



CONSTITUTION

Originally passed on 19th January 2005; amended 29th December 2005; amended 7th March 2007; amended 9th March 2009; amended 5th September 2010; amended September 2011; amended June 2012; amended December 2013; amended March 2014; amended March 2015; amended 25th November 2015; amended 7th March 2016; amended 30th November 2017; amended 3rd March 2018, 22nd June 2018, 27th November 2018; ; amended 14th March 2019.

1. Name

- a) The name of the society shall be 'Cambridge University Labour Club' (CULC), hereafter referred to as 'the Club'.
- b) The logo of the Club shall be as seen at the head of this document.

2. Aims

- a) To campaign for and secure support for the Labour Party in Cambridge.
- b) To liaise with constituency Labour parties, Young Labour, and the Co-Operative Party.
- c) To propagate the values of Clause 4 of the Labour Party's constitution, to the effect that 'the Labour Party is a democratic socialist party. It believes that by the strength of our common endeavour we achieve more than we achieve alone, so as to create for each of us the means to realise our true potential and for all of us a community in which power, wealth and opportunity are in the hands of the many, not the few, where the rights we enjoy reflect the duties we owe, and where we live together, freely, in a spirit of solidarity, tolerance and respect'.
- d) 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.
- e) To conduct campaigns in accordance with Labour values.

3. Membership

- a) i) Membership of the Club shall be open to all members of the University of Cambridge and other University affiliates who are in general agreement with our 'aims'.
- ii) Members of political parties that stand against Labour or who are members of any party-political society which shares the values and promotes 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 'aims'; they shall not be eligible for membership.
- b) The Executive Committee may determine that membership is conditional on a donation to the Club. See section 7a).

1. Membership of the Club shall be open to all members of the University of Cambridge and other University affiliates who are in general agreement with our 'aims'.
2. Members of political parties who stand against Labour or members of any party-political society which shares the values and promotes the interests of parties which stand against Labour (whether formally affiliated to them or not) are deemed not to have been in agreement with the club's 'aims'; these individuals shall not be eligible for membership.
3. No member of the Club shall engage in conduct which in the opinion of the Executive Committee is prejudicial, or in any act which in the opinion of the Executive Committee is grossly detrimental to the Club. This includes behaviour considered ableist, homophobic, racists, sexist or contradictory to the values of the Labour Party.
4. The Executive Committee shall consider any incident which in their view might reasonably be seen to demonstrate hostility or prejudice based on age; disability; gender reassignment or identity; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; or sexual orientation as conduct prejudicial to the Club: these shall include but not be limited to incidents involving racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia or otherwise racist language, sentiments, stereotypes or actions, sexual harassment, bullying or any form of intimidation towards another person on the basis of a protected characteristic as determined by the Executive Committee, wherever it occurs, as a violation of the Club's conditions of membership. This includes incidents occurring online.

c) At an Termly General Meeting, Club members may elect someone who has never attended the Club to honorary life membership by a majority of two-thirds.

d) i) The title of 'Associate Member' shall be afforded to any member or employee of Cambridge Constituency Labour Party who is able to campaign or volunteer with the Club.

ii) Associate Members may be nominated by any member of the Club at a General Meeting, subject to approve by a simple majority in a secret ballot.

iii) The title will be afforded to that individual so long as he/she remains a member of Cambridge Constituency Labour Party.

iv) Associate Members hold all rights of Club members, except for the right to vote at meetings, to propose or second motions, or to become an Executive Committee member.

d) The secretary shall key an up to date record of the name, email address, subject, college and graduation date of members and email subscribers only up to the date of their graduation.

1. Where graduation date is unknown, data will be deleted after 4 years.
2. This data will only be used to contact members and email subscribers about the club's activities, campaigns and termly meetings. Members and email subscribers may also be contacted about the activities of its affiliates and of other campaigning organisations, at the discretion of the executive committee.
3. The club will not pass on any of the data of its members or subscribers to a third party without further consent, including to the club's affiliates: the Labour Party, the Cambridge Constituency Labour Party and the Co-operative Party.
4. At the end of each academic year, the club will seek the consent of all graduating members and email subscribers to retain this information to be added to the alumni list. If consent is not given, all data on past CULC members and email subscribers will be deleted.
5. If a current student unsubscribes from the mailing list or revokes their membership, all of their data will be deleted.

e) The Executive Committee may expel any member whose conduct seems likely to bring the Club into disrepute. Such expulsion shall be subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting of the Club by means of simply majority in a secret ballot.

