

Southend Liberal Democrats Local Party AGM 2020 papers

ITEM 3. Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting

Held on Monday, 11th. November, 2019 at Eastwood Community Centre, Leigh on Sea, from 8.20 pm.

Present: (Changes). Cllr. Carole Mulroney arrived for the AGM. 18 Members present.

Minutes of 2018 AGM: These were read out and agreed as accurate.

Chair's Report: Billy Boulton started recalling the sad deaths of Nora Goodman OBE and Chris Bailey last July. Both of these Members had made a huge contribution to our work in Southend and Essex. Nora was a Southend and County Councillor, was Mayor in the nineties, and was very active in the Eastwood community. Chris Bailey had served as a Councillor in Prittlewell and Leigh, and was our Campaign Committee Chair for many years. He was described as the "Father of the Local Party" who had a good political nose. Billy then said that we had enjoyed a successful year, with three gains from the Tories in the local elections, and were second to the Brexit Party in the European election, beating both the Tories and Labour. It was encouraging to see so many younger people joining, and getting involved with our activities.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of John Batch, Bob Howes read out the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year 2018. There was no other report, and the financial accounts were agreed and accepted unanimously.

Independent Examiner: Our LP examiner Paul Collins has been serving in this role for more years than he cares to remember, and he feels we should look for a replacement. Billy Boulton has been in touch with an old political colleague, and he waits to hear whether he may be willing to take on the role for us. The Meeting agreed to refer the matter to the next Executive Meeting in December.

500 Club Draws. The November monthly and December draw were not able to be drawn, so the Meeting decided to refer the matter to the December Executive Committee Meeting.

Election of Honorary President: Our President, Mr. Alan Crystall has agreed to serve for another year, and the Members agreed he be duly elected.

Election of Officers: The following Members were elected as Officers of the Association:- Chair: Paul "Billy" Boulton, Vice-Chair: Phillipa Higgins, Secretary: Bob Howes, Treasurer: John Batch, Membership Development Officer: John Curle, Data Officer: Granville Stride, Fund-raising Officer: Vacant, although Katie from Westborough ward said she would like to consider whether it would be possible for her to take on the role. Communications Officer: Refer to Executive, Campaign Chair: Bob Howes, Political Officer: Jessie Skinner.

Delegates to LD Constituent Assembly: Roger Fisher explained that there were 18 positions, and that two delegates wish to retire this year. This matter was referred to the December Executive Committee.

Election of new Vice-Presidents (if required). No new names were offered.

ITEM 4. Chair's Report

At the risk of stating the blindingly obvious 2020 has been a very strange year and no one could have predicted almost anything that has happened.

It is therefore very difficult to objectively state whether our year as a Local Party has been good, bad, or indifferent.

One very definite positive has been to see a significant number of new-ish members, who have joined since 2017, taking up key roles in the Local Party such as Executive Officers and Council candidates and fulfilling the roles very well, bringing fresh ideas and energy.

That is not though to underestimate the role played by some of our longer serving members whose experience, knowledge and wisdom often proves invaluable.

It is a real team effort.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the entire Executive, especially the Officers, who keep the Party running and make sure of essentials such as complying with all data laws and ensuring the accounts are done on time.

I think we can probably all agree that one definite success this year has been the performance of our group on Southend Council, led by Councillor Carole Mulroney.

In the face of (if we're being generous) 'rapidly-changing' guidelines from central Government they have done a fantastic job of keeping residents informed and protecting the vulnerable. They have also made great strides on promoting our environmental agenda, reducing night flights, engaging with the Airport to produce an Environmental Action Plan and developing a new tree strategy with a view to massively increasing the tree cover across the Borough.

Looking forward, the Executive have agreed an ambitious plan to win many more council seats in 2022 and genuinely challenge for at least one of our Parliamentary seats next time round. Work has already begun.

The vital next step on our journey is to win the 3 wards we won in 2019 again in 2021. Our results in 2021 cannot be 'OK'. Win all 3 wards and we have our biggest Council presence for a decade, we are well on the way to making further gains in 2022 and it would almost certainly mean no Tory administration in Southend for at least another 4 years. On the other hand, even if we win 2 of the 3, we're going backwards. So I hope everyone will join me in doing all we can to support our 3 excellent candidates in the Eastwood Park, Leigh, and West Leigh wards.

ITEM 6. Membership Report

During Summer 2019 there was a large rise in the number of members, primarily in Leigh & West Leigh and Southend East branches. During 2020 there has been a gradual fall back. Membership is still above early 2019, but a further 36 members are at-risk.

	Members	Registered Supporters
Wednesday, May 08, 2019		
B&BP	20	
CPW	43	
EP&SL	20	
L&WL	48	
SE	52	
NLR	8	
Total	191	
13 October 2019		
B&BP	26	4
CPW	58	11
EP&SL	26	2
L&WL	73	12
SE	93	20
NLR	2	0
Total	278	49
30 December 2019		
B&BP	26	4
CPW	62	13
EP&SL	28	5
L&WL	73	17
SE	94	22
NLR	3	0
Total	286	61
9 March 2020		
B&BP	27	4
CPW	61	13
EP&SL	25	5
L&WL	72	17
SE	90	22
NLR	3	0
Total	278	61
3 June 2020		
B&BP	26	4
CPW	58	13
EP&SL	24	6
L&WL	73	17
SE	84	23
NLR	3	0
Total	268	63
1 Nov 2020		
B&BP	24	4
CPW	51	14
EP&SL	24	6
L&WL	70	19
SE	73	23
Total	242	66

Job Adverts

Southend-on-Sea Borough Liberal Democrats

Closing Date – Monday ~~11th November 2019~~ ^{9th November 2020}

Local Party Chair

- Chair Meetings
- Keep in touch and direct the activities of the Local Party (LP)
- Links the LP to other levels of the Party
- PPERA responsibilities (jointly with Treasurer)
- Make sure decisions are turned into actions
- Provide leadership in fulfilling the Development Plan

Secretary

- Agendas, venues and minutes of meetings
- Diary of LP Events
- Advises rest of party who Officers are
- Ensures LP keeps to its Constitution
- Provides content for Newsletter

Treasurer

- Prepares budget
- Keeps accounts and records as required by PPERA
- Donation reports
- Advises on Fund-raising programme
- Campaign Expenditure return

Membership Development Officer

- Organise and run membership recruitment and renewal campaigns
- Ensure that the Local Party has a wide range of social and political activities to facilitate member retention
- Ensure that there are regular members newsletters

Data Officer

- Responsible for Membership and Connect data
- Liaise with Membership Services
- Ensures that changes to members data are passed on promptly
- Ensures LP Complies with Data Protection Act

Other Jobs

- Vice Chair
- Political Officer
- Communications Officer
- Fund Raising & Events Officer
- Campaigns Committee Chair

Southend on Sea Borough Liberal Democrats

Nomination Form

Please use this form (or a copy of it) to nominate persons for election as:

Chair	Vice Chair
Secretary	Treasurer
Membership Development Officer	Political Officer
Data Officer	Fund Raising Officer
Youth and Student Officer	New Life President
COMMUNICATION OFFICER	CAMPAIGN CHAIR

Candidate's Details

Name of Candidate	
Please list the positions you wish to stand for	

Full Address:	
Telephone Number(s):	Email:
I agree to be nominated for the above post(s) (Signature):	

Nominated by

Candidates **must** be proposed and seconded by any two members of the Local Party

Names (PRINT)	1	2
Signature		