



Cumbria Humanist Group

CONSTITUTION

Adopted at AGM on 21 January 2009

1) NAME AND OBJECTIVES: The Group shall be called the “Cumbria Humanist Group” and shall have the following objectives:

- To promote the advancement of the principles of humanism;
- To inform the public about the principles of humanism;
- To promote charitable purposes that are compatible with those principles.

2) MEMBERSHIP: Any person who agrees with the objectives of the Group may become a member on payment of the annual subscription. The Executive Committee may refuse to admit as a member, or terminate the membership of, any person whose conduct is, in its opinion, inconsistent with the objectives of the Group.

3) HONORARY OFFICERS: The Honorary Officers shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Group. In addition, the lifetime Honorary Offices of President and Vice-President may be awarded and will not be subject to election.

4) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The general business of the Group shall be administered by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall consist of all the Honorary Officers together with two other members, to be elected annually **at** the Annual General Meeting of the Group. Candidates for election to all Executive Committee posts must be nominated and seconded by Full Members of the Group using the form provided by the Group Secretary.

The Chair of the Group shall be Chair of the Executive Committee. In both of these capacities the Chair shall have the casting vote in the event of a tied vote. This shall be in addition to their personal vote as an ordinary Group Member.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least three times per year, and [at least] seven days notice shall be given to all Committee members. A quorum shall be four members of whom at least three shall be Honorary Officers.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt extra members as it deems necessary, to a maximum of two.

5) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: An Annual General Meeting shall be held in January of each year. It shall receive financial accounts and the reports from the Executive Committee for the year ended the previous thirty-first of December. It shall elect the members of the Executive Committee. The quorum at an Annual General Meeting shall be ten full members of the Group.

6) EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS: An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by the Executive Committee, or shall, on receipt of a requisition signed by at least fifteen per cent of the members of the Group, be convened by the Secretary within six weeks of such requisition. At least twenty-one days' notice shall be given to all members. Only business stated on the notice convening the meeting shall be considered at general meetings other than the Annual General Meeting. The quorum at general meetings shall be ten full members of the Group. In any dispute concerning the affairs of the Group, a general meeting shall be the final authority.

7) FINANCE: The income and property of the Group shall be devoted to the objectives of the Group. Members of the Executive Committee may not receive payment for their services to the Group but may claim in full any necessary expenses incurred by virtue of their office. In the event of the Group having to be wound up, all funds after payment of liabilities shall go to the British Humanist Association. The annual subscription to the Group shall be set by the Annual General Meeting.

8) CONSTITUTION: Subject to the following provisions of this clause, the constitution may be amended by a resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting. The notice of the general meeting must include notice of the resolution setting out the terms of the amendment proposed.

9) AFFILIATIONS: The Group shall maintain its affiliation to the British Humanist Association and to the National Secular Society. Affiliations to other bodies may be sought by resolution at a general meeting.