

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LABOUR CLUB (CULC) CONSTITUTION

1. NAME:

The name of the Club shall be "Cambridge University Labour Club" hereafter referred to as "the Club".

2. OBJECTS:

- a) To campaign for and secure support for the Labour Party in Cambridge.
- b) To propagate the values of Clause 4 of the Labour Party's constitution.
- c) To advise the Labour Party National Executive Committee on Labour student organisation, educational matters and student opinion on other matters of concern to the Labour Party.
- d) To conduct campaigns in accordance with Labour values.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

- a) Membership of the Club shall be open to all members of the University that are in general agreement with our 'objects'.
- b) Becoming a member of CULC shall be conditional on a donation to the Club of a size as determined by the Executive Committee.
- c) Members of political parties that stand against Labour or who are members of any party-political club which share the values or promote the interests of parties which stand against Labour (whether formally affiliated to them or not) are deemed not to be in agreement with the Club's 'objects'; they shall not be eligible for membership.
- d) The Executive Committee may expel any member whose conduct seems likely to bring the Club into disrepute. Such expulsion shall be undertaken in accordance with Standing Order 1, and is subject to confirmation at the next Termly General Meeting (TGM) of the Club.
- e) Membership of the Club may be revoked by the Executive Committee on the basis of conduct which in the opinion of the Executive Committee is prejudicial. This includes but is not limited to behaviour which is discriminatory under the Equality Act 2010 or the IHRA definition of antisemitism. This includes incidents occurring online.
- f) Membership of the Club may also be revoked for conduct which is grossly detrimental to the Club, its aims, or the Labour Party as a whole, as determined by the Executive Committee.
- g) Motions of no confidence shall require written notice of one week. The only grounds for a motion of no confidence are that a member of the Executive Committee has failed to act in accordance with the requirements of the constitution. Motions of no confidence may be passed by a two-thirds majority of a meeting of the Executive Committee. Successful motions of no confidence are subject to review and justification at the next TGM.

4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- a) The day-to-day management of the Club's affairs shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee, which shall normally be elected at the Termly General Meeting (TGM);

- b) The Executive Committee shall consist of two Co-Chairs, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and seven additional members whose roles and responsibilities will be as described in Standing Order 1.
- c) The liberation committee will sit with the Executive Committee and consist of a Women's and non-binary officer, LGBTQ+ officer, BAME officer, disabilities officer and a class officer.
- d) There shall be a Senior Treasurer, who shall be a member of the Regent House, or other person approved by the Junior Proctor. The Senior Treasurer shall be appointed by the elected members of the Executive Committee and shall be ex officio a member of the Executive Committee.
- e) All of the elected members of the Executive Committee shall be full time undergraduate or postgraduate students at the University and must be members of the Labour Party as well as the Club to stand for election.
- f) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be chaired by one or both of the co-chairs. If neither of the co-chairs are present, the remaining members shall elect a chairperson for that meeting. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be seven members and a written record of each meeting shall be kept.
- g) The Executive Committee will be responsible for ensuring the Club remains registered with the University of Cambridge at all times.

5. GENERAL MEETINGS:

- a) The Club shall hold a Termly General Meeting (TGM) during each academic term in either week seven or week eight. All members shall be entitled to attend and vote at any General Meeting. At least seven days' notice shall be given to members before the TGM.
- b) The TGM shall consider motions and constitutional changes, carry out hustings for the following term's Executive Committee via speeches of no longer than three minutes per candidate followed by questions to them, and conduct such other business as is necessary.
- c) Every motion at a General Meeting shall be proposed and seconded by two members. Voting shall be by secret ballot in a manner determined by the Executive Committee.
- d) An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be held at any time during Full Term. It may be called by the Executive Committee or at the written request of at least fifty members. Seven days' notice shall be given to members before an EGM is held. An EGM shall have the same powers as a TGM.
- e) One or both of the co-chairs should take the Chair at any General Meeting. In the absence of the co-chairs the Executive shall choose a Chairperson for that meeting ahead of time. The quorum for a General Meeting shall be ten members and a written record of every General Meeting shall be kept.
- f) Motions may be submitted for consideration by a TGM by any member of the club up to three days before the TGM. All motions require a proposer and a seconder, and may be ruled out of order by the Executive Committee prior to the TGM if the motion is deemed to oppose the aims and values of the club. The proposer and seconder may speak in support of their motion, and other members may speak in support or opposition at the chair's discretion before a vote is taken.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- a) The Club shall maintain a banking account with a suitable Bank or Building Society to hold the Club's funds.
- b) It shall be the responsibility of the Junior Treasurer to ensure that funds received are properly accounted for, and that the Club's financial records are kept in good order. In particular, the Junior

Treasurer shall ensure continuity of Cambridge resident signatories for any bank accounts held by the Club.

c) The Senior Treasurer shall make arrangements for the Club's Accounts to be properly audited, either by themselves, or by some other person approved under University Ordinances.

d) The Senior Treasurer shall not be liable for any financial debt or other obligation of the Club unless they have personally authorised such a debt in writing.

e) It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to ensure that the Club complies with the requirements for Registration as a University Club.

7. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:

a) Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Executive Committee for confirmation by a two-thirds majority vote of a TGM. No amendment to this Constitution intended to remove the position of Senior Treasurer, to alter its prerogatives and duties, or to change the criteria and procedure for the appointment of a Senior Treasurer can be put to a vote without the prior written agreement of the Junior Proctor of the University of Cambridge.

b) The Standing Orders may be amended at the discretion of the Executive Committee without the approval of a TGM.

8. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS:

a) The club's co-chairs reserve the right to suspend any member for an interim period if they reasonably believe the actions of a member have brought the club into disrepute.

b) Such suspension can only be affected by a majority vote of all Executive Committee members.

c) The Executive Committee shall be able to expel a member whose actions are felt to be grossly detrimental to the club; depending on perceived severity of the case, the accused member may or may not be in attendance of the disciplinary meeting.

d) If it is decided that the accused member should not be in attendance of the disciplinary meeting, they should be allowed to produce a statement in their defence that must be carefully considered before the rest of the Executive Committee makes its judgement.

e) In the event of an expulsion, the excluded member is required to return all equipment, documents and finances belonging to the Club within seven days.

9. DISSOLUTION:

a) The Club may be dissolved at a TGM provided that at least twenty-one days written notice of the intention to dissolve the Club has been given to the members. To be effective, any motion proposing dissolution of the Club requires a unanimous vote of those present at the TGM.

b) Any motion for Dissolution of the Club shall provide that assets remaining after all liabilities have been met shall be transferred either to another Registered University Club, or to the Societies' Syndicate.

STANDING ORDERS

1. OFFICERS' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) The Executive Committee roles shall be as follows: Co-Chairs (two positions), Secretary, Junior Treasurer, Speakers' Officer, Constituency Labour Party Liaison Officer, Socials Officer, Campaigns Officer, Membership Officer and Publicity Officer.
- b) Liberation roles shall be as follows: BAME Officer, Women and non-binary officer, disabilities and mental health officer, class officer and LGBT+ officer.
- c) It is a duty of all officers to assist the Cambridge City and Constituency Labour Party in its election campaigns in Cambridge, in city council, county council and general elections.
- d) All officers are expected to attend meetings of the Executive Committee. Should they be unable to attend a meeting, they are to send apologies for their absence. A persistent failure to attend meetings without explanation is in violation of their duties.
- e) Specific officer responsibilities shall be determined by the Co-Chairs at the first Executive Committee meeting of term.

2. ELECTIONS

- a) The elections for the Executive Committee of a term shall be via a secret ballot using the Cambridge SU system, open for twenty-four hours and beginning during the day after the TGM.
- b) There will be a window of at least three days prior to the TGM, which the Executive Committee must publicise, in which any member eligible to stand may register to stand and submit a statement between fifty and five hundred words. These statements will be circulated with a list of candidates prior to the TGM and any candidate that does not attend the TGM will read out their statement to the TGM on their behalf.
- c) Elections for co-chairs will use single transferable vote. One of the Co-Chair positions shall be reserved for a person who does not identify as a man, unless no women or non-binary candidate applies before the deadline. To run for co-chair, candidates must have served on the Executive Committee for at least two complete terms.
- d) Elections for the Liberation Officers shall be held separately for each post, each by single transferable vote. Both the candidates and voters in each of these elections must identify as belonging to the group in question.
- e) Elections for the remaining seven Executive Committee positions will be held as one election via single transferable vote.
- f) Candidates may run in multiple elections, but if they are elected in multiple capacities they must choose one role to take up, and withdraw from other elections. The votes from the election(s) they have withdrawn from will then be redistributed to their next preferences.
- g) The elections for Liberation Officers shall stand a null candidate, RON (Re-Open Nominations). Should the null candidate win the election, a further election will be held at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

h) The election for Co-Chair shall also stand a null candidate, RON. Should this candidate place first, the election for both chairs will be rerun. Should it place second, the candidate that placed above will be elected, and the election for the other chair position will be re-run.

Last amended: June 2021
Proposed amendments in red (awaiting TGM)