

# Hastings and Rye Liberal Democrats



Annual General Meeting 2019

11.50 – 12.15am Sunday 3rd November 2019

Victoria Room, Royal Victoria Hotel, Marina, St Leonards-on-Sea, TN38 0BD

## MINUTES

*Attendance:* Anne Gallop (Chair), Eve Montgomery (Treasurer), Kate Tudgay (Secretary), Jim Deasley, Lee Grant, Martin Griffiths, Paul Hunt, Emlyn Jones, Chris Lewcock, Bob Lloyd, Stephen Milton, Bill Montgomery, Andrew Mier, Nick Perry, John Tudgay, Nicola Wild.

1. *Apologies for absence:* David Hill, Terry Keen, Jonathan Stoodley, Susan Stoodley.

2. *Introduction:* Anne welcomed the attendees and thanked them for coming.

3. *To receive the Chairperson's Report on the activities of the Local Party and Executive Committee:* *Anne Gallop:* Anne read out her report and listed the achievements over the previous year. She confirmed the sale of the premises on 9 London Road, St Leonards-on-Sea and that a Trust will be set up to administer the fund for the benefit of the local party in the form of interest payments on the capital. She expressed her gratitude to the former Trustees for administering the building for many years. The new postal address was PO Box 305, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN38 1JX and people are able to make contact via the website or e-mail.

Anne confirmed that the Executive had approved the appointment of Nick Perry as the Parliamentary Candidate again and outlined the campaign support being provided and various measures implemented during the year. She thanked all the Members of the Committee for their efforts and felt that the party was in a much better position than a year ago. The aims of the group were better defined and through the updated website had better ways to spread their message. She felt that going forward to 2020 and the Borough Elections with a more solid base and with better preparation that the party would be able to achieve the success they had been working towards.

4. *To consider and note the Accounts of the Local Party. To receive the Treasurer's Report:* *Eve Montgomery:* Eve distributed the Statement of Accounts dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 which had been independently examined. They showed a deficit of £843.86 at the end of 2018. The income for the year of £7,048 (including sales of £1,533) was exceeded by the expenditures of £7,892 partly caused by increased property expenses. She commented on individual expenses incurred to support campaigning and fund-raising. The figures for 2017 did not detail comparative figures as the previous Treasurer had been prosecuted for fraud and the information was not reliable as most documentation was missing. Since she had taken over, she had implemented stringent rules and the financial situation was on a secure footing following the disposal of the property and the setting up of a new Trust. She was grateful to the

regular monthly donors and stressed the need to increase the amount of regular income as part of the fund-raising effort.

Proposed: Stephen Milton

Seconded: John Tudgay

5. *To appoint a person to produce an independent report on the Account: Tudor Nicholls:* Approved.

6. *To receive reports from Conference Representatives on the proceedings of Federal and Regional Conferences:* In the absence of Mr & Mrs Stoodley, Anne read out their report from the Liberal Democrat Conference in Bournemouth on 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

7. *To transact any other business [if any] specified by the Constitution or directed by the Executive Committee:* The motion was put to the meeting to formally adopt Nick Perry as Parliamentary Candidate for the General Election and it was passed unanimously.

Proposed: Andrew Mier

Seconded: John Tudgay

**(Nominations for Officers etc. closed after this item).**

8. *Election of Officers: To elect Officers and Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee for the year 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 to 31 December 2021:*

The current Committee Officers were standing for re-election with the exception of Anne Gallop and Jim Deasley. There being no competing candidates, the following were duly elected unanimously:

- **Chair:** Bob Lloyd
- **Vice-Chair:** Jonathan Stoodley
- **Secretary:** Kate Tudgay
- **Treasurer:** Eve Montgomery
- **Data Officer:** Lee Grant
- **Membership Development Officer:** (to be considered at the next Executive Meeting)
- **Federal Conference Representative:** Stewart Rayment
- **Ordinary Members** (up to 8) The following were proposed, seconded and elected: Jim Deasley, Martin Griffiths, Katy Hunter-Burbridge, Terry Keen, Emlyn Jones, Stephen Milton, Susan Stoodley.

**Ex Officio:** Pamela Brown, Honorary President; Councillors Howard Norton and Andrew Mier; Nick Perry, Parliamentary Candidate; Paul Hunt, Agent.

Proposed: Chris Lewcock

Seconded: Nick Perry

NB: Training for Executive Officers will be available in January 2020 provided by the South East Region.

9. *To Select Candidates for Borough Elections:*

Susan Stoodley	Gensing Ward
Bob Lloyd	St Helens Ward
Eve Montgomery	West St. Leonards Ward

Candidates for the other Wards will be appointed at a later date. Anne invited people to stand so as to cover all Wards in the May 2020 Borough Elections.

Proposed: John Tudgay

Seconded: Paul Hunt

10. *Any Other Business:*

Paul asked the existing candidates to deliver the appeal letters in their Ward.

Nick Perry thanked the meeting for his appointment and asked if people could stay behind for a photograph.

Meeting closed: 12.15pm

Kate Tudgay, Secretary

Anne Gallop, Chair

Date: