

Constitution of Campaign for State Education

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(amended 19th day of November 2005)

(amended 17th Day of November 2007)

(Amended 20th day of November 2010)

(Amended 12th day of November 2016)

1. NAME

The name of the association hereby constituted is Campaign for State Education (hereinafter called "CASE").

2. AIM

The aim of CASE is to ensure that the highest quality state education is experienced by all, as of right, regardless of race, gender, home circumstances, ability or disability.

3. OBJECTS

The objects of CASE are

(1) To campaign nationally and locally for:

- (a) open access to a fully comprehensive education system at every level
- (b) a locally accountable education system
- (c) the development of a mutually accountable partnership between home, school, the community and those that provide education
- (d) resources to achieve its aim

(2) (a) to support and inform all members to enable them to campaign

- (b) to develop and encourage local groups
- (3) To publicise the achievements of state education.

4. NON PARTY-POLITICAL NATURE

CASE shall be non-party and non-sectarian.

5. POWERS

In furtherance of the said objects but not otherwise CASE shall have power:-

- (1) to employ and pay any person or persons to supervise, organise and carry on the work of CASE and make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of pensions and superannuation to or on behalf of employees and their widows and dependants;
- (2) to encourage the establishment of local groups;
- (3) to bring together in conference representatives of voluntary organisations, local or other education authorities, government departments, other statutory authorities and individuals;
- (4) to promote and carry out or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys and investigations and publish results;
- (5) to arrange and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures, classes, seminars and training courses;
- (6) to collect and disseminate information on all matters affecting the said objects and exchange such information with other bodies having similar objects whether in the United Kingdom or other countries;
- (7) to provide evidence for government and other enquiries;
- (8) to cause to be written and printed or otherwise reproduced and circulated, with or without charging for them, such papers, books, periodicals, pamphlets or other documents or films or recorded tapes (whether audio or visual or both) as shall further such objects;
- (9) to co-operate and enter into arrangements with any authorities, national, local or otherwise, and to obtain from any such authorities any rights, privileges and concessions;
- (10) to accept subscriptions, donations, devises and bequests of and to purchase, take on lease or licence or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire and hold any real or personal estate and to construct, maintain and alter any of the same as are necessary or expedient for any of the objects of CASE and sell, lease or otherwise dispose of or mortgage any such real or personal estate;
- (11) to make regulations for any property which may be so acquired;
- (12) to issue appeals, hold public meetings and take such other steps as may be required for the purpose of procuring contributions to the funds of CASE in the shape of donations, subscriptions or otherwise;
- (13) to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills, cheques and other instruments, and to operate bank accounts?
- (14) to borrow or raise money for the objects of CASE on such terms and on such security as may be thought fit?
- (15) to take and accept any gift of money, property or other assets, whether subject to any special trust or not, for any one or more of the objects of CASE;

- (16) to invest the moneys of CASE not immediately required for its purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit Provided That any investments, securities or property of CASE shall be vested in not fewer than three trustees;
- (17) to make any donation either in cash or assets for the furtherance of the objects of CASE;
- (18) to establish and support any association or body and to subscribe money for purposes calculated to further the objects of CASE;
- (19) to do all such other things as shall further the said objects or any of them.

