



Buckinghamshire South Liberal Democrats

(Beaconsfield Constituency)

Minutes of AGM held on Thursday 21st November 2019 at Burnham Football Club

Attendance: 26 as per attendance sheet.

Apologies: No apologies were received.

Speaker: Lord Fox, Liberal Democrat spokesperson on Business and Industrial Strategy talked of working cross-party in the Lords where this is the usual practice as no party has a majority and how the House of Commons is going to have to adopt this method of working. He gave a review of the plans of other parties and of our newly published manifesto and noted that principled people were joining us. Lord Fox answered questions on taxing multi-national companies, the future of UK manufacturing, what reforms he envisaged for the EU if we remained and how to get our message across to Leavers.

Business

Minutes: The minutes of the last AGM, held on 25th October 2018 were approved (proposed by Nick Jarrett and seconded by Julian Ingram).

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Report from the Chair:

Carol reported that we had delivered one FOCUS leaflet but plans to start campaigning for the unitary authority elections next year had not got underway. The group had supported People's Vote street stalls and marches as well as leafleting and publicising events.

There is a new website through which people can join the party and set up donations. Emails can be sent that are fully GDPR compliant.

The local party is now calling itself Buckinghamshire South Liberal Democrats, (rather than Beaconsfield LD), which is not perfect but is at least inclusive of all the towns and villages in the constituency.

There was now a new public Facebook page and a closed Virtual HQ.

In September the local party selected Rob Castell as Prospective Parliamentary Candidate. Rob hit the ground running, producing a superb introductory video which can be seen on the website or Rob's Twitter account. Rob then generously stood aside in agreement with the party in order to support Dominic Grieve standing as an Independent.

General Election – a lot of people had shown interest in the Liberal Democrats as a result and people are working cross-party. We can build on this for the future encouraging people to stand in the unitary elections and to deliver leaflets.

Sarah Greene added that the general election campaign to elect Dominic Grieve as an Independent was powered by the people in the room. It was giving Liberal Democrats an amazing name far beyond the boundaries of this constituency sending out a powerful message about cross-party working.

Treasurer’s Report:

Jeff distributed copies of the Statement of Accounts, explaining changes year on year and invited questions. There were none. Jeff was thanked for his careful stewardship of the finances.

Membership Report:

Carol reported that membership had risen from 200 to 325. A Membership Development Officer was sought.

Election of Officers:

POSITION	NAME	PROPOSER	SECONDER
CHAIR	Carol Linton	Peter Chapman	Nick Jarrett
VICE-CHAIR	Andy Ford	Nick Jarrett	Diane Holden
TREASURER	Jeff Herschel	Peter Chapman	Nick Jarrett
SECRETARY	Diane Holden	Peter Chapman	Nick Jarrett
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	Julian Ingram	Carol Linton	Diane Holden
DATA OFFICER	Neil Smith	Carol Linton	Diane Holden
DIVERSITY OFFICER			
MEMBER 1	Peter Chapman	Diane Holden	Carol Linton
MEMBER 2	Paul Burden	Carol Linton	Nick Jarrett
MEMBER 3	Chris Woolley	Peter Chapman	Carol Linton
MEMBER 4	Barry Clarke	Nick Jarrett	Carol Linton
MEMBER 5	Nick Jarrett	Carol Linton	Diane Holden

The business meeting closed at 8.15pm followed by a talk from Rob Castell on the campaign as not the candidate and some observations from Dominic Grieve as the actual candidate. The fund-raising raffle of many prizes was then drawn. Thanks to Paul Burden for organising it.