

## North Devon Labour Party



### Minutes of a CLP Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021

PRESENT: Cecily Blyther, Glynis Walker, Roy Walker, Ian Crawford, Kathie Salter, Annie McVey, Andy McGeeney, Gaynor Howe, Harry Ellis, Jerry Dickinson, Lydia Gladstone, Catherine Bearfield, Mark Cann, Val Cann, Oliver Bell, Steve Hinchliffe, Martin Robathan, Patrick Kelly, Roy Tomlinson, Siobhan Strode, Sean O'Callaghan, Terry Elliot, Paul Arkell, Allan Davies, Nick Agnew, Phil Hawkins

#### 1. Apologies

Lydia Shelton

#### 2. Minutes of CLP Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Agreed

#### 3. Matters Arising

- 4 emergency motions were unanimously voted for inclusion on the agenda (see item 9)
- Ian highlighted the current status of planning and development at Yelland. The Gaia Trust have categorically objected to the development due to wildlife and environmental impact. A demonstration is being held outside Barnstaple Library on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 11am and Ian feels members should be supporting this. Catherine pointed out the vote was split down the middle so protest can make a difference. Terry highlighted how important it is to contact those District Councillors on the planning committee as well as Selaine Saxby
- A working party to look at the members forum was suggested with Siobhan, Lydia, Martin, Ian, Kathie, Sean and Oliver putting themselves forward. Nick will arrange a date for meeting.

#### 4. Ratification of meetings 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 and 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021

The previous meetings that were not quorate were ratified with a majority.

#### 5. Reports

- Membership 495
- Treasurer: see Mark's report as addendum to these minutes

#### 6. Councillors Report

None

OLIVER BELL – MORTHOE PARISH COUNCIL

None

TERRY ELLIOT – ILFRACOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Terry has organised a steering meeting for an Ilfracombe CLT on 9<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm. Publicity material will be circulated in advance

## **7. National Conference**

MAIN DELEGATE

- Martin and Oliver both put themselves forward and addressed the meeting.
- A vote was conducted with Martin receiving 21 votes and Oliver 5, meaning Martin was elected as Main Delegate

SECOND DELEGATE

Siobhan was voted in favour by unanimous vote

YOUTH DELEGATE

Sean was also selected by a unanimous vote

## **8. Campaign Report**

- Mark delivered the report
- He noted that where we can put our efforts behind a local candidate we can make gains
- He'd like to arrange a campaign Committee Meeting as soon as possible to go into more depth and plan for the District elections
- Not entirely satisfied with the Gazette's performance re. leaflet delivery. Mark will ask for a breakdown of deliveries and we will consider other options moving forward

## **9. Motions**

The following motions were debated:

- *This CLP resolves to nominate Hugh Matthews (Torrige and West Devon CLP) for the role of LGBT Officer for Young Labour*

*Submitted by Sean O'Callaghan*

Kathie Salter 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed with a unanimous vote

- *As the Israeli government unleashes a wave of brutal attacks on the civilians of Palestine, this CLP resolves that the Labour Party should oppose any solutions not based on international law, and should reject any trade*

*agreement and arms sales with Israel that fails to recognise Palestinian human rights. The Labour Party should condemn the actions of the Israeli government.*

*Submitted by Sean O'Callaghan with amendment from Martin Robathan*

Passed by majority vote

- ***CLP Motion to Women's Conference on Decriminalisation of Sex Work***

***The Labour Party notes***

*Sex work is work. While it is gendered, stigmatised and often precarious work, it is work that pays the rent and puts food on the table for thousands of families across the UK.*

*Current laws in the UK mean that sex workers are unable to work together for safety (2 sex workers working from the same flat is considered brothel-keeping). The "Nordic" model of legislation (criminalisation of clients) was conceived to reduce demand, but it pushes sex work underground, and greatly increases the dangers of violence.*

*Decriminalisation instead means sex workers can report suspected cases of trafficking to police without self-incrimination. Anti-trafficking laws could be more effective if they did not obliterate the right of adult individuals to gain livelihoods selling sex.*

***The Labour Party resolves:***

*To support and campaign for the full decriminalisation of sex work, as advocated by Amnesty International, Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women; Human Rights Watch; UNAIDS; the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health; Transgender Europe; the World Health Organization, etc.*

*To support the unionisation of sex workers and to respect their demands for labour rights and to improve their working conditions, including occupational safety and health.*

*To campaign against any attempt to introduce the criminalisation of clients, often referred to as the Nordic Model, or any law criminalising the advertisement of sexual services in the UK.*

*To forward this motion to the National Labour Policy Forum.*

*Submitted by Catherine Bearfield*

Ian Crawford 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed by unanimous vote

- **Motion of No Confidence in Kier Starmer**

This CLP believes that the election result in Hartlepool is a disaster for our party. Instead of winning back voters in key working-class areas, we are losing further seats to the Tories.

This CLP believes that this is the result of the rightward turn taken under Keir Starmer’s leadership: abandoning class-based policies, and instead resorting to flag-waving and appeals to big business.

Instead of attacking the Tories, Keir Starmer has spent more time attacking grassroots members, with unjust suspensions and suppression of members’ democratic rights.

For all these reasons, this CLP declares that it has no confidence in Keir Starmer. We call on him to stand down immediately, and for a leadership contest to be set in motion – so that the membership can elect a new leadership that will fight the Tories on the basis of a bold socialist programme.

Submitted by Phil Hawkins

Sean O’Callaghan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried – 14 for, 6 against, 5 abstain

**10. Any other business**

None

**11. Future meetings, events and venues**

- 24<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm – CLP General Meeting

**ADENDUMS**

**NDCLP Meeting Thursday 13 May  
Treasurer’s Report**

<b>Opening Balance on 16 March</b>	<b>£4,289</b>
<b>- Income received (including £1420 refund from the Labour Party European Levy Fund</b>	<b>£1,877</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,166</b>

