

High Peak Liberal Democrats
Constituency Executive Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 11th January 2011
at
The Old Pack Horse, Chapel-en-le-Frith

PART ONE

1. Present

Alan Debes, Mike Harrison, Shirley Holt, David Lomax, Roy Lyon, Alistair Stevens, Barrie Taylor.

2. Apologies

Laurie Barlow, Maureen Hargreaves, Brian Musgrave, Jane Simm, John Storey, Ann Strudwick, Geoff Strudwick, David Walker, Linda Walker

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 14th December, 2010 be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

- i. **Item 9** – It was agreed that further clarification of the current development opportunities for the Liberal Hall should be undertaken by seeking a free informal appraisal by a local surveyor and by identifying the cost of any necessary repairs. It was noted that the identification of the cost of repairs was an issue for the Trustees. Alistair Stevens agreed to speak to Brian Musgrave to confirm information on the cost of repairs and the current Trustees. The recent nomination of new Trustees – Ray Acton, Alistair Stevens, Barrie Taylor – was noted as needing confirmation.

5. Treasurer's Report

- i. In the absence of the Treasurer there was no report.
- ii. It was agreed that a budget was needed as soon as possible.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

- i. It was reported that there are currently 102 members. 4 memberships have lapsed and one has moved out of the area and there have been no new members since the previous report.

- ii. The Membership Secretary reported that the website is still being updated and that there may be a need for all members to sign on again. Details of how to do this will be forwarded in due course.

7. County Council Report

County Councillor Taylor reported that the impact of the possible 10% reduction in the budget of all departments was not yet clear. A meeting is being arranged with the Director of Social Services to discuss potential budget reductions.

8. Borough Council Report

Borough Councillors Harrison and Lomax reported as follows:

- i. The financial position is exceedingly constrained.
- ii. An interactive forum relating to the budget has been launched.
- iii. A management restructuring that will result in four executive directors and twenty four managers across the two councils is being undertaken. The process is likely to result in staff redundancies.
- iv. The Buxton swimming pool is expected to open in April, 2011.
- v. The financial settlement with the Parish Council is expected in the near future.
- vi. There continue to be extensive discussions and consultations on planning issues.

9. New Voters

- i. It was suggested that the policy of sending 18th birthday cards be reinstituted. The cards could be paid for from MEP funds and carry an explanation of the tuition fees policy and educational opportunities in Europe. It was proposed by Alistair Stevens and seconded by Barrie Taylor that this be undertaken. The proposal was carried.

10. Draft pre election strategy

- i. Shirley Holt withdrew from the campaign.
- ii. The position agreed at the meeting on 14th December 2010 was noted.
- iii. It was agreed that there was a need to confirm all candidates, both those who currently hold a seat and potential candidates for all other targets seats.
- iv. Barrie Taylor and Alistair Stevens agreed to start the process of confirming potential candidates.
- v. It was noted that all candidates would be subject to the agreed approval procedure.
- vi. The draft approval procedure had been prepared by Barrie Taylor. It was proposed by Alistair Stevens and seconded by Shirley Holt that the procedure be adopted. This was carried unanimously.
- vii. It was agreed that there should be four A4 size communications, two before and two after the 'cut off' point.

11. Fund raising programme and budget

- i. It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

12. A.O.B.

- i. The idea of forming a 'print club' was deferred for future discussion.
- ii. It was agreed that there was a need to discuss at the next meeting the current two branch Liberal Democrat High Peak structure and how best to encourage members to attend and engage in discussion.

13. Date of the Next Meeting

Tuesday, 8th February 2011 at the Old Pack Horse, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

PART TWO

There were no part two items

Action Points

Action	Responsible	Time scale
Liberal Hall	Alistair Stevens to clarify the position with Brian Musgrave	8 th February 2011
Liberal Hall	Mike Harrison to agree informal appraisal with surveyor	8 th February 2011
Confirm candidate list	Alistair Stevens/Barrie Taylor	8 th February 2011