4. General Meetings

a) Termly General Meetings (TGMs) shall be held in Cambridge once every full term. All members shall be entitled to attend and vote.

b) General Meetings (GMs) should not be called to clash with lectures, seminars, laboratory sessions or Cambridge University Student Union meetings. In cases of urgency, this stipulation may be relaxed as far as reasonably necessary.

c) Emergency General Meetings may be called by a petition presented in writing to the Co-Chairs and signed by no less than 10% of the members currently attending the University of Cambridge, or by majority vote of the Executive Committee. Any policies passed at such a meeting must be ratified at the next TGM.

d) Notice of all GMs should be publicised in writing to all Club members by email and social media at least one week prior to the meeting.

d) Minutes of all GMs should be taken and kept by the Secretary. These must be available to scrutiny by any member of the Club. The minutes must be written up by the next TGM.

e) All Club policy shall be determined at a GM of the Club.

f) Policy shall lapse three years after the end of the academic year at which the policy was determined. To re-adopt policy requires the assent of a GM of the Club.

5. Officers

a) (i) There shall be the posts of Co-Chairs (two positions), Secretary, Junior Treasurer, Campaigns and Constituency Labour Party Liaison Officer, Women's Officer, Class Officer, BAME Officer, LGBT+ Officer, Disabilities and Mental Health Officer, Publicity Officer, Socials Officer, and Speakers' Officer. These comprise the Executive Committee.

(ii) In order to stand for the posts of Co-Chair, the candidate must have already served on the Executive Committee for at least 2 terms, either as an elected or co-opted officer.

(iii) The Executive Committee may vote by simple majority to co-opt the Youth and Student Officer of Cambridge Constituency Labour Party, and a member of the Anglia Ruskin University Labour Students Society as ARU Coordinator, for as long a time as it shall decide. These roles may attend executive meetings, but have no right to vote.

(iv) There shall be a further post of Senior Treasurer, who shall be a resident member of the Senate or other person approved by the Junior Proctor. The Senior Treasurer shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and serve as long as the Executive Committee shall decide. The Senior Treasurer may attend Executive Committee meetings ex officio.

(v) The quorum for all votes of the Executive Committee shall be half of all members, save for those votes subject to 5.a.vi.

(vi) The Executive Committee may also vote online, provided that the vote is well-publicised amongst all its members. Provided the vote remains open for one full day, it is not subject to the restrictions of 5.a.v.

(vii) The positions of Disabilities and Mental Health Officer, Women's Officer, Class Officer, BAME Officer and LGBT+ Officer shall be reserved for members who self-identify as belonging to these groups. Only members self-identifying with a particular group may vote to elect their representative officer. To avoid "outing" any self-identifying members of these groups who do not wish to publicly identify, in all paper ballot elections a ballot paper will be given to every attendee, with the option "I do not self-identify as a member of this group" below the "RON" option for people who are not eligible to vote for the representative officer in question, and all online elections must be arranged so that the identities of those who have voted for these positions is indeterminable.

(viii) A written record of each meeting of the Executive Committee shall be kept.

(ix) Only first year undergraduates (at the time of the TGM) from the University of Cambridge are eligible to stand for election for the position of Socials' Officer. All members are eligible to vote in elections for the position of Socials' Officer. If no-one stands for election to the position at a General Meeting, the Executive Committee may co-opt the Socials' Officer with a simple majority at any time of its choosing.

(x) 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.

(xi) The Speakers' Officer and the Campaigns and Constituency Labour Party Liaison Officer may, at any time of their choosing, each convene a 'Speakers' Sub-Committee' and a 'Campaigns and CLP Liaison Sub-Committee', respectively.