6. MEMBERSHIP

- (1) Membership of CASE shall be open to individuals who accept and support the objectives of CASE and who have paid such annual membership fee as these rules specify.
- (2) There shall be the following categories of membership with associated rights.
 - a) Standard membership shall be available to those paying the appropriate annual fee. They shall be entitled to attend general meetings where they may vote and stand for office, as well as receive CASE literature and services.
 - b) Concessionary Membership shall be granted to members paying the appropriate reduced annual fee on the basis of low income and at the discretion of the NEC. They shall be entitled to attend general meetings where they may vote and stand for office as well as receive CASE literature and services.
 - c) At the discretion of the NEC, Introductory Membership may be granted to individuals or groups paying a reduced fee for a specified introductory period in order to increase or broaden recruitment. Introductory Members shall receive such CASE literature and services as the NEC determines can be reasonably provided. They shall be invited to CASE general members' meetings but not entitled to vote.
 - d) All categories of members shall be encouraged to make additional donations to support CASE campaigns and initiatives according to their means.
 - e) The appropriate annual fees shall be agreed by the NEC and reported to each Annual General Meeting. From 1st December 2010 they shall be set at £18 (standard) and £6 (concessionary).
- (3) Groups of five or more individuals who are members of CASE may organise local groups with similar objectives to those set out in clause 3.
- (4) Local and national organisations may become subscribers to CASE on payment of such annual subscription as shall from time to time be decided by the Committee. Subscribing organisations may send a delegate to attend general meetings as observers but shall not have any voting rights;
- (5) The Committee shall have the right:
 - a) to approve or reject applications for membership and
 - b) for good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any individual provided that the member concerned shall have the right of appeal to the Committee;
 - c) for good and sufficient reason to terminate the subscription of any individual or organisation;

- d) for good and sufficient reason to withdraw recognition of a local group, provided that the group concerned shall have the right of appeal to the Committee;
- (6) Arrears of fees. The NEC shall ensure that members are reminded when their fees are due to lapse and again within the following six months. If the membership fee remains unpaid for more than six months, it shall be deemed to have lapsed except by express agreement of the NEC.

7. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (1) Subject as hereinafter mentioned the policy of CASE shall be decided and the general management of its affairs shall be directed by a National Executive Committee (in this constitution called "the Committee") which shall meet not less than six times a year and when complete shall consist of not fewer than eight and not more than sixteen individuals (in addition to the honorary officers referred to below) and whose members shall all be individual members of CASE;
- (2) The members of the Committee shall be elected at the annual general meeting in accordance with clause 9(1) hereof
- (3) The Committee shall have power to admit observers to its meetings on such terms as it thinks fit;
- (5) Not fewer than three members of the Committee (who shall all be members of local groups) shall be elected by the votes of groups alone;
- (6) Any employees of CASE shall be under the direction and control of the Committee;
- (7) Election to the Committee shall be for three years.
- (8) Any casual vacancy on the Committee may be filled up by the Committee and any individual so appointed shall hold office until the end of the next annual general meeting and (subject to clause 7(7) above) shall be eligible for re-election at that meeting;
- (9) In addition to the elected members the Committee may co-opt up to two additional committee members who shall serve until the end of the next annual general meeting after co-option;
- (10) Any casual vacancy amongst the Officers may be filled up by the Committee from its elected members and any individual so appointed shall hold office until the end of the next annual general meeting;
- (11) Subject to the terms hereof the Committee may regulate its own procedure and that of its sub-committees;
- (12) The proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated by any failure to elect or any defect in the election, appointment, co-option or qualification of any of its members;
- (13) The Committee may appoint such standing or special sub-committees as it thinks fit and shall determine their terms of reference, powers, duration and composition. All acts or proceedings of such subcommittees shall be reported back to the Committee as soon as possible.

8. OFFICERS

- (1) At the annual general meeting hereinafter mentioned the following honorary officers (who shall all be individual members of CASE) shall be elected, namely a Chairperson, a Vice-chairperson, a National Secretary, a Treasurer and such other officers as a general meeting shall from time to time decide;

- (2) The honorary officers shall hold office until the end of the next annual meeting after their election and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (3) The chairperson and other honorary officers shall be ex officio members of the Committee and of any sub-committee;
- (4) One or more qualified auditors shall be appointed by the annual general meeting which meeting shall determine their remuneration (if any).

