

Conservative Transport Group

Constitution

1. Title

The organisation shall be called the CONSERVATIVE TRANSPORT GROUP, hereinafter referred to as the CTG.

2. Aims

- (i) A forum for Conservatives with an interest in, or specialist knowledge of, all forms of transport.
- (ii) A two-way channel of informed opinion on transport matters between the members and Ministers or Shadow Ministers.
- (iii) Consider & comment on Government proposed legislation.
- (iv) Consider transport issues from an informed Conservative point of view and advise Ministers.

3. In furtherance of Such Aims the CTG shall

- (i) Appoint an Executive Committee consisting of the **Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Political Officer**, and five (5) other members. The Officers and committee members shall be elected by and out of the CTG members at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for one year. Officers and committee members shall be eligible for re-election.
- (ii) The Executive Committee Shall:
 - (a) From its members appoint a Press Officer(s), Newsletter Editor, Fund Raiser and other such posts as from time to time may be required. Committee members may hold more than one such post in addition to their elected office.
 - (b) Set up such other committees, including ad hoc committees or area committees, as it sees fit for any purpose deemed necessary for the furtherance of the CTG's aims.
 - (c) Appoint National Liaison Officers for varying transport issues who shall liaise with the Executive Committee and the area committees.
 - (d) Arrange national and regional meetings, seminars, conferences, visits and tours on transport issues as appropriate.
 - (e) Publish a Newsletter and other such publications as the committee deem necessary for the furtherance of the CTG's aims.
 - (f) Do all that is lawful to achieve the attainment of the CTG's aims.

4. Membership

- (i) Full individual members shall be members of the Conservative Party.
- (ii) Associate members, who are not members of the Conservative Party, may not vote or hold office.
- (iii) Joint members shall be two members of the Conservative Party living at the same address. They shall have only one vote and one copy posted to them of CTG publications. Both members are able to stand for office.
- (iv) Honorary members may not vote or hold office other than honorary office.
- (v) Corporate membership shall be open to all organisations who support the aims of both the Conservative Party and the CTG.
- (vi) All organisations who are corporate members shall appoint an authorised representative to attend meetings but may not vote or hold office other than honorary office.
- (vii) The Executive Committee shall, by a two thirds vote of its members present, have the power to refuse membership of the CTG or refuse to accept renewal of a subscription.

5. Subscriptions

- (i) All members shall pay an annual subscription that will be from time to time determined by the committee and confirmed at the following AGM.
- (ii) Membership subscriptions will be due on 1st January each year.

- (iii) Any member of the CTG whose subscription is unpaid for more than 6 months shall, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be regarded as lapsed and his/her/its membership ended.
- (iv) Any member failing to pay a subscription within two calendar months of the date due shall automatically forfeit any voting rights.
- (v) Area committees may charge an additional subscription, if they receive the approval of the Executive Committee.

6. Annual General Meetings (AGM), Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)

- (i) The CTG's AGM shall be held between 1st January and 1st June each year.
- (ii) Only fully paid-up individual members of the CTG shall be entitled to attend and vote an AGM or EGM.
- (iii) Voting shall be by a simple majority on all matters not affecting the constitution.
- (iv) The Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- (v) The quorum for an AGM or EGM shall be 10 or one tenth of the paid up members, whichever is least.
- (vi) The AGM shall elect the honorary officers (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary & Political Officer) and up to five other committee members. Eligibility to stand as an officer: Candidates must have served at least one year as either an officer or a committee member, unless no other candidate is available.
- (vii) The AGM shall confirm the Committee's nomination for President and Vice Presidents.
- (viii) Nominations for the committee (including officers) shall be submitted in writing to the secretary at least 10 days in advance of the AGM and shall be signed by proposer and seconder and bear the signed consent to nomination of the candidate.
- (ix) The Secretary shall send out notice of the AGM at least 28 days before the date of the meeting.
- (x) An EGM may be called by a written request of at least 20 or one quarter, whichever is least, of fully paid-up members to the secretary. The request must state the business to be discussed at the EGM. No other business may be discussed at an EGM than that listed in the original request. The committee must arrange an EGM within 90 days of the written request.
- (xi) The Treasurer shall present the AGM with independently examined accounts for the year that ended the previous December 31st.

7. Powers of the Executive Committee

- (i) The Committee shall nominate a President, who will serve for three years, and not more than four (4) Vice Presidents, who will serve for three years.
- (ii) The committee may co-opt to fill any casual vacancy.
- (iii) The elected members of the committee shall also have the power to co-opt not more than two (2) additional members at any one time who shall serve until the ensuing AGM.
- (iv) A quorum of the committee shall be at least three elected members.
- (v) The committee shall meet at least three times per annum.
- (vi) Voting shall be by a simple majority and the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- (vii) Meetings of the committee may take place by telephone conference if deemed necessary. All decisions so reached must be confirmed at the following conventional committee meeting.
- (viii) The committee shall have the power to dissolve an area committee and transfer the funds to the CTG's central funds.
- (ix) The President is an ex-officio (non-voting) member of the Executive.

8. Area Committees

- (i) Area committees of the CTG must register with, and have their rules approved by, the executive committee.
- (ii) No Area Committee or individual member shall issue any statement on behalf of the CTG that is not in accordance with decisions taken at AGMs or EGMs or by the executive committee.

9. Accounts & Finance

- (i) The CTG shall be financed from subscriptions, donations, surpluses from events, sponsorship and the sale of goods as determined by the executive committee.
- (ii) All monies so raised will be used for the furtherance of the aims of the CTG.
- (iii) A bank account shall be opened in the name of the CTG with such bank as the committee shall decide.
- (iv) The chairman, secretary and treasurer shall be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the CTG.
- (v) Two signatures are required on all cheques.
- (vi) The treasurer shall keep proper accounts and shall present a financial statement at each meeting of the Executive committee.
- (vii) The independently examined accounts shall be presented to the AGM.
- (viii) The independent examiners shall be appointed at the AGM.
- (ix) The officers may enter into contracts on behalf of the CTG with the prior approval of the executive committee.
- (x) No contract shall be entered into above the limit of the uncommitted available funds of the CTG.
- (xi) The officers and members of the executive committee shall be indemnified by the members of the CTG against all liabilities properly incurred by them to the management of the affairs of the CTG.

10. Indemnity

In the execution of the affairs of the CTG none of the members of the executive committee shall be liable for any loss arising by reason of any investment made in good faith by any of them, or by reason of any mistake or omission made whatsoever except where the same is occasioned by his or her own negligence or wilful misconduct in which case he or she alone shall be liable for any loss which may result from acting on the written advice of any counsel, solicitor, accountant or stockbroker.

11. Amendments to the Constitution

Six weeks notice of proposed amendments to the constitution shall be given in writing to each individual member and corporate member. Such motions to amend the constitution shall be only carried if more than two thirds of those present, and entitled to vote, vote for the motion. Proxies shall be recognised by the meeting provided they are in writing, signed by the individual member or the authorised representative of a corporate member and received by the secretary 14 days before the date of the general meeting.

12. Dissolution

- (i) A meeting to dissolve the CTG shall only be proposed at an EGM and shall only be carried if more than three quarters of those present, and entitled to vote, vote for the motion to dissolve the CTG.
- (ii) The dissolution shall take place from the date of the vote or the date specified in the resolution to dissolve the CTG, whichever is later.
- (iii) The Executive committee of the CTG shall be responsible for winding up the assets and liabilities of the CTG.
- (iv) Any assets remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the CTG shall be given to the Conservative and Unionist Party.
- (v) In the event of there being a shortfall in the CTG's funds on dissolution, all the members of the CTG who were paid-up at the time of the vote to dissolve the CTG, shall contribute pro rata to meet any shortfall.