**DATE**: Saturday 16th November

**WHERE:**  Timperley Taverners

**ATTENDEES:** Rose Ackers, Raymond Agius, Jamie Alaise (Interim Chair), Jane Brophy,
Ludo Tolhurst-Cleaver, Pauline Cliff, Toni Crosby, Adam Dean, Shaun Ennis, Will Frass, Anna Fryer, David Kierman, Simon Lepori, Angela Smith, Briony Stephenson, Ged Zuk.
(Waiting for the full list of attendees to be supplied).

1. Introduction (JA):
	1. JA - Extended a warm welcome to everyone.
2. 2019 (JA):
	1. JA - It has been a progressive year. The TLDs (Trafford Liberal Democrats) are back to 3 councillors after the loss following the coalition years. TLDs now have their own MEP Jane Brophy, who was elected earlier this year. The two new councillors are Julian Newgrosh and Meena Minnis.
	2. There has been significant growth in the membership, which is now over 400. Stretford & Urmston and Sale now have nearly as many members as the previous whole of the TLDs. TLDs now have a full-time member of staff, Simon Lepori, to help the local party grow the base further.
	3. The culture of the local party is changing. The party are aiming to become more efficient at the tasks that are performed and for all of its members to work closely together. The majority of campaigning activity has naturally been in the South of Trafford but now that will spread out. For example, the constituency of S&U (Stretford and Urmston) are now looking to start its own branch but under the TLDs banner. Activists naturally wish to campaign in their own areas.

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| ***Trafford Liberal Democrats******Annual General Meeting******Minutes of Meeting*** |

