

North Devon Labour Party



Minutes of a CLP Meeting held on 30th January 2020

PRESENT: Siobhan Strode, Nick Agnew, Oliver Bell, Isobel Rickard, Hilary Pengelly, Malcolm Cowburn, Grazyna Ellis, Glynis Walker, Julie Edwards, Michael (Grant) Edwards, Donald Kilpatrick, Paul Arkell, Jerry Dickens, Philippa Mackintosh, Glenda Thurley, John Curry, Julie Curry, Steve Hinchliffe, Steve Webber, Katie Baldaro, Sid Baldaro, Jim Baldaro, Colin Hudspith, Dave Sharratt, David Newton, Stephen Parsons, Geoff Bailey, Sarah Bailey, Marion Mason, John Bradley, Harry Ellis, Andreas Adalian, Ian Crawford, Lydia Shelton, David Jordan, Phil Hawkins, Andy McGeeney, Ester McGeeney, Mike Rath, Andy Gill, Adrian Hutchinson, Elizabeth Browne, Nick Thorne, Roy Newton, John Bale, Jim Carnall, Dawn Morgan, Steve Morgan, Mark Cann, Val Cann

Apologies

Rachel Watson, Roy Tomlinson, Sue Monk, Denise Smith, Pam & Toby Ebert, Helen Cooper, John Colwill, Mark Juby, Tamsin Higgs, Gaynor Howe, Ruth McDonough, Fran Martin

Minutes of CLP Meeting 18th September 2019

Were agreed

Matters Arising

- Result of the special Leader/ Deputy Leader Nominations Meeting on 30th January: North Devon CLP voted to nominate Rebecca Long-Bailey for Party Leader and Richard Burgon for Deputy Leader
- Regional Exec Committee Rep nominations – Women's/ BAME/ LGBT+/ Disabilities/ Youth up for election at Regional Conference. Anyone wanting to put themselves forward can self-nominate – Nick will send you form to be submitted by 12pm Friday 7th Feb

Membership update

Total membership stands at 646 – up from 587 at the last CLP meeting

Finance

Balance in Bank Account at 4th Jan: £2,252. Previous report (Oct) £5997. Our election expenses were about £4,800. Mark Cann, as agent, can detail these if required. Donations to the branch for the election were about £1,000.

Executive Committee Report

Due to time constraints caused by the date change of Regional Conference and the General Election, the Executive had to agree on delegates and motion to submit to conference.

Councillors Report

Reports were received from: Ian Crawford, Fremington PC ; Val Cann, Braunton PC; and Oliver Bell, Morteohoe PC

Election Report Delivered by Mark Cann

- Mark thanked everyone for a fantastic campaign
- His perception was that the local response was no different to the last General Election
- There was a small loss of votes due to national circumstances
- For the first time we were able to deliver 2 pieces of literature to every household in the constituency
- Over £1000 of donations were received, with an additional £400-£500 in cash
- There was a strong social media campaign
- Members present expressed their thanks to Mark

Vice Chair – vacancy

Blake Ladley has resigned as Vice Chair. Steve Hinchliffe was nominated for the role by Val Cann and seconded by Siobhan Strode. The vote in his favour was unanimous and we welcome Steve as our new Vice Chair!

Youth Officer - vacancy

Sophie Wilks was nominated by Nick Agnew and seconded by Siobhan Strode. Blake Hawkins was nominated by Phil Hawkins and seconded by Ian Crawford. As neither member could be present at the meeting, the decision was taken to defer selection until the next CLP meeting.

Regional Conference briefing and guidance for delegates

- Steve, Tamsin and Nick submitted by CLP
- Delegates will be contacted individually to confirm arrangements
- Resolution submitted to conference was read out:
North Devon Labour Party believes that many constituencies that do not have a Labour MP should be able to select a candidate to fight the next election as soon as is practicable after the previous election.

We believe that our experience in not being able to select a candidate while other parties did so, placed us at a considerable disadvantage when campaigning and in both 2017 and 2019 when faced with 'snap' General elections we were put in a position where the selection process was greatly curtailed and in 2017 was out of the hands of local members. To address this, we propose that the Party should adopt a rule change that allows all CLPs to put a candidate in place in a timely and democratic manner

We propose that

"Following a parliamentary election in constituencies that do not elect Labour MPs, all the relevant CLPs will choose and appoint a candidate for any future parliamentary election within 18 months of the date of the aforesaid parliamentary election. If the chosen candidate later withdraws for any reason, the CLP will choose and appoint another candidate within three months."

- Visitors tickets now available - £40 or £80 including Gala dinner

Police and Crime Commissioner Candidate ballot

- Oliver Bell took the Chair
- Shortlisted Candidates are: Yvonne Atkinson, Gareth Derrick & Siobhan Strode
- Candidate statements were provided by email and hard copies in the room
- Siobhan was nominated by Phil Hawkins and seconded by Finola O'Neill
- Siobhan was nominated by a unanimous vote

Organising local meetings to discuss Leadership Candidates

- A successful and useful social was held in Braunton on Thursday 23rd Jan
- Ilfracombe have established regular meetings
- A social meeting about the Leadership election is planned for March 5th in Barnstaple – possibly at the Reform in Pilton.

Any other business

- Andy Gill would like leaflets made up for local campaign issues to keep our profile up between elections
- Oli is planning a Facebook meetup for early Feb
- Alternate meeting locations for CLP meetings – a couple of requests from members in Ilfracombe to vary location of CLP meetings. It was agreed the next CLP meeting will be held in Ilfracombe
- North Devon Right to Travel – Gerry has asked us to give date of meeting
Saturday 29 February 11am to 1pm room 3b Barnstaple library
- Ian reminded members of the SERA AGM on Saturday 1st Feb
- Finn told members about the Climate Forum on the 7th March, 2pm at Roundswell

Future meetings, events and venues

- South West Regional Conference, 15th and 16th Feb, Bristol
- CLP meeting 12th March 7pm; venue The Lantern, Ilfracombe.