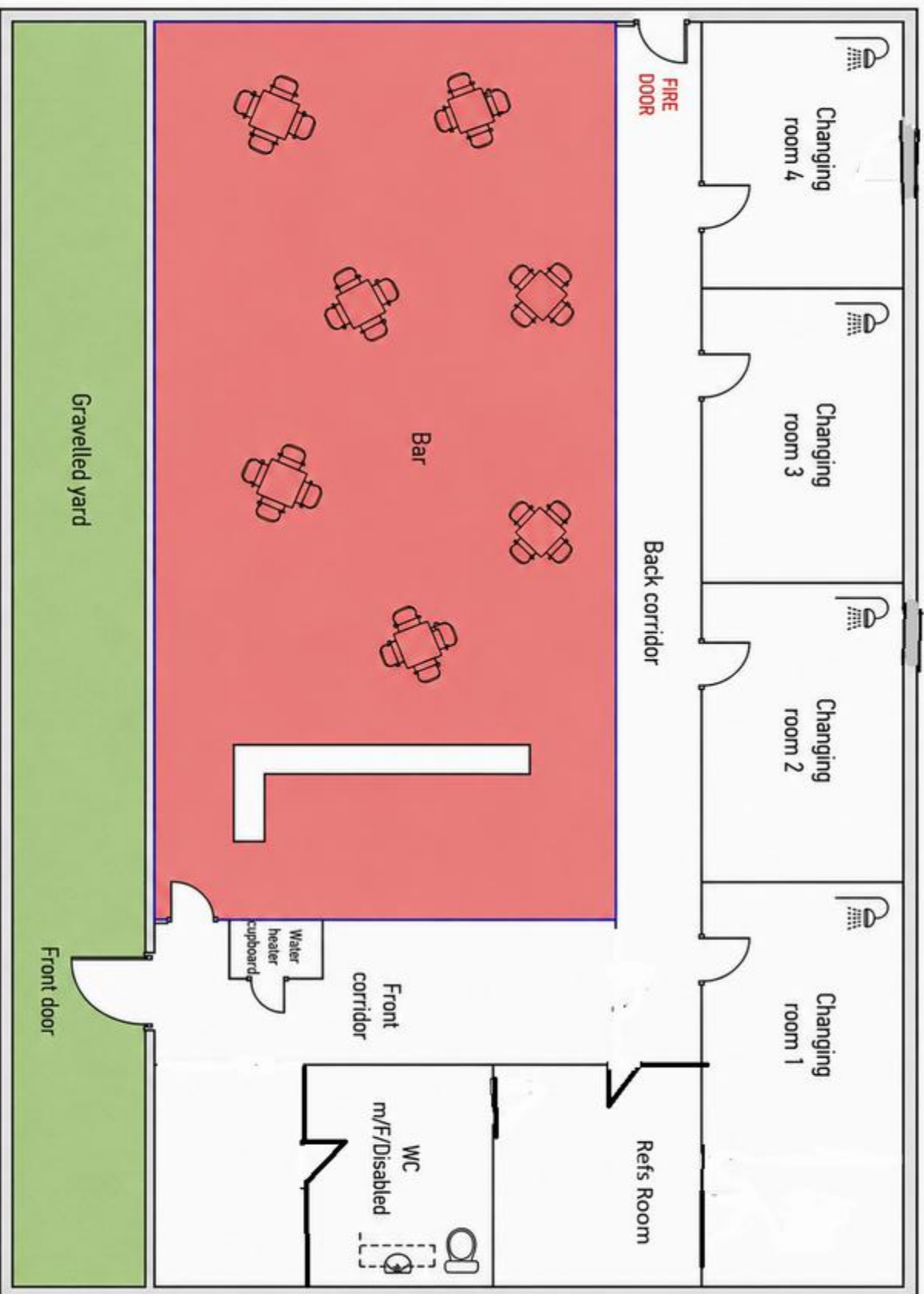
The club will communicate bar opening arrangements, special event arrangements, membership requirements, guest rules and any changes to licensing or bar procedures clearly to members.

17. Review and Adoption

This charter should be reviewed regularly by the club committee and updated when necessary to reflect changes in club rules, football regulations, safeguarding requirements, facilities or membership arrangements.

The bar rules and alcohol-related provisions should be reviewed whenever there is a change to licensing law, the club's licence or certificate, operating hours, committee responsibilities or local authority requirements.

By joining, renewing membership, volunteering, representing or supporting Merlins Bridge AFC, members agree to uphold the spirit and standards of this charter.



Key:



All licensed activities
authorised by licence



Live and recorded
music



Consumption of
alcohol