



**Minutes of EYL Executive Meeting  
Held on 6/1/2021 via Zoom**

**In attendance**

WT - William Tench - English Chair  
LJ - Luke Jeffery - Devon and Cornwall Chair  
LC - Loukas Christou - East Midlands Chair  
KF - Kieron Franks - East of England Chair  
SC - Sam Cumber - London Chair  
OJL - Oliver Jones-Lyons - North East Chair  
TDS - Taylor Donoughue-Smith - North West Chair  
JP - Julius Parker - South Central Chair  
YM - Yan Malinowski - South East Chair  
FU - Fergus Ustianowski - Western Counties Chair  
PG - Patrick Gilbert - West Midlands Chair  
AB - Adam Belcher - Yorkshire and Humber Chair  
KM - Katharine Macy - Federal Accessibility, Diversity and Standards Officer

**Meeting begins at 18.01**

WT apologises for late publishing of agenda, and lack of preparedness for meeting due to family illness and bereavement.

**Handover**

WT notes that none of the 2020 Executive who have not already done their handover meetings had indicated their likely attendance.

Executive agrees to move on to the next agenda item.

### **Election of Vice Chair**

WT confirms the list of those who had indicated their willingness to serve as Vice Chair - SC, FU and AB. Invites them to make short statements about why they should be elected.

FU, SC and AB speak about why they would like to be Vice Chair.

Executive Members send their votes to WT: FU has 5 votes, AB and SC have 3 votes. SC is eliminated as AB has more second preferences. On second preferences, FU has 6 votes and AB has 4 votes. FU is elected Vice Chair of the English Young Liberals.

### **Ratification of State Reps**

WT had asked Regional Chairs through email to indicate their preferences for representatives to Federal Committees, reads out proposed list:

Communications: KF

Policy: PG

Campaigns: FU

Diversity: YM

Notes that nobody had indicated preference for the Events Committee and asked if anyone would like to volunteer. Nobody volunteers, so WT indicates he will serve as the English Representative to Events Committee.

WT calls vote to ratify State Representatives. 12 in favour (all bar SC), none opposed and one non voting (SC).

### **Regional Constitutions and Executives**

WT notes that every region now has a constitution. Asks Regional Chairs for ideas for how to ensure that Regional Executives can be effectively filled.

OJL suggests advertising regional newsletters.

FU notes regional emails can be very poor - noting many members hadn't received his AGM calling notices but some ex-members have.

WT suggests that this can be mitigated by having a central typeform for all regions co-opting. Notes this also helps mitigate issues of people being registered in one region but studying or working in another.

Executive agrees to having one Typeform for all regions co-opting without vote.

WT asks for suggestions for how to ensure Executives engage a diverse group of people

OJL suggests contacting local party chairs to see who might be interested. Might not necessarily be more diverse but does widen the net.

KM says that it will be hard to overturn white male bias within YL overnight, but small things that can be done: make spaces more welcoming, make sure Comms pictures aren't all white men. Post everywhere can - use multiple sources eg. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.

WT suggests talking to Diversity Committee members to ask them to post in Facebook groups such as Women and Underrepresented Gender and Disabled YL.

### **English General Meeting**

WT says that he has provisionally agreed the date of the English General Meeting with Eleanor Kelly (Federal Events Officer) to be 19.00 on 17th of February, day before conference.

AB people tend to turn up to English GMs because it is the first thing of the Conference.

WT notes that the Conference was due to begin at 17.00 on the 18th so a 16.00 GM would be too early on a weekday.

KM from Diversity perspective, 16.00 would be too early as people won't take time off of work for online conferences.

AB agrees that this would be too early.

Executive agrees to English General Meeting being at 19.00 on 17th of February without vote.

### **Website**

WT says that he plans to create regional subpages to the English section of the website, and asks what people would like added.

FU offered to make the graphics for the tiles; asks if regional chairs can be given Nationbuilder access so they can edit their region's sections.

