

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING High Peak Liberal Democrats**

***Date: Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017***

***Venue: Dove Holes Community Centre, Dove Holes***

## ***PART 1***

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Attendance**

B Atkins, R. Atkins, A. Forbes, M Heywood, D Lomax, R Lyon, J Poulter, D Rayworth, B Taylor, C Weaver, M Weaver and S Worrall.

#### **2. Apologies**

A Debes, B Musgrave, P Roberts, J Simm, C Wass, M Whorrall and M Williams

#### **3. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting held on 18th November 2014**

It was proposed by Alistair Forbes and seconded by David Lomax that the minutes of the AGM held on 15th December, 2016 be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

#### **4. Reports from:-**

##### **4.1. Chair**

The Chair noted that it had been an interesting and exciting year with a lot of things going on, meetings had been attended by a good mix of new and old voices and that it was now time to look forwards.

In terms of elections Beth Atkins successfully defended New Mills and Hayfield Division in the Derbyshire County Council elections whilst David Lomax narrowly failed to retain Whaley Bridge and Blackbrook. Alistair Forbes and Adam Scotts efforts in raising our profile in Buxton were noted. In the General election everyone was shocked when the Labour candidate, who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in Whaley Bridge and Blackbrook in May, won in High Peak in June. Charles Lawley managed to increase the Liberal Democrat vote share but has now left the party, thanks were given for this efforts. More recently Alistair Forbes made a good showing in a High Peak Borough Council by-election in Limestone Peak.

Margaret Weaver was awarded the activist of the year award.

#### **4.2. Treasurer**

The Treasurer presented her report to the meeting.

#### **4.3. Membership Development Officer**

The Membership Development Officer reported that membership currently stood at 151 members which was up from 134 at the last AGM, but down from the 171 reached just after the General election.

The passing of long standing member Ann Strudwick was sadly noted, Adam Scott had left a condolence card with her husband Geoff.

There had been ongoing issues with regards to the membership lists on the email system but these were seemingly now resolved.

#### **4.4. Conference Representatives**

Barrie Taylor reported that the Federal Bournemouth conference had been very good, that the new crop of MPs seemed excellent and that Vince Cable appeared to be getting more positive media exposure as leader than Tim Farron had received.

#### **4.5. Liberal Democrat Groups**

##### **4.5.1. Derbyshire County Council**

Beth Atkins reported that despite their being only 3 Liberal Democrat Councillors on Derbyshire County Council they were working effectively and well together.

##### **4.5.2. High Peak Borough Council**

David Lomax reported that High Peak Borough Council was still facing financial issues and assets were being considered for sale in order to reduce costs. The money saved as part of the new waste disposal scheme was welcome but was not enough on its own, looking at heritage funding for maintenance of some of the old buildings owned by the Council.

Ray Atkins reported that a new committee had been formed "Economy and Growth" in order to try and stimulate the local economy.

#### **5. To note the Accounts for 2016**

The 2016 accounts were duly noted.

#### **6. Appointment of Independent Examiner for the 2017 Local Party Accounts**

Andrew Garner was appointed as the Independent Examiner for the 2017 Local Party accounts.

## **7. Dissolution of existing party**

Roy Lyon proposed the following motion.

“ The members of the High Peak Liberal Democrats agree to disband as per close of the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 and to reconvene with the Members in their different Local Authorities as per the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018”.

Barrie Taylor seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

## ***PART 2***

### **1. Convening new party**

Roy Lyon proposed the following motions.

“That the High Peak Liberal Democrats be established as a Local Party of the Liberal Democrats in accordance with the Party constitution and as the successor within the area of its predecessors.”

“That the Model Constitution for Local Parties (England) be adopted as the Constitution of the Local Party”.

Barrie Taylor seconded both motions.

The motions were passed unanimously.

### **2. Election of Honorary President**

It was proposed by Stephen Worrall and seconded by Chris Weaver that Barrie Taylor be elected as Honorary President. This motion was carried unanimously.

### **3. Election of Officers, Executive Committee Members**

#### **3.1. Chair**

It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by Margaret Weaver that Roy Lyon be elected as Chair. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **3.2. Vice Chair**

It was proposed by Alistair Forbes and seconded by David Rayworth that Stephen Worrall be elected as Vice Chair. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **3.3. Secretary**

It was proposed by Stephen Worrall and seconded by Barrie Taylor that Alistair Forbes be elected as Secretary. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **3.4. Treasurer**

It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by Beth Atkins that Margaret Weaver be elected as Treasurer. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **3.5. Membership Development Officer**

It was proposed by David Rayworth and seconded by Margaret Weaver that Alistair Forbes be elected as Membership Development Officer. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **3.6. Data Officer**

It was proposed by Margaret Weaver and seconded by David Rayworth that Stephen Worrall be elected as a data officer. The motion was carried unanimously

### **3.7. Youth Officer**

It was agreed that all members under 25 would be circulated to gauge interest.

### **3.8. Executive Committee member**

It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by David Rayworth that Alan Debes be elected as an Executive Committee member. The motion was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Chris Weaver and seconded by Alistair Forbes that David Rayworth be elected as an Executive Committee member. The motion was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Ray Atkins and seconded by Beth Atkins that Chris Weaver be elected as an Executive Committee member. The motion was carried unanimously.

## **4. Election of Federal and Regional Conference Representatives**

### **4.1. Federal Conference Representatives**

It was noted that this position no longer existed as due to the implementation of one member one vote all party members can vote at conference.

### **4.2. Regional Conference Representatives**

It was noted that this position no longer existed as due to the implementation of one member one vote all party members can vote at conference.

The meeting closed.