Before convening the Sub-Committee, the Speakers' Officer and Campaigns and CLP Liaison Officer must first obtain the approval of the Executive Committee, this being expressed by a two-third majority vote. The Executive Committee may disband a Sub-Committee with a simple majority vote.

The Sub-Committees must consist of two to four members (including the relevant Executive Officer), this number being determined by the respective Executive Officer; the Executive Committee may create additional Sub-Committee positions with a two-third majority vote. Every Sub-Committee is disbanded automatically with the election of a new Executive Committee.

Following the approval of the Executive Committee, the respective Executive Officers will present their proposed Sub-Committee members (who must be members of CULC and the Labour Party or the Cooperative Party) to the Executive Committee, who may approve candidates with a simple majority vote in the case of each candidate. This same process must be followed in the case of additional positions created beyond the usual maximum of four. The respective Executive Officer may present new Sub-Committee candidates for the Executive Committee's approval at any time during the Sub-Committee's existence. The Executive Committee may dismiss any member of a Sub-Committee with a simple majority vote. The respective Executive Officers convening Sub-Committees must publicise the creation of their Sub-Committee widely, and enact a form of application process approved by the Executive Committee at the time of the first two-third majority vote.

(xi) Vacant positions, whether unfilled following TGMs or otherwise made vacant, shall be publicised, and officers shall be co-opted by a vote of the Executive Committee by Single Transferable Vote in accordance with the procedure detailed in 5.g).

b) All officers of the Club must be members of CULC and individual members of the Labour Party.

c) (i) The minimal duties of each officer are as follows:

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, European parliamentary and general elections. As such, all officers are expected to campaign at least 4 times for a Labour election candidate or candidates in Cambridge per term. The exception will be if an officer can demonstrate convincing personal reasons why such a level of campaigning is not possible for them or can demonstrate an alternative contribution to the club's activities that is equivalent to at least 4 hours campaigning door-to-door. 4 campaign sessions should be seen as a minimum level; officers should be on the frontline with the CCCLP in all local, European and general election campaigns as much as is feasible. Furthermore, 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.

Co-Chairs: to liaise with the Constituency Labour Party, Labour Students, and other organisations as required; to chair meetings of the Executive Committee and General Meetings of the Club; to organise and edit the Club's term card and publications; to assume responsibility for the organisation and functioning of the Executive Committee.

Secretary and Membership Officer: To fulfil sections 4.d. and 5.a.ix; to, along with the Co-Chairs, ensure meetings follow constitutional procedure; to be responsible for maintaining an up-to-date portfolio of CULC policy and the constitution; to

maintain links with CULC representatives in colleges; with the Publicity Officer, to ensure that the Club has adequate representation/presence throughout the Colleges; to maintain the list of college contacts; to maintain and update the membership list; to actively recruit new members to the Club; to encourage lapsed members to rejoin the Club; to keep accurate lists of alumni and liaise with them as required.

Junior Treasurer and CLP Officer: To liaise with the Senior Treasurer; to keep accurate accounts and present them as in section 7b); to liaise with Cambridge Labour Party; to attend CLP meetings as appropriate, and be accountable for their vote and actions to the membership at GMs; to work with the local MP or Prospective Parliamentary Candidate and party organiser to ensure that Club activities complement those of the local party;.

Publicity Officer: To run the Club's social media accounts and website; to use these to ensure publicity materials are distributed and displayed to the widest possible audience; to edit the Club's blog; to represent the Club to the universities' and local press; to work with the Membership Development Officer to ensure that the Club has a presence in the Colleges.

Campaigns Officer: To co-ordinate CULC policy, in association with representatives from the national Labour Party, and facilitate the democratic formation of policy in the Club; to be responsible for running CULC campaigns on issues passed at meetings; to organise the Campaigns Subcommittee as described in 5.a.xi).

Socials Officer: To organise a series of social events during their term in office; to make these as inclusive as possible, especially for groups which may face discrimination and exclusion; to make special provisions to draw freshers to the Club; to organise an annual garden party in Easter Term of each academic year.