WT will ask Aleisha Stansfield (Federal Communications Officer)

SC - Events, action days, contacts and which areas are in each region

FU - Exec minutes as required by constitutions, ability for people to sign-up to regional mailing lists.

## **Training**

WT asks what training Regional Chairs think would be useful

SC - Recruitment and ways to onboard members; how to make use of social media

AB - Agrees with Sam, focus should be on how they can develop and lead members - suggests that we don't need training on things that can be outsourced such as graphics

WT notes that he will be inviting a member of the Federal Executive to each future meeting, asks who the Executive would like to prioritise. Will ask Joel Punwani (Federal Campaigns Officer) to next meeting to discuss English Local Elections

YM notes that local elections may be delayed from May

OJL - suggest Membership and Branch Development Officer given high priority, especially as lots of areas where there are overlap and opportunity for training  
AB and YM agree

Executive agrees to invite Joel Punwani to the next EYL Executive meeting. If the English Local Elections are delayed, Thom Campion (Federal co-Membership and Branch Development Officer) will be invited instead.

## **Working with Northern Liberal Network and Lib Dems for the Heart of England**

OJL - We should make an effort where we can to engage with these groups. Asks if others they think this is valuable

AB - Open to working, not sure what the specifics would entail. Official support goes through the region.

OJL - Would mean YL regions would be represented and helpful to the organisations

TDS - No point pre-guessing, see where it takes us.

## **Frequency of Future Meetings**

WT notes that it is constitutionally mandated to have a minimum of six a year - once every two months. Suggests that we meet either once a month, once every six weeks or once every two months.

SC - Prefers once every six weeks

FU - agrees

AB - Agrees, and notes that we can reassess if we feel that we need them more or less frequently.

WT asks if Regional Chairs would like to submit Officers Reports. Proposes that he doesn't think they're necessary and not required for the constitution.

AB - Thinks that submitting officer reports would be useful but should not be compulsory, allows us to have small discussion where we can support each other

OJL - Benefit of officers reports is it allows members to know what is going on in the region

FU - Good for motivation and allows regional chairs to see and learn from each others successes

WT asks if people would like written or oral reports

SC - Oral

AB - Should allow people to submit written or oral

WT proposes that Officers can submit written reports that will be circulated with meeting documents and space will be set aside in future agendas for oral reports and discussing officer reports. Notes that no officer will be sanctioned for not submitting a report.

Executive agrees to this proposal.

### **Any other business**

WT tells the Executive that England received £200 in the budget and that other budget proposals from England are included in other line items. Was very happy with the budget.

PG says that there is a mistake of the Regional Executive spreadsheet

WT to fix and give Regional Chairs edit permission to spreadsheet.

KF - Asks if regional executives can be added to the YL Slack

WT - Will ask. If not, other means of creating groups such as own Slack, Facebook and WhatsApp.

**Meeting closed at 19.12**

## **Action Points**

Regional Chairs who have not had handover meetings to contact their predecessors to arrange them.

Regional Chairs to prepare Officer Reports for February English General Meeting.

Regional Chairs to contact WT if they would like to set-up a Regional General Meeting before the English General Meeting

WT to give Regional Chairs edit permission for Regional Executives spreadsheet.

WT to ask Jack Worrall and Callum Robertson (Federal Co-Chairs) if Regional Executives could be added to YL Slack.

WT to tell Federal Executive members who the English Representative to their committee are.

WT to set-up Typeform for regions co-opting members.

WT to send a calling notice of English GM before 26th January.

WT to ask Aleisha Stansfield if Regional Chairs can be given NationBuilder access.

WT to invite Joel Punwani to the next EYL Executive meeting. If the English Local Elections are delayed, Thom Campion (Federal co-Membership and Branch Development Officer) will be invited instead.

KM to send Diversity Calendar to Regional Chairs

FU to make tiles for website

OJL, AB and TDS to reach out to Northern Liberal Network

LC and PG to reach out to Lib Dems for the Heart of England