9. MEETINGS

- (1) There shall be at least one general meeting of CASE in each calendar year, which meeting shall be the Annual General Meeting of CASE. At least 28 days' written notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to every member by the National Secretary.
At such Annual General Meeting the business shall include the election of Honorary Officers, the election of members to serve on the Committee, the appointment of an auditor or auditors, the consideration of an annual report of the work done by or under the auspices of the Committee and of the audited accounts, and the transaction of such other business as may from time to time be necessary;
- (2) The Committee may at any time at their discretion call an Extraordinary General Meeting. The National Secretary shall within 21 days of receiving a written request so to do, signed by not less than 30 members, and giving reasons for the request, call such a meeting. At least 28 days' written notice of any Extraordinary General meeting shall be given to every member by the National Secretary;
- (3) The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings unless such omission involves the non-receipt of notice by a majority of the members entitled to vote;

10. PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS

- (1) The quorum at meetings shall be as follows:
 - (a) at general meetings, thirty
 - (b) at meetings of the Committee seven of which one shall be an officer
 - (c) at meetings of subcommittees three of which one shall be an officer or such other number or numbers as a general meeting may from time to time determine;
- (2) Save as otherwise herein provided, all questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote. Arrangements for proxy and/or postal voting may from time to time be made by the Committee Provided That no such arrangements shall be made in respect of resolutions concerning proposed amendments to this constitution or dissolution. Individual members acting as delegates of group members may exercise votes as individual members and also as delegates. In the case of an equality of votes the chairperson of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote;
- (3) Resolutions for consideration at general meetings of CASE (except for resolutions that in the opinion of the committee fall to be treated as emergency resolutions) shall be submitted to the National Secretary in writing and signed by the proposer and seconder not later than 21 days before the general meeting at which it is intended to propose the resolution. Resolutions may be proposed and seconded by individual members or by group members;

- (4) Minute books shall be kept by the Committee and all other sub-committees, and the appropriate secretary shall enter therein a record of all proceedings and resolutions;
- (5) The Committee shall have power to adopt and issue Standing Orders and/or Rules for CASE. Such standing orders and/or Rules shall come into operation immediately upon their being made Provided That they shall be subject to review by a general meeting and shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution;
- (6) Not later than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting the National Secretary shall accept nominations conforming to the requirements set out below of individual members or representatives of group members (themselves being individual members) for election as committee members or honorary officers;
 - (a) Nominations shall be in writing and signed by the proposer and seconder and shall be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee, a brief statement by the nominee of his or her experience with CASE, educational interests (including the type of school attended by any children of the nominee), relevant personal history and other activities, together with such other information as the Committee may from time to time prescribe;
 - (b) Nominations may be proposed and seconded by individual members or by group members.

11. FINANCE

- (1) All moneys raised by or on behalf of CASE shall be applied to further the objects and for no other purpose Provided That nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any employee of CASE or the repayment to members of the Committee or of any sub-committee of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses;
- (2) The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of CASE, which accounts shall be audited at least once a year by the auditor or auditors appointed at the Annual General Meeting;
- (3) An audited statement of the accounts for the last financial year shall be submitted by the Committee to the Annual General Meeting;
- (4) A bank account or accounts shall be opened in the name of CASE with such bank or banks as the Committee shall from time to time decide.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- (1) Notice in writing of any proposed amendment to this constitution shall be given to the National Secretary at least 21 days before the meeting at which the amendment is to be proposed. Not less than 7 days' written notice, stating the terms of the proposed amendment, shall be given by the National Secretary to members entitled to vote at the meeting at which the amendment is to be proposed;
- (2) Any amendment to this constitution shall be effective only if it receives the assent of not less than two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote at the general meeting at which the amendment is proposed.

13. DISSOLUTION

- (1) If at any time the Committee decides by a simple majority that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or desirable to dissolve CASE, the Committee shall call a

meeting of all members entitled to vote, of which meeting not less than 28 days' notice (stating the terms of the proposed resolution for dissolution) shall be given;

- (2) If the decision is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote at such meeting the Committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or on behalf of CASE. Any assets remaining after the discharge of proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other institution or institutions (whether or not charitable) having objects similar to the objects of CASE as the Committee may determine.

14. NOTICES

Any notice may be served by the National Secretary on any member either personally or on its appointed representative as the case may be, or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such member at his or her or its last known address in the United Kingdom, and any letter so sent shall be deemed to have been received within ten days of posting.