Speakers Officer: To be responsible for contacting speakers to visit the Club, as agreed by the Executive Committee; to be responsible for maintaining a list of speakers contacted, their contact details, and their response to Club communications; to be responsible for writing to thank speakers for their attendance at Club events; to organise the Speaker' Subcommittee as described in 5.a.xi).

Women's Officer: To represent women's issues and encourage female participation in the Club; to work with the Secretary to attract women speakers to the Club; to encourage self-identifying women members to stand for election to the Executive Committee at General Meetings; to ensure at least one event per term is reserved for or specifically concerns issues affecting women.

Class Officer: To represent the interests of self-identifying working-class people and encourage their participation in the Club; to work with the Speakers' Officer to attract working-class speakers to the Club; to encourage working-class members to stand for election to the Executive Committee at General Meetings; to ensure at least one event per term is reserved for or specifically concerns issues affecting working-class people.

BAME Officer: To represent the interests of self-identifying Black Asian and Minority Ethnic people and encourage their participation in the Club; to work with the Speakers' Officer to attract BAME speakers to the Club; to encourage BAME members to stand for election to the Executive Committee at General Meetings; to ensure at least one event per term is reserved for or specifically concerns issues affecting BAME people.

LGBT+ Officer: To represent the interests of self-identifying LGBT+ people and encourage their participation in the Club; to work with the Speakers' Officer to attract LGBT+ speakers to the Club; to encourage LGBT+ members to stand for election to the Executive Committee at General Meetings; to ensure at least one event per term is reserved for or specifically concerns issues affecting LGBT+ people.

Disabilities and Mental Health Officer: To represent the interests of people who self-identify as disabled and/or suffer from a mental illness, and encourage their participation in the Club; to work with the Speakers' Officer to attract disabled and mentally ill speakers to the Club; to encourage people with disabilities and mental health conditions to stand for election to the Executive Committee at General Meetings; to ensure at least one event per term is reserved for or specifically disability and mental health.

CLP Youth and Student Officer: To support the Campaigns and Constituency Labour Party Liaison Officer; to facilitate the political, social and campaigning relationship between the Club and Cambridge Constituency Labour Party; to support the Co-Chairs in representing the Club on the Constituency Labour Party Executive Committee and on the General Committee.

ARU Coordinator: To encourage close cooperation between the Club and Anglia Ruskin University Labour Students Society.

(ii) Officers must also fulfil other sections of the Constitution that apply to them. All these obligations must be fulfilled to the best of the individual officer's ability. At each GM they shall present a report to the members present.

d) (i) Elections to the Executive Committee shall elect the Co-Chairs and Liberation Officers directly, and further elect a pool of six among which the remaining posts shall be assigned.

(ii) Elections shall proceed by Single Transferable Vote (STV), as used by Cambridge University Students Union

(ii) Nominations for all candidates must be submitted at least one day before the meeting at which the election is to take place.

(iii) Those elected as Liberation Officers are eligible to simultaneously serve in an additional non-Liberation Officer role, and vice-versa. Candidates may accordingly stand both to be elected as Liberation Officers and to be elected to the pool. Co-Chairs are not eligible to fill any additional roles.

(iv) Once elected, the Executive Committee may vote to determine a method among themselves to allocate posts to those elected to the pool, including by putting them to a further vote by the Club's members.

(v) Nominations for all candidates must be submitted in writing to the Co-Chairs at least one day before the TGM.

(vi) All candidates may attach to their nomination a statement to be made available and read to those attending the TGM. If the election is to be held online, it is also to be published online to be read by those voting. This statement may have two sections: the first section may be used to detail what previous experience with CULC and CULC's campaigns the candidate has had, whilst the second may be used for any other purpose. The second section is limited to 100 words, or 400 in the case of candidates for Co-Chair.