* 1. ASW (Altrincham and Sale West) will also look to set up their own branch.
	2. Following the growth in numbers, there is a need to activate more of the membership and help them into working for the TLDs. Communication will be key as it is important that all members see how their time and money is used to help the party grow and to get more of its members elected. The party is very much looking forward to using this GE (General Election) as a springboard for further growth.
	3. Fund raising has been quite poor for many years. However, with focus, the party has recently managed to raise £8,000 in just a few weeks. But it needs to get better at this task. For example, to fully fund a General Election campaign a sum of about £30,000 is needed.
1. 2020 (JA):
	1. It is intended to set up local branches over the next year starting with Stretford and Urmston. There will be council elections in 2020.
2. Thank You (JB):
	1. JB gave thanks to all active members but in particular to those who have stood down from the executive and have made a massive contribution to their local party. The culture change mentioned earlier started with our former chair Jonathan Smith and so a formal thanks was given to him. Also thanks were given to others who have also stood down, Tony Fishwick, Geraldine Baird, Doug Gormley, Maggie Boysen and Alison Smith. In addition, Simon Lepori has stood down because of his new full-time position within the party and has played a key role in our campaigning and membership development.
3. Campaigns (SL):
	1. SL is now is PPC (Prospective Parliamentary Candidate) for Wythenshawe and Sale East. The job started 4 weeks ago, gently, but then a GE was called. Pauline Cliff was ‘star of the week’ but Trish Kilgour has also been very helpful and supportive.
	2. The new role is to support the party across all the wards and to assist in the roll out of new systems. The party also needs to improve its communications. Sometimes the party does not have the correct details of its members and requested that the membership helps the party to get these corrected if needed.
	3. Help in needed now for this important GE. The Conservatives know that this will be a close fight between themselves and the LDs. He requested that members help in any way they can and that it was possible to even work from home. Help is needed, for example, to deliver another 20,000 leaflets. ASW is one of 6 target seats in the North West but the least organised.
	4. DK - Why not get more LD activists from Manchester and the surrounding areas?
	SL - The national party are encouraging its Manchester members to help in Hazel Grove. However, there are activist from other areas such as Salford and Withington who we might get help from but the party needs to be careful of not stepping on anyone’s toes.
	5. DK - Asked about the party’s plans in Eddisbury.
	SL - Antionnette Sanbach is standing to annoy the Tories but doing it to build for the future. It will help the party in ASW as Conservative resources are stretched.
	AG - The pro-EU group in her area are getting behind her also.
	6. Question - Why getting 2 leaflets through the door?
	SL - It’s possible from central posting (Which may not be addressed).
	GZ - Our deliverers are all volunteers and it would be counter productive for them to do this. PC - The LD national party is trying to get the vote out and they do target supporters.
	MM - Targeting is different for different types of supporters and it’s possible for duplication.
4. Stretford and Urmston (AF):
	1. AF expressed her gratitude at being selected to be the PPC for S&U. The LD party is needed more than ever with public services being under severe strain. Brexit is sucking up all the spare resources. Her drive to be an activists is through her work as a psychiatrist. There are 200 people waiting for beds in social care. It is the worst it has ever been and there has not been a flu epidemic yet.
	2. She gave an example of a young man who had suicidal thoughts and jumped from a bridge and obtained serious injuries but is lucky to be alive. The police were unable to stop him in time due to their own lack of resources. The waiting list for mental health care is currently about 6 months.
	3. The poor quality of services are hurting many people. She gave another example of an elderly lady who took an overdose. Not because she was in pain but because the number of visits each day had reduced and she did no wish to burden her daughter.
	4. Support for the LD party is growing because of its practical approach. It is so important that TLDs take this seat in ASW. She implored the audience to help get Angela Smith elected.
5. Processes (GZ):
	1. Business Process Maps
	The TLDs Executive has agreed to document the key business processes that they use to achieve their goals.
	The main purpose is to help the local party become more effective and to make improvements where possible. It also provides a standardised way of doing things and avoids chaos creeping in.
	2. Basecamp is an application that comprises a number of tools to help us perform the processes as outlined earlier. All the tools we need are in one place, so there is no need to move from one app to another as in the case of Facebook, WhatsApp and Google Drive.
	3. The app runs across all platforms but does require connection to the web. It will not work off-line. It can be downloaded in seconds. However, to connect to the Liberal Democrats you will need to be sent an invitation. Please request one if you want to join the Basecamp group and follow what is happening within the party.
6. Local Council (JN)
	1. The depth of knowledge within the TLDs is incredible. 10 months ago JN was an activist and was only meant to put on a good show in the upcoming elections in May 2019. However, he saw an opportunity and helped by SL and MM and members from S&U, he ‘went for it’ and both JN and MM were elected.
	2. Then it was all out for the EU elections and the LD had won Trafford for the first time in 98 years. We were clearly the party of Remain. Councillor JB was now an MEP and ASW is a target seat in the GE. A great achievement and it could be even better.
	3. Important work has been saving the green belt and a motion for making more affordable housing., which means that more of these empty homes will be filled.
	4. The research into the real Tory debt in Trafford uncovered information, which meant, incredibly, there was over £100 million that could be utilised this year.
	5. None of this could have happened without the support of the whole team. The TLDs must now win here with our new PPC Angela Smith and make a difference to the country.
7. Executive (JA)
	1. TLDs need members to fill the vacant posts. Some members have agreed to take up roles but not all posts are filled.
	2. Role of Chair. TK Proposed.
	TK - She joined in 1979 and stressed that the economy is important and allows us to spend the money on the things we think are important.
	***Motion carried.***
	3. Role of Vice Chair. JA proposed.
	Background is marketing and believes his skills are better suited to other activities.
	***Motion carried.***
	4. Roll of Secretary. No one proposed.
	5. Roll of Membership Officer. SE proposed. Plans to work closely with SL and growing the membership.
	***Motion carried.***
	6. Roll of Data Officer. Graeme Clarke proposed.
	***Motion carried.***
	MM - A big thank you to Toni who has done amazing work in this role.
	7. Roll of Policy Officer. WF proposed.
	***Motion carried.***
	8. Ordinary members. None proposed.
	GZ - Please note that ordinary members can be co-opted at any point throughout the year.
	9. Creation of a Stretford & Urmston Branch.
	Proposed by JA.
	***Motion carried.***.
	DK - A branch is allowed to have 2 of its members on the TLDs Executive.
	JA - We already have 7 members on the Executive so no action is required.
	10. PC - Would like it noted in the minutes that ASW plan to set up its own branch next year.
	11. SL - We need to adopt the model constitution for the local party.
	JA Proposed.
	***Motion carried.***
8. MEP (JB)
	1. Said that a huge transition had taken place and that she could not be more proud of her local party. She gave thanked all of the members for their support and how it was fantastic for the TLDs to be hosting an event with people of the caliber of parliamentarians present Angela Smith, Chris Davies and Tim Farron.
	2. JB gave a brief explanation about the work of an MEP but that she will be here working during the GE to getting Angela Smith elected.
	3. The group of 16 within EU is an effective force. The role of local councillor has served her well for the role of MEP. She has been working with Chris Davies and others who are being given important active roles within the EU.
	4. Hosted meetings with the 3 million citizens who should have been allowed to vote in the EU election. One such person has been living here for 40 years and was local councillor but not allowed to vote in the 2016 election.
	5. JB is on the committee responsible for the European Globalise Adjustment Fund that supports workers who lose their jobs due to restructuring. David Cameron would not sign up to this to avoid looking like supporting the EU.
9. PPC for Altrincham and Sale West (AS)
	1. AS expressed her thanks to everyone for making her feel so welcome and that it has been a great start. However, the last 4 years have been a horror story and the country is heading to a dark place with either Jeremy Corbyn, a Marxist or Boris Johnson, moving the Conservatives to the far right. The country is in a dangerous place.
	2. She said that being a woman MP has been difficult and it would be easier to walk away but said that there is one big fight left to do and that is to stop Brexit and that she is here standing in ASW.
	3. Sir John Curtice, the political scientist, said that the chances of the Conservatives forming a government is at 66%. But if there is a hung parliament he thinks Brexit might be dead. So we really need to win here in ASW as well as many other seats. The one obstacle to overcome is that Remainers from both the Conservatives and Labour must vote Liberal Democrat in this election.
	4. She said that this is the biggest fight of our lives to change the country for the better and turn Trafford yellow LD.
10. Close (JA)
	1. JA made a final plea for everyone to help in some way. Every little bit will help us get Angela Smith elected.

Meeting Closed at 13:43 pm