

## Liberal Youth Exec Meeting Minutes

Attending: Charlie, Rachel, Stuart, Vicky, Charley, Ryan, Scott, Dylan, Andrew, Declan, Jack, Aria

Apologies: Nate, Ciarán, Tom, Nomi, Tara, Alex, Ems, Michael

Not attending: None

- I. Introductions and reasons for standing
  - A. Charlie commended Andrew and Hannah for work already undertaken as International Officers Elect and Ryan for his work already undertaken as Campaigns Officer Elect
  - B. Main reasons for standing were engagement and wanting to help the party.
- II. 'Handover chat' with predecessors. Predecessors not abundantly present.
- III. Main aims and goals for the year
  - A. Charlie - Chair: finish the rebrand for January, merchandising with the Young Liberals logo, Louise raised question of collaboration, aim of core group of Chair and two Vice Chairs leading with a united front, fighting by-elections with real support (financial included) and action days for upcoming local elections, Charley had advised party fringes to inform the Exec if there are young people running to help us facilitate Charlie's plan, raised issue of Federal Committees and ensuring that we extend this message to the membership, Andrew mentioned that we must show enthusiasm for young candidates, Rachel advised that we should send an email to encourage Young Liberals to go forward for election and said that action days may not always be possible, Aria asked whether the Exec will be organising action days and Charlie advised that we would be but there would be devolution to state parties, Rachel advised that a Campaigns Calendar should be kept by the Vice Chairs, Dylan raised that Action Days aren't always necessarily fun but absolutely necessary in rural places like Cornwall. Charlie also raised 'Young and Winning' as a slogan and really pushing it as a YL message.
  - B. Stuart and Rachel - Co-Treasurers: Ensuring that the accounts are in order, main bank account is now fully under control. Obvious aims to remedy the issues of control of bank accounts, ensure that all monies are accounted for, ensure all accounts are completed and approved through by the Exec. Budget will be planned for the year ahead and asked for all Exec members present and not present to advise the Treasurers of what the funding will be for. Extremely important to submit all questions in writing. Rachel will circulate last year's England proposal to the Exec as an example. RE emphasised the fact that we allocate money by project and not by portfolio. All member email will be circulated asking for proposals. Issue of expenses were raised and RE advised that receipts must be submitted and that we should endeavour to get the cheapest possible option. Fundraising will be a major aim in the coming year and all members of the Exec should help with this in their own way. RE will circulate a set of guidelines regarding how payments will work.
  - C. Ryan - Campaigns: First priority is getting young people elected; phone-banking, action days. Improving our social media presence, improving design of literature. Expanding mental health focus to student carers, focusing on Brexit, renter's rights. Charlie advised that we need to expand our Fresher's campaigns into more than just providing leaflets. Jack asked what went out to Fresher's this year (renter's rights, Erasmus, and a welcome pack). Aria advised that drug legalisation and LGBT messages are extremely popular amongst students, Ryan said that Edinburgh LY expanded its membership by 50% by focusing on the way we worked in government.
  - D. Scott - Welfare: Focused on ableism, ageism, and sexism in his campaign and said that this will be his basis for his year. Chatbox was spoken about and Charlie advised that

there is an amendment to ensure the purpose of the Chatbox is defined and firmed up. Scott would like to make the Code of Conduct more prominent on the Chatbox - Jack advised that admins should send the Code of Conduct to members prior to them joining. Scott said that he'd like to continue with the diversity and engagement agenda that Sam and Ems had. Diversity Working Group will continue to exist under Scott and Charlie (Welfare) will help Scott into the role. Scott asked whether it was possible to facilitate a group chat/Facebook group, Charlie advised that a group email would be set up.

- E. Dylan and Jack - Co Vice-Chairs: Dylan emphasised the three parts of the platform and the need to work with other members of the Exec to achieve them, spoke about the need to give as much help as possible to young minority candidates and to bring this into the #YoungAndWinning strategy.
- F. Andrew - International: Biggest priority is getting Young Liberals into other countries, ensuring that we have clear, concise policy on Brexit, make people aware of international events and publicise them properly, follow up events with a post about what went on etc, getting as many members as possible to sign up for international events and ensuring that diversity is prioritised as well as shared skill sets, outline of LYMEC and the motion we are putting forward, spoke about the safeguarding issues surrounding under eighteens when it comes to international events (DBS checked designated adult, clarification needed on this), advertising through branches a possibility, possibility of extending the invitation to Alliance in NI, also giving the International Officer a slot at Activate to speak about what they've done and also the future opportunities and the possibility of getting international people to attend Activate.
- G. Declan - Chair of Liberal Youth England: Transparency within the party and giving the people more of a run-down on what we're doing as an Exec, co-ordination with Campaigns and Events to ensure that Activate is publicised and well attended, engaging with regional Chairs and ensuring that they do their jobs, possibility of sending membership lists to organisers, branch development obviously being a focus, possibility of the state parties organising campaigns themselves as well as in partnership with Federal.
- H. Aria - Communications: Young Liberals rebrand the main priority, all social medias being changed as soon as possible, finished by January 2017, updating the website regularly and ensuring that all events are well-publicised. Vicki asked if a newsletter would be started and Aria said that there would be and that we needed to decide on frequency, Ryan asked regarding access to social media and the scope that he and Aria had - Charlie advised that replying is encouraged and that replies should be initialled. Charlie also said that need profiles and pictures for the Executive.

#### IV. LUNCH

#### V. Goals for the year ahead

- A. Rebrand by the start of 2017 - website sorted, merchandising (initially sold at conference, if successful then we can start going for postage and packaging as well) will be sorted by the Chairs and Co-Vice Chairs.
- B. Zero resignations
- C. Stop Brexit
- D. #YoungAndWinning - getting young people standing and elected
- E. £3000 of fundraising income, leading to financial independence
- F. Better social media strategy - 10,000 followers on Twitter, 8,000 Facebook likes, expansion of reach to better push international opportunities, our campaigns
- G. Growth in membership - getting the party to ask if they are students when signing up
- H. Engagement of members - transparency and information about roles

- I. Improving visibility of the Executive, improving how we are viewed by bringing in Exec Social Media Code of Conduct, having an Executive Question Time with written questions that the Executive respond to
- J. Visible response to issues with diversity - Vicki suggested that we give extra support to more diverse candidates, Activate sessions regarding the roles themselves, mentoring and support, asking SAOs and AOs to mentor candidates
- K. Vote on primary objectives - unanimously passed:
  - 1. Young and Winning
  - 2. Internal visibility and engagement
  - 3. External visibility and engagement
  - 4. Independence both financial and identity
- VI. AOB
  - A. Committees to be done by next Exec meeting with names passed to Charlie
  - B. Weekly updates/reports from every Exec member, thread to be started by Charlie, to ensure that progress is being made - failure to do so will be minuted at the next Exec
  - C. Honorary Officers will be invited to meetings to be updated and also give their thoughts on the meeting's agenda
  - D. We need to ensure that members are invited to meetings and are aware that they can attend
  - E. We will wait until the new Executive takes office to authorise the by-elections for vacant roles
  - F. Letter from Jas Samrai detailing sexism within Liberal Youth. Exec agreed that Chair and Vice Chairs would write a letter in response with the whole Exec having their input
  - G. Letter regarding Baroness Tonge will be sent by Charlie to the Chair of the English Party
  - H. Vicki let the Exec know of their HQ counterparts and the Exec agreed to have a skills exchange with the counterparts
- VII. Next Executive meeting set for 19/11/16
- VIII. CLOSE OF MEETING