



Constitution of Cambridge for Europe; A Branch of the European Movement UK

1. Name and Status

The Branch shall be called Cambridge for Europe.

It shall operate in accordance with the Constitution of the European Movement UK and in accordance with the Agreement made between Cambridge for Europe and the European Movement UK.

2. Area

Cambridge for Europe shall operate in the:

- City of Cambridge and surrounding towns and villages in the county of Cambridgeshire
- parliamentary constituencies of Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire, and South East Cambridgeshire

Cambridge for Europe may operate in partnership with neighbouring branches and affiliates by mutual agreement and shared interest.

3. Objectives / Aims

The objectives of Cambridge for Europe shall be:

- to further the aims and objectives of the European Movement.
- to campaign for the UK to have the closest possible relationship with the European Union including campaigning for the UK to re-join the EU.
- to help identify, expose and publicise adverse consequences of Brexit as they arise particularly the impacts on local communities and businesses
- to champion British European Identity and the values of the EU, including the promotion of peace, prosperity and the environment.
- to champion the rights of EU citizens in the UK and UK citizens living in the EU.
- to encourage and facilitate greater understanding of the UK's historic, present and future interdependence with the other countries of Europe, especially amongst young people.

- to campaign for electoral reform in the UK, and in particular for proportional representation in local and national elections

4. Membership

Membership of Cambridge for Europe is open to anyone who:

- supports the objectives of the Cambridge for Europe and of the European Movement UK.
- resides within the area defined in Section 2 above or who has another relevant connection with Cambridge for Europe.

Subject to the above, membership shall be open to anyone without regard to gender, race, nationality, disability, sexual orientation or religious belief.

Cambridge for Europe will hold a membership list maintained by the Treasurer. This will be used for communication with members, principally by email. A member's United Kingdom postcode may be requested for use by European Movement NationBuilder to ascertain a member's geographic location and parliamentary constituency. This data will be held and used in accordance with GDPR rules.

Cambridge for Europe will have two membership categories:

- Full Members who have paid the annual Cambridge for Europe subscription.
- Honorary Membership, which can be granted at the Annual General Meeting to individuals and/or corporations in recognition of their contribution to the branch.

Members have the right to vote at Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings of Cambridge for Europe, and to stand for election to the Cambridge for Europe committee.

Members may resign at any time in writing to the secretary. Membership ceases automatically if a member dies or if their membership fee is more than 12 months overdue.

Members may be removed from the list of members where a member:

- does not support the aims and objectives of Cambridge for Europe
- exhibits any offensive behaviour to other members or behaves in a manner likely to bring Cambridge for Europe into disrepute; or
- exhibits any behaviour that is inconsistent with the Equality Policy.

A member will be notified if the Committee considers that there are grounds for removing a member from the list. The member will be given an opportunity to provide an apology or explanation in writing to the secretary for consideration by the Committee before a final decision is made by the Committee.

5. Data Protection

Members consent to the processing of their data by Cambridge for Europe and by the European Movement UK in accordance with its Data Protection Policy accessible on the European Movement's website.

6. Officers

There shall be a minimum of three officers who should be the Chair, the Secretary and the Treasurer. Additional officers may be appointed or elected by the committee as required to meet the needs of the branch e.g. for campaigns, membership, communications.

Officers shall be appointed or elected by the membership at its first meeting. Thereafter, nominations for officer posts must be received by the secretary at least three days before the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) and elections for the posts held, if necessary, during the AGM or EGM.

All officers must be members of the European Movement United Kingdom in addition to being members of Cambridge for Europe.

If an officer stands down during the year or fails to attend more than three consecutive committee meetings without prior notice and agreement, the remaining members of the Committee may agree to appoint another member to replace that officer until the date of the next AGM.

7. Committee

The business of Cambridge for Europe shall be carried out by a Committee elected at the AGM. The Committee shall consist of the officers and a maximum of eight further members elected at the AGM or EGM. The normal term of service for an officer is one year.

The Committee shall meet as necessary and not less than six times a year. The quorum for a meeting shall be four committee members, including the Chair or a committee member delegated by the Chair. Special meetings of the Committee may be called provided seven days notice is given. All members of the Committee shall have a vote. In the event of a tied vote the Chair shall have a casting vote.

