NEC meeting 16th November 2019 at 1315hrs at Union Jack Club, Waterloo

MINUTES

Present: Kirstan Herriot (KH), Elizabeth Jones, Nicole Bushill, Neil Hamilton, Fiona Mills, Mark Harland, Pat Mountain, Mike Shaw, David Kurten, Donald Mackay, Marietta King, Roger Arthur, Joel McGuigan, Piers Wauchope [Adam Richardson] [Freddy Vachha arrived after item 4.]

Apologies: Ben Walker

1. Minutes of meeting of 12th October distributed: (proposed by Liz Jones and Mark Harland). Approved 8 for, 0 against, 5 abstentions. KH: minutes are long because it was an extraordinary meeting

2. Adam Richardson invited to attend (proposed by Marietta King, seconded by Elizabeth Jones) 8 for 2 against and 2 abstentions.

3. KH: Welcome to new NEC members and to Liz Jones on re-election. Need to work for the party. Concerns about confidentiality. Non-disclosure forms distributed. (which all new members signed before the end of the meeting).

4. Matters arising from minutes: Further explanation by Mark Harland and Adam Richardson of events concerning the booking of the York hotel by Liz Phillips

5. Piers Wauchope: NEC elections report and general discussion on matters arising. Rob McWhirter to be credited for his hard work in making the election a success.

6. Interim leader. KH: Since the resignation of Richard Braine, we need to have an interim leader and an election within 90 days. General discussion. NEC appoint Pat Mountain as interim leader.

7. Treasurer’s report by Mark Harland: Financial situation, and the need for funding for the general election.

8. Legal Report given by Adam Richardson on the current High Court action, and general discussion on matters arising.

9. Chairman’s report: difficulties over the past few months arising from Richard Braine’s actions, and the need from the NEC to bring back unity to the party.

10. Membership update: 17,064

11. NEC passed a vote of confidence in KH (proposed by Pat Mountain): 8 for, none against, and 4 abstentions.

12. Internal leadership election must be held by 30th January. Following the success of the electronic ballot for the NEC election, the NEC voted to have an electronic ballot for the leadership election (proposed by Elizabeth Jones, seconded by Freddy Vachha: 11 for, none against and 1 abstention). The election will be in January. The NEC voted to appoint Piers Wauchope as returning officer with Rob McWhirter as deputy returning officer. (Proposed
by Elizabeth Jones, seconded by Marietta King 11 votes for, none against and one abstention). Piers Wauchope agreed to send out an email to the NEC with fourteen days setting out the qualifying criteria for the past election so that the NEC may discuss amendments to those rules or retain them.

13. Young Independence: Joel McGuigan is to email the chairman with his proposals.

14. General election report by Freddy Vachha: we have 44 candidates standing, one of whom is unauthorised.

15. Next meeting: Saturday 14th December 2019 at 1pm.