(vii) Hustings for all of the posts shall be held at the TGM. During these hustings, each candidate shall have the opportunity to briefly speak in turn. Questions may be put to those standing for roles, but must be general and may not be directed at any candidate or candidates in general, save for questions regarding policies proposed by candidates for Co-Chair.

e) A null candidate RON shall be stood in every election of officers.

f) (i) The election of the pool may follow the elections of the Liberation Officers and Co-Chairs. Places in the pool shall be reserved for candidates who do not identify as male, such that at least one-third of persons on the Executive Committee do not identify as male.

(ii) Should the Executive Committee fail to meet the constitutional requirement that one third of its members not identify as male, the Club shall undertake a campaign to encourage female and non-binary participation until the time of the next TGM.

h) An Election Committee of two CULC members shall be elected at each TGM by a simple show of hands. The Election Committee shall be responsible for the distribution and collection of ballot papers and the administration of the online ballot if the election is conducted online. If paper ballots are used, the Election Committee shall retire to count the votes following each election and the results of elections shall be announced at the same meeting. In the event of dispute, the Co-Chairs shall have discretion to call for re-elections or rule the election as valid.

i) (i) Motions of censure shall require a two-thirds majority at a GM, written notice of one week and notice given as normal for a GM. The author of the written notice shall remain anonymous and the Co-Chairs will include the written notice in the notice for the meeting. The vote shall be the first item on the agenda.

(ii) At the meeting, the anonymous written notice will be read by the Co-Chairs and the member is entitled to a speech of three minutes, followed by a number of questions as determined by the Co-Chairs. Voting on the motion of censure will be by a secret ballot of a simple two-thirds majority. The question to be asked will be 'The Club moves to censure...' etc. followed by a 'Yes' or 'No' vote.

(iii) Should the Executive member be removed, there will follow an immediate election for that post. This shall be in accordance with sections 5a), b), f), j), and h).

j) Motions of no confidence shall require written notice of one week. The author of the written notice may remain anonymous. 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 an in-person meeting of the Executive Committee. Any officers removed in this way are to be replaced in accordance with the procedures regarding vacant positions in 5.a.xii). Successful motions of no confidence are subject to review and justification at the next TGM.

6. Honorary Officers

a) There shall be three Honorary Officers, entitled Honorary President of the Club, and two Honorary Vice-Presidents of the Club.

b) These posts shall exist to improve the Club's external and political relationships through regular speaker events, visits to international, national, devolved or local assemblies, and general support and advice.

c) Honorary Officers may be elected by CULC members in a secret ballot at a TGM. Voting for the Honorary Officers will be by Single Transferable Vote, with the three most popular being elected: the most popular choice will automatically become Honorary President.

d) The Honorary President must be an alumnus of Cambridge University.

e) Honorary Officers must be members of the Labour Party who have been prominent in the politics of the United Kingdom, its constituent parts, or of international organisations of which the United Kingdom is a member.

7. Finance

a) (i) Becoming a member of CULC may be conditional on a donation to the Club of determinate size. If this membership is a life membership, then they shall remain members of CULC for the rest of their lives as long as they satisfy the conditions given in section 3a).

(ii) The Executive Committee may determine the size of the necessary donation for membership.

(iii) All donations to CULC are non-refundable.

b) An audited statement of the accounts shall be presented by the Junior Treasurer to the AGM.

c) For so long as the Club shall be registered with the Junior Proctor, it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to ensure that the Club complies with the requirements of registration as a University Society.

8. Affiliations

a) The Club shall affiliate to the Labour Party.

b) The Club shall affiliate to the Cambridge Constituency Labour Party.

c) The Club shall affiliate to the Co-Operative Party.

d) The Club shall affiliate to any campaigning body formed by a motion at a CULC GM.

e) The Club shall state on its literature its affiliations to the Labour Party and the Co-Operative Party.

9. Labour Party Membership

a) For the purposes of these rules a person shall not be deemed to be an individual of the Labour Party unless he/she possesses a valid membership card or provisional membership card issued by the constituency party of which he/she is a member, or can produce proof that he/she has applied for either.

10. Co-Operative Party Membership

a) The Club shall actively encourage its members to join the Co-Operative Party and shall organise gatherings with the Co-Operative Party at the discretion of the Executive Committee, or of a General Meeting of the Club.