The committee has the power to:

- raise funds provided they are used in furtherance of the objectives of the branch and are raised in accordance with the law.
- co-opt additional members onto the Committee as circumstances demand.
- organise events and activities, singly or jointly with others.
- design, print and distribute material
- open bank accounts.

- consider, approve and carry out any other lawful activities as proposed or requested by Cambridge for Europe membership and which are in accordance with the objectives of Cambridge for Europe and the European Movement.

8. Finances

All money raised by or on behalf of Cambridge for Europe is only to be used to further the objectives of Cambridge for Europe as specified in Section 3 above. A bank account will be maintained on behalf of Cambridge for Europe and will be held at a bank agreed by the Committee.

Any financial expenditure of funds held by the branch requires prior approval of the Committee where possible, or failing that agreement of the Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Committee may provide prior approval by setting a budget for spending on specified activities e.g. a particular campaign.

The treasurer will be responsible for:

- maintaining records of income and expenditure;
- providing a financial statement at each Committee meeting;
- providing an annual statement of accounts at each Annual General Meeting;
- sending a copy of the accounts to the Treasurer of the European Movement UK annually.
- recording approvals of budgets.
- reporting to the Committee any instances of non-compliance with budgets or spending limits.

Cambridge for Europe will not be permitted to borrow, to charge against its assets or to loan any money.

Three signatories will be nominated by the Committee, one of whom must be the Treasurer. The signatories must not be related to each other, nor members of the same household.

9. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

An AGM shall be held at a time to be decided by the Committee. All current paid-up members of Cambridge for Europe shall be notified of the arrangements for an AGM at least fourteen (14) days in advance.

All members present at the AGM shall be entitled to vote. Members who are unable to attend can nominate another member to cast their proxy vote, and members are only allowed to carry a maximum of one proxy vote. The Chair shall have a casting vote. The quorum for the AGM shall be 25 members or 10% of the membership, whichever is the lower number.

An AGM must be held every calendar year with the minimum following agenda:

- A report from the Treasurer including an annual statement of accounts.

- Election of officers and Committee members for the coming year.
- Local strategy, plans and events for the coming year.
- Any other business, including resolutions, which have been notified to the secretary at least 7 days in advance.

Nominations for officers and other members of the committee must be received by the Secretary at least three days in advance of the AGM

10. Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

An EGM, which may alternatively be termed a Special General Meeting (SGM), may be held by decision of the Committee, or at the written request of at least 25 paid-up Cambridge for Europe members. Members shall be given at least 14 days' notice of an EGM

The purpose of Extraordinary General Meetings will be to address, as a matter of urgency, matters that would usually be considered at an Annual General Meeting or urgent matters of significance for the functioning of the branch.

The purpose of the EGM must be stated at the time of giving notice of the meeting.

The meeting will take place within twenty-one days of the request. The rules in relation to the quorum and voting at an EGM shall be the same as those in respect of the AGM.

11. Branch Meetings

Cambridge for Europe will meet as often as required at locations within its area to be decided by the committee and communicated to the membership via electronic mailings. Whenever possible, members will be given at least 7 days notice of such meetings.

The purpose of the meetings will be for exchange of information and the planning of events and other activities. All categories of member shall be invited to attend such meetings and there is no set quorum.

12. Amendments

Amendment of this Constitution may be made only at an AGM, or an EGM called for that purpose, with the voting approval of at least two thirds of Cambridge for Europe members present.

13. Disciplinary Matters

Any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist, or inflammatory remarks, will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way or breaking the European Movement's

Equality Policy may be asked not to attend further meetings or to resign from Cambridge for Europe if an apology is not given or if the behaviour is repeated. The individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Committee, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is taken.

14. Dissolution

Cambridge for Europe may be dissolved with the assent of three quarters of the members of the Branch present and voting at a general meeting either in person, by proxy or electronically. The Committee shall have the power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the branch. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of debts or liabilities shall be transferred at the committee's discretion to any other institution(s) serving objectives similar to those of Cambridge for Europe or to the European Movement UK.

This constitution was agreed at the General Meeting of Cambridge for Europe on 16/03/2020

Signed **Chair**

Signed **Secretary**

Signed **Treasurer**