

Carlisle United Supporters Groups Constitution

1 Context

Name

The Carlisle United Supporters Group (“the Group”) known by its acronym CUSG, is formed from representatives of independent supporters’ groups of Carlisle United (“the Club”) and individual supporters.

2 Objective

The objective and purpose of CUSG is to provide:

- a forum for supporters to work together in collaboration with representatives of Carlisle United to improve the Club and build strong relations
- an opportunity for supporters and Club to engage with the Club:
 - o give feedback
 - o raise concerns
 - o make suggestions and share ideas
 - o receive updates and key communications from the Club
- an opportunity for the Club to engage with supporters
 - o consult and seek opinions
 - o communicate plans
- implement supporter focused initiatives

The Group will be transparent and open in its activities.

3 Operation

Meetings will take place every 4-6 weeks or when it is felt necessary by the group. Should the Chair be unavailable for a meeting, mutual agreement will be reached between members as to a Chair for that specific meeting.

Meeting minutes and action plans will be agreed by the attendees and be published on the Club’s website.

4 Membership

Carlisle United Supporter Groups is committed to the values of equality, diversity and inclusion in our group and among our constituent member groups.

The initial founder members of the Group were:

- Route A66 Travel

- Carlisle United Official Supporters Club
- Disabled Supporters Group
- Scottish Supporters Group
- Carlisle United Supporters Away Travel
- Carlisle United Supporters Club London Branch

The Cumbrians.net joined in 2019 and the LGBTQ+ group joined in 2020.

Each supporters' group is responsible for nominating their own representatives to the Group.

No group has the authority to change the constitution of any other group

Membership will be capped at a maximum of 2 representatives from any one single supporters' group.

Fans who are non-affiliated to a specific supporters' group, may be invited to be members of the Group by agreement of the existing CUSG members or request to join. A maximum of 4 can attend any one meeting.

Should any representative be suspended or expelled the reason for this will be recorded in the minutes of a meeting.

The Club will nominate up to 4 attendees for each meeting to which they are invited. The Supporter Liaison Officer (SLO) joined the group in 2019.

5 Roles

The Group will elect the following positions and review each close season:

- Chair
- Diversity officer
- Treasurer
- Supporters Liaison Officer

A note taker will be a volunteer from the membership of the Group, as will those to fill roles such as events coordinator, communications officer and fundraising lead.

Should the Chair position become vacant, the role profile agreed by members in June 2021 and available on the Club website shall be used to advertise the vacancy. Applicants will be asked to submit a written personal statement on their suitability. Applications will be short listed following review from all members and suitable applicants invited to a group meeting. At the conclusion of this meeting a vote will take place to determine the preferred applicant. Each membership group as listed in section 4 will have one vote but only on the basis a representative is at the meeting. Should the vote be tied between candidates, the outgoing Chair can cast a deciding vote or choose to abstain.

6 Finances

The treasurer will be responsible for the management of funds. Two cheque signatories will be required, one of which should be the Treasurer for any aggregate spend of up to a total of £500 between any two consecutive CUSG meetings. Any single expenditure in excess of £500 must be approved in advance by the group and recorded as such in the minutes of the meeting when it was approved.

Bank statements will be sent to the Treasurer who can challenge and seek an explanation for any spend. The Treasurer will produce a simple summary of income and expenditure twice yearly to be included in the minutes.

7 CUSG will not look to loan any funds.

8 Agenda items

Should any group have an item they wish to bring to a meeting they should inform the **Chair** no less than 7 days in advance of that meeting so that the item can be circulated to all members of the group.

9 Fundraising

Any fundraising undertaken by the Group will be for the benefit of Carlisle United supporters.

10 Fees

No subscription fees are payable.

11 Membership

No membership fee is required as this is not a membership organisation.

12 Disciplinary

Any disciplinary issues will be dealt with by the group. Outcomes to be recorded but not made available outside the meeting.