11. Amendments to the Constitution

a) This constitution may only be amended at General Meetings of the Club, and motions for amendment shall require a two-thirds majority to pass.

12. Standing Orders for General Meetings

a) General

i) A GM shall be convened at least once a term. Responsibility for convening GMs shall lie with the Executive Committee.

b) Motions

i) A member may submit up to five ordinary motions to be received as a single copy at three days' notice. All motions require a proposer and a seconder who must be paid-up members of the Club. The proposer and seconder will support the motion upon request by show of hand as the motion is read at the meeting.

ii) The membership of the Club will be informed by the Executive Committee as to the subject matter of every motion to be discussed at a GM.

iii) Emergency motions submitted at the beginning of a GM may be discussed with the assent of a simple majority of those present.

iv) Motions shall be ruled out of order by the Co-Chairs if they contain more than 500 words, not including constitutional amendments.

v) The Co-Chairs shall prioritise motions according to the order in which they are received. This order may be amended at the beginning of the meeting.

vi) Amendments to ordinary motions may be submitted by any member at any time before or during a GM. Amendments of more than 300 words, not including constitutional amendments shall be ruled out of order by the chair.

c) Procedure

i) An order paper shall be drawn up and circulated by the Co-Chairs or otherwise made available to all present at the GM.

ii) The order paper shall indicate the time available for discussion of each motion. This shall normally be 20 minutes per motion. Time available may be extended either by a simple majority or the Chair's discretion.

iii) Objections to procedure shall take the form of one speech in favour and one speech against. The matter shall be resolved by a simple majority.

iv) If an amendment which has not been accepted by the proposer of the motion is passed then the proposer of that amendment shall be deemed the proposer of the motion.

v) Points of order may be raised to ask for a Chair's ruling or interpretation, to ask for a ballot or to ask a procedural question of the Chair. Points of order have precedence over all other business, but may not be raised during a speech.

vi) Procedural motions have preference over all other business except points of order.

vii) Procedural motions shall take the following order of priority: no confidence in the Chair, that a standing order be suspended for a specified length of time, that a vote be by secret ballot, that the meeting be adjourned or closed, that the question as specified be put now, that the question should not be put, that the question be adjourned, that the question

be remitted to the Executive Committee, that the question be voted on in parts, or that non-members be excluded from the meeting.

viii) Procedural motions shall require a simple majority.

ix) Any person wishing to make a statement from the floor shall request permission from the chair at an appropriate point on the order paper and may proceed at the chair's discretion.

x) For any motion at least one speech must be heard in favour and at least one against. The chair shall prioritise as they see fit.

xi) Non-members visiting a GM shall be granted the same rights as paid-up members, except for voting rights.

xii) All elections shall contain a RON option on ballot papers.

d) The chair

i) The chair shall be taken at all meetings by one the Co-Chairs of CULC, or by any member of the Executive Committee approved of by a vote of that Executive.

ii) If a motion of no confidence in a Co-Chair is passed, that person shall not resume the chair for the rest of the meeting. The other Co-Chair should assume the chair for the rest of the meeting

iii) The chair takes responsibility for the order of the meeting; that remarks are relevant to the question under debate; and that no defamatory remarks concerning another member of CULC or any other person present are made. On the basis of those points he has the right to exclude individuals from meetings.

e) The Executive Committee

i) Questions may be put to any member of the Executive Committee following their report, without prior notice.

ii) Questions may be put to the Executive Committee as a whole and shall be answered by the chair or by any member of the Executive. Such questions shall be put after reports have been heard.

f) Policy Forums

i) Meetings outside of GMs which are deemed to be a 'Policy Forum' by the Executive Committee have the same ability as GMs to pass motions. Other aspects of GM procedure, except for the order of debating and voting upon a motion, shall not apply.

ii) A Policy Forum must be advertised as such in order to qualify for the status of a GM when passing motions.

iii) All Policy Forum motions as passed must be passed again at the next GM in order to become CULC policy. Policy Forum motions are debated as ordinary motions with their proposer and seconder presenting the motion as in a GM.