**High Peak Liberal Democrats**

**Constituency Executive Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 30th January 2018**

**at**

**The Oakwood, Glossop**

**PART ONE**

1. **Present**

E. Atkins, R. Atkins, A. Debes, A. Forbes, D. Lomax, R. Lyon, J. Patterson, B. Taylor, C. Weaver, M. Weaver, M. Whorall and S. Worrall.

1. **Apologies**
2. Scott, D. Rayworth, J. Good and J. Simm.

1. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by Alan Debes that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October, 2017 be accepted. This was carried.

1. **Matters Arising** 
   1. Stephen Worrall reported that the Glossop level of “active support” was low; he suggested that a single ward should be focused on, but that little financial support should be given. (Item closed)
   2. Alistair Forbes reported a similar situation in Buxton, active candidates are only likely in Corbar (Adam Scott) and Temple (Alistair Forbes). A second candidate for Corbar has been targeted but not yet confirmed.(Item closed)
   3. Barrie Taylor agreed to print the previously circulated residents’ survey which would be distributed in February/March (**Action - Barrie Taylor).**
   4. Alistair Forbes agreed to publish a members’ survey via Survey Monkey before the next Committee Meeting (**Action - Alistair Forbes**)
   5. The members’ newsletter was distributed in January 2018 by Barrie Taylor and Margaret Weaver. It was agreed that similar newsletters would be published in May and September (**Action - Barrie Taylor and Margaret Weaver**).
2. **Business Matters**
3. **General Data Protection Regulations**

The Data Officer explained that Party HQ would perform an audit of the data and records held by the High Peak Lib Dems, in order to ensure full compliance with forthcoming changes in data protection legislation. It was proposed by Stephen Worrall and seconded by Chris Weaver, that a separate meeting should be convened to address this issue. Stephen Worrall agreed to circulate Lib Dem GDPR guidance to all party Execs prior to that meeting (**Action – Stephen Worrall).**

1. **Ruth George Brexit meetings**

The Buxton and Glossop meetings organized by Ruth George MP to gauge local feelings regarding Brexit were well attended with several Lib Dem members and supporters posing questions to Ms George. It was agreed that Stephen Worrall would write a letter to the Glossop Chronicle and Buxton Advertiser to draw attention to Lib Dem opposition to Brexit and to advocate for a referendum on the final deal before Brexit occurs (**Action – Stephen Worrall**).

It was agreed that High Peak Lib Dems should reach out to anti-Brexit groups and that it would be helpful to have a nominated anti-Brexit point of contact. Alistair Forbes agreed to approach Frank Swallow to see if he would be willing to take on this role (**Action – Alistair Forbes**).

It was noted that there was an anti-Brexit stall planned for 24th February at the Arches in central Glossop.

1. **HPBC 2019 elections – strategy update**

Ray Atkins informed that meeting that a Focus had been distributed in New Mills before Christmas. It was noted that leaflet writing and distribution was behind schedule and that the level of activity would need to be increased if a successful 2019 campaign was to be achieved.

Candidates for target wards had not yet been identified, particularly for Blackbrook. It was agreed that the minimum target for 2019 was to retain both seats currently held and to achieve second places in target wards. However, if campaigning is started early in 2018, gains in target wards were a realistic possibility.

It was agreed that paper candidates would be sought for every ward, so that all High Peak electors have the opportunity to demonstrate their support for the Lib Dems.

1. **Local campaign themes for 2019 HPBC elections**

A lively debate was held, but no consensus on election themes across the High Peak were identified. It was agreed that candidates should circulate to other candidates the themes that they were planning to raise, in order to ensure that consistent appeals to the electorate were made. David Lomax reminded the meeting that policy pledges for the HPBC elections must only be on matters that are a HPBC responsibility as opposed to DCC matters.

Given the importance of this item and the preceding one, it was agreed that they should be addressed at the next Committee Meeting, which would have a single-item agenda focused on the 2019 HPBC campaign.

1. **Reports**
2. **Membership Report**

It was agreed that Alistair Forbes, Stephen Worrall and Barrie Taylor would have access to the membership database. Current membership was 149. Membership would need to grow to 150 before 31 March 2018 to enable retention by High Peak Lib Dems of 18% of membership subscriptions (rather than 3%) and to reach 160 in order to retain 33% of subscriptions to be retained. It was agreed that any potential members should be encouraged to join the Lib Dems before the end of March (**Action – All**).

1. **Treasurer’s** **Report**

Margaret Weaver informed the meeting that party funds remained stable. A full report would be given at the next meeting.

1. **County Councillor’s Report**

Beth Atkins updated the meeting on local issues being progressed in New Mills.

1. **Borough** **Councillor’s Report**

David Lomax informed the meeting that the cost of renovating the old buildings owned by the Council was proving problematic and that it was likely some buildings would be sold and newer more economic premises found.

1. **2018 Exec Committee Calendar and locations**

It was agreed that 2018’s Exec Committee meetings would be held on the following dates:

* 27 February in New Mills
* 27 March in Whaley Bridge
* 24 April in Chapel-en-le-Frith
* 22 May in Buxton
* 26 June in Hayfield
* 24 July in Glossop
* 28 August in Hope
* 25 September in Buxton
* 23 October in New Mills
* 27 November in Chapel-en-le-Frith (AGM)
* 8 January 2019 in Whaley Bridge.

1. **AOB**

Nil.

**Action Points**

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| **Action** | **Responsible** | **Time scale** |
| Residents’ survey | Barrie Taylor | ASAP |
| Members’ survey | Alistair Forbes | ASAP |
| Members’ newsletter | Barrie Taylor and Margaret Weaver | May 2018 |
| Arrange GPDR pre-audit meeting | Data Officer | ASAP (NLT 28 Feb 2018) |
| Letter to local press about LibDem anti-Brexit policy | Stephen Worrall | ASAP |
| Ask Frank Swallow to be anti-Brexit liaison officer. | Secretary | ASAP |
| Encourage potential members to join the party | All | 31 March 2018 |