

**High Peak Liberal Democrats**  
**Constituency Executive Meeting**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**at**

**New Inn, Chapel-en-le-Frith**

**PART ONE**

It was agreed that in the light of the Chair having been selected as PPC, the Vice Chair, Mike Harrison, would take the 'chair' during the meetings leading up to the General Election

**1. Present**

Beth Atkins, Alan Debes, Mike Harrison, Bob Hobson, Shirley Holt, Glynn Jennings, David Lomax, Roy Lyon, Alistair Stevens, Barrie Taylor.

**2. Apologies**

Ray Atkins, Edith Longden, Brian Musgrave, Hazel Perry, Ann Strudwick, Geoff Strudwick

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was proposed by Alistair Stevens and seconded by Barrie Taylor that the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

**4. Matters Arising**

- i. It was noted that Brian Musgrave is in the process of arranging a meeting of the Liberal Hall Trustees.
- ii. It was noted that discussions were in hand to arrange a 'Race Evening'.
- iii. The nominations for the Executive Committee from the North and South branches were noted.
- iv. It was noted that a drive on the recruitment of students was scheduled for September, 2010.

- v. Members were urged to promote the '200 Club'.
- vi. It was noted that the North Branch accounts had been submitted to the Treasurer.
- vii. The Secretary reported that it had been decided, in consultation with the appropriate County Councillor, not to write on emergency planning arrangements as representations had already been made.
- viii. The Secretary reported that he had written to both the Returning Officer and A Macdonald concerning the PPC complaint.

## **5. Executive Committee composition**

The North and South branch nominees for the Executive Committee were accepted.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported:

- i. A bank balance of £3375.79.
- ii. '200 Club' – that there are now 23 members.
- iii. That the year to April 2009 accounts had been completed. It was proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by Alistair Stevens that the accounts be accepted. This was carried unanimously. The 'Acting Chair' will sign the accounts which will be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010.
- iv. That he had purchased stationery to facilitate direct mailing to those members with postal votes.
- v. That he was pursuing the issue of a lease of a piece of office equipment and the constituency's liability.

## **7. County Council Report**

County Councillors Atkins and Taylor reported:

- i. Budget proposals had been received. The county councilors had supported an unsuccessful amendment to allocate £0.5 million to increase apprenticeships. The County Council precept for the Council Tax had been increased by 1.5%.

## **8. Borough Council Report**

Borough Councillors Harrison and Lomax reported as follows:

- i. The Borough Council was to debate a proposed 1.5% increase in its council tax on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ii. £1.8 million savings were scheduled over the forthcoming three years.
- iii. The Borough Council balances were to be reduced by £600,000+.
- iv. The use of 'green bins' for food waste was to become operational in April 2010.
- v. The Borough Council five year plan is to be discussed at the next meeting. It was reported that the affordable housing and recycling targets were regarded as lacking in ambition. Concern was expressed that the County Council waste conversion scheme was in difficulty.
- vi. A continuing concern about a lack of effective communication with officers servicing the High Peak/Staffordshire Moorlands Alliance.
- vii. The Glossop waste site has been closed and that plans to develop the Birch Vale quarry site were in existence.

## **9. A.O.B.**

- i. There were no matters of any other business

## **10. Date of the Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at the New Inn, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

# **PART TWO**

## **11. North Branch AGM Minutes**

- i. A minute from the North Branch AGM held on 19th November 2009 relating to the position of the previous PPC was discussed. After an extended discussion and a number of proposals, the proposal that the minute be noted but no action taken, as proposed by Barrie Taylor and seconded by Alistair Stevens, was carried.

## 12. PPC

- i. It was officially noted that Alistair Stevens had been selected at the new PPC. The meeting offered congratulations and best wishes.

## 13. General Election

- i. Planning for the General Election was outlined:
  - i. The PPC outlined interviews given, communication with the local press and his intention to use 'facebook' as part of his communication process.
  - ii. The meeting to formulate the campaign approach had budgeted for, a leaflet for every household, a 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to every household, courier delivered leaflets and a poster campaign.
  - iii. The development of campaign literature is to be undertaken by Shirley Holt and Ray Atkins
  - iv. An agent has still to be appointed.
  - v. The total budget was noted as £5000+.
  - vi. Postal Vote letters are to be issued.
  - vii. The campaign is to focus upon national issues supplemented by the local issue of affordable homes.

## Action Points

Action	Responsible	Time scale
Submit year to 4/2009 accounts	Bob Hobson	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2010