

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING High Peak Liberal Democrats

Date: Wednesday, 30th November 2011

Venue: The Royal Hotel, Hayfield

AGENDA

1. Attendance

R Atkins, R Hobson, D Lomax, R Lyon, B Musgrave, J Simm, A Stevens, T Stroner, A Strudwick, G Strudwick, B Taylor, S Worrall.

2. Apologies

P Ashenden, E Atkins, A Bickerton, R Bickerton, C Hannell, M Harrison, G Hewitt, S Holt, E Longden, M Serby, A Shaw.

3. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting held on 24th November 2010

It was proposed by Bob Hobson and seconded by David Lomax that the minutes of the AGM held on 24th November, 2010 be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

4. Reports from:-

4.1. Chair

The chair had submitted his apologies but not a report. In the chair's absence the meeting was conducted by the Vice Chair, Alistair Stevens.

4.2. Treasurer

There currently being no Treasurer, the President, Barrie Taylor, who had overseen finances for the previous six months, presented an income and expenditure sheet current to 30th November 2011.

The sheet presented a summary of the constituency, but not the branch, accounts for both 2010 and 2011. The 2011 accounts showed income of £3609.72, expenditure of £3282.72 and cash in the bank of £812.41.

It was noted that a decision concerning the printer lease would be needed early in the New Year and that that would have financial implications.

The President was thanked for overseeing the accounts for such an extended period.

4.3. Membership Report

The membership secretary had submitted a report indicating that membership had fallen from 107 to the current membership of 77. It was reported that a considerable number of members had lapsed and that it was important to seek to restore their membership in the New Year.

The membership secretary's report also covered access to the website. From January 2011 to the end of November 2011, 20389 visits had been made at a cost of 1.15 pence per visit. Thanks were expressed to Ann and Geoff Strudwick for their support of the website, but concern was expressed at the potential danger of an over reliance on the website as the principal channel of communication.

Warm thanks were expressed to Shirley Holt, the retiring membership secretary, for her contribution and input over the past twelve months. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be issued on behalf of all members.

4.4. Conference Representatives

The President reported that the Birmingham conference had been a most positive meeting.

4.5. Liberal Democrat Groups

4.5.1. Derbyshire County Council

County Councillor Taylor reported on concern about the adult care policy and on the county council boundary review. He reported that the effect of the boundary review on the High Peak was likely to be minimal.

4.5.2. High Peak Borough Council

It was reported that:

- Ray Atkins is now the leader of the Liberal Democrat group as David Lomax is fulfilling his term of office as mayor.
- The link to Staffordshire Moorlands was now embedded.
- The Labour party had taken control of the Council and passed an emergency budget. Within the budget all High Peak borough councillors had access to £1000.00 to support specific projects within their area.

5. Motions to AGM

It was proposed by David Lomax and seconded by Brian Musgrave, "That the two branch structure currently used to further the objects of the High Peak Constituency be abandoned and appropriate

amendments made to the constitution with the intention of operating regular constituency executive committee meetings and, as required, general meeting for all constituency party members.”

The motion was carried unanimously.

It was agreed that, in the light of the motion being passed, the constitution would be reviewed in January 2012.

6. Election of Honorary President

It was proposed by Ray Atkins and seconded by Bob Hobson that B Taylor be elected as honorary president. The motion was carried unanimously.

7. Election of Officers, Executive Committee Members

7.1. Chair

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

7.2. Vice Chair

It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by Ray Atkins that Alistair Stevens be elected as Vice Chair. The motion was carried unanimously

7.3. Secretary

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

7.4. Treasurer

It was proposed by David Lomax and seconded by Ray Atkins that Bob Hobson be elected as Treasurer. The motion was carried unanimously.

7.5. Membership Development Officer

It was proposed by Stephen Worrall and seconded by Bob Hobson that Barrie Taylor be elected as Membership Development Officer. The motion was carried unanimously

7.6. Data Officer

It was proposed by Stephen Worrall and seconded by Bob Hobson that Alistair Stevens be elected as a data officer. The motion was carried unanimously

7.7. Executive Committee Members

It was noted that all county and borough councillors are ex officio members. Maeve Serby, Jane Simm and Tobias Stroner were elected as Executive Committee members.

It was noted that in the light of the motion passed (see 5 above) amendments may be needed to the constitution in relation to election to the executive committee and it was agreed to review the situation in January 2012.

8. Election of Federal and Regional Conference Representatives

8.1. Federal Conference Representatives

The following members were duly nominated as representatives: S Holt, B Taylor, S Worrall.

8.2. Regional Conference Representatives

The following were duly nominated as representatives: R Atkins, S Holt, M Serby, B Taylor, A Stevens, T Stroner, S Worrall.

9. To note the Accounts for 2010

The 2010 accounts were duly noted.

10. Appointment of Independent Examiner for the 2011 Local Party Accounts

It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by David Lomax that Margaret Weaver be asked to fulfil the role of independent examiner of all branch and constituency accounts. The proposal was carried unanimously.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.