

	ST ALBANS LIBERAL DEMOCRATS	
	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
	Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at St Stephen's Church Hall, Watling Street, St Albans, Herts. AL1 2PX on Friday 17 th November 2017 at 7.30pm	
	<p>Present: <u>President:</u> John Peters <u>Clarence:</u> Sheila Burton, Andrew Carter, Ellie Hudspith, Paul Jellings, Joyce Lusby <u>Colney Heath:</u> Mike Ketley <u>Harpenden:</u> Zoe Conway <u>London Colney:</u> Carol Prowse, Rob Prowse (chairing the meeting) <u>St Albans East:</u> Danny Clare, Tom McNally, Teri Niadna, Anthony Rowlands (Ashley and Cunningham) <u>St Albans North:</u> Chris Brattle (Batchwood), Susan Evans (Marshalswick South), Charlotte Hogg, Karen Young (Marshalswick South) <u>St Albans Rural:</u> Alan Swinhoe (Redbourn) <u>St Albans South:</u> Ian Williams (Sopwell and Verulam) <u>St Peters:</u> Daisy Cooper, Liz Needham, Alastair Smith, Jacqui Taylor, Chris White <u>St Stephens:</u> Syed Abidi, David Parry, Fran Smith</p>	
Item No	Agenda Item	Action/ Reference Document
1	Apologies	
	<i>Apologies had been received from:</i> Emma Matanle, Juliet McNally, Alison Ross, Matt Taylor, Amanda Williams, John Wright and Iqbal Zia.	
2	Minutes of last year's AGM	
	The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 11 th November 2016 were accepted as true and accurate records of events. There were no Matters Arising.	
3	Reports	
3.1	Chair	
	Rob Prowse gave a report as Chair and mentioned the many achievements over the past year, including reaching a total of 754 members, the setting up of a fundraising team, the many events that have been organised, the success of the Campaign Team in securing positive results in the local party elections in May and in the June General Election the reduction of the	

	majority to 5000 votes, and the continuing work to campaign for the next local elections. He thanked many people in their different roles for their hard work.	
3.2	Report from St Albans City and District Council	
	Anthony Rowlands spoke about the District Council where the Liberal Democrats are in opposition. He mentioned the stepping down of both the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council. Iqbal Zia is now Mayor, Robert Donald is leading the Health and Well-Being Group, Dave Yates has been involved with the Strategic Local Plan. Westminster Lodge is proving to be very successful as an amenity and the new museum is progressing. There are concerns about the crime rate and the responses of police to reports of crime. He thanked all involved in the campaigns this year and paid tribute to the Honorary President John Peters who will leave the role this year.	
3.3	Hertfordshire County Council	
	Charlotte Hogg gave a report about her experiences in her role as a new County Councillor, having joined the party after the Referendum and having wanted to do something about issues in the local community. She thanked her colleagues for supporting her in getting used to the environment at County Hall and to the way the Council operates. Current issues include the withdrawal of funds from Nascot Lawn in Watford. The items of case work she has dealt with within St Albans North have involved a range of people from 18 year-olds to 88 year-olds.	
3.4	Report from Conference	
	Jacqui Taylor gave a report which highlighted how members from St Albans have taken part in this year's conference. She and Matt Taylor led training on how to raise funds in order to become a target seat, and Chris White, Anthony Rowlands, Charlotte Hogg, Ellie Hudspith and Daisy Cooper all took active parts in events, panels and groups.	
3.5	Treasurer	
	Jacqui Taylor gave a report on the finances of the local party and mentioned the many different and very successful types of fundraising which had taken place over the year. As a result income nearly tripled over the year and the party is in a much stronger position, despite the General Election having taken place. Fundraising is continuing because of the possibility of a second General Election.	
4	Appointment of Independent Examiner for the 2017 Local Accounts	
	Liz Needham volunteered to be the Independent Examiner of the 2017 Local Party Accounts.	

5	To note the Accounts for 2016	
	These Accounts were approved by the Executive Committee and submitted to Head Office within the appropriate timescale.	
6	Election of Honorary President	
	Warm thanks were given to John Peters as retiring Honorary President. Alison Steer was proposed and elected as Honorary President.	
7	Election of Officers for 2016. Single nominations were received for the posts, with the exception of the post of Secretary for which no nomination was received.	
7.1	Chair	
	Teri Niadna was elected as Chair.	
7.2	Vice-Chair	
	Emma Matanle was elected as Vice Chair.	
7.3	Secretary	
	There were no nominations.	
7.4	Treasurer	
	Karen Young was elected as Treasurer.	
7.5	Membership Development Officer	
	Danny Clare was elected as Membership Development Officer.	
7.6	Data Officer	
	Jacqui Taylor was elected as Data Officer.	
8	Report from St Albans Interim Prospective Parliamentary Candidate – Daisy Cooper	
	Daisy thanked the Campaign Team and everyone else who ensured that we were ready for the snap election and that the campaigns were as successful as they were. There were a number of events that took place, including the event for Childrens Mental Health Week, a Campaign Day in March that was a dry-run for General Election day and some well-known visitors to the constituency. Lots of leaflets helped with recognition, and massive thanks to Chris White as Campaign Team Chair, also thanks to Jacqui and Matt Taylor,	

	Rob Prowse, Nick Sutton, Emma Matanle (for organising events and also operating a triage system for volunteers), and Anna and Will (canvass leads).	
9	From a New Member's Perspective	
	Chris Brattle spoke about what it was like to have been a member since this time last year, when he attended the AGM 48 hours after joining a political party for the first time in his life. Chris had been motivated to join by the Referendum. Soon after the AGM he attended the first meeting of the Events Team, and he enjoyed the camaraderie but didn't understand who did what in the local party. He had broken his leg when the General Election was called so he helped with stake-boarding. He is enjoying being part of the Membership Engagement Team and is looking forward to new ideas and events.	
10	Any Other Business	
	Rob Prowse thanked Nick Sutton, the Organiser, for his hard work and wished him well in his new post. He reminded members about the Thank you and Leaving Event arranged for 23 rd November. Everyone present was invited to take part in a political discussion led by Daisy Cooper - "The end of capitalism as we know it?" after the formal business of the AGM.	
11	Feedback from St Albans Liberal Printing Society and the Premises Company	
	Ian Williams on behalf of SALPS mentioned the ongoing need for more volunteers. Alison Ross from the Premises Company had provided some details from the Health and Safety perspective and Rob Prowse briefly covered these.	
12	Light refreshments were served.	