

South East Regional Board

Minutes of meeting, Saturday 8 December 2018

Apologies: Tan Dhesi, Anneliese Dodds, Lloyd Russell-Moyle, Stephen Morgan, Matt Rodda, Carol Hayton, Naushabah Khan, Joy Gough, Joyce Still

Members: Amanda Grimshaw, Ann Black, Arran Neathy, Cal Corkery, Dave Clements, David Hide, Dianne Hill, Elaine Bolton, Gemma Bolton, Gordon Lean, Jean Butcher, John Howarth, Karen Constantine, Lisa Fricker, Lynda MacDermott, Mark Chiverton, Martin Philips, Michaela Collard, Nada Al-Sanjri, Robert Evans, Sarah Cundy, Sarah Hacker, Shelley Grainger, Vince Maple,

In attendance: Dan Dobson, Amy Fode, Alex Mitchell

Welcome and apologies – As this was the first meeting of the new regional board, the first part of the meeting was chaired by Amy Fode.

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Robert Evans nominated Vince Maple and Martin Philips seconded.

Gordon Lean nominated Lisa Fricker and Karen Constantine seconded.

Elections were held twice and on both occasions, the votes were 12 each. A discussion followed about what the next steps should be. The discussion lasted around one hour and after contributions from a number of members it was decided that Lisa and Vince would act as Co-Chairs with a working group put together to consider the practicalities and details of having Co-chairs and the Regional Director would also seek further advice from the NEC. Martin Philips, Gordon Lean, Mark Chiverton, Ann Black, Karen Constantine and Shelley Grainger volunteered to be on the working group as well as Vince Maple and Lisa Fricker. The Working Group will meet in early January and a Regional Board meeting will be held in early February. It was also decided to postpone the election of Vice-Chair.

European Report

John Howarth gave his European Report. John Took questions including on What would happen if there was a GE and extension, rise of the far right and whether he favoured a second referendum.

Discussion other functional officers

There was a discussion on whether we should elect other functional officers. There were points made about electing officers in today's meeting from a significant number of board members as some felt that as the standing orders provided for them then they should be elected. Others felt that since these roles have not been in existence for a number of years, if at all and there was no notice of elections, nor job descriptions. There was a feeling in the room that other functional officers may be

necessary for the South East, such as a Rural Seats officer. Ann Black reported that the NEC democracy review agreed that there should be regional women's, BAME, disability and LGBT officers. The NEC was likely to agree model rules for regional structures in January and the working group / regional board should take these into account.

After a vote it was decided that these elections will be delayed and put to the working group mentioned above.

Parliamentary Selections

The Regional Director updated the board on the next round of selections taking place in the South East. There were questions around how the list was determined and why some seats were missing off the list. Points were also made about the need to have candidates in all seats as soon as possible. It was agreed to write to the NEC to agree to allow all seats to select candidates as soon as possible.

It was agreed to provide training for Regional Board reps on Parliamentary selections and the Regional Director will come back to the board with dates in January for this.

Local Government Elections 2019

The Regional Director updated the board on progress for selections. The board were keen to help in places where they would likely be gaps and how to encourage more people to come forward. Lynda MacDermott had a training slide which she was happy to share.

AOB

It was asked for minutes and action points to be sent out as soon as possible and for minutes to be made available to CLP secretaries.

The Board asked for an update on dispute cases and AF responded that due to confidentiality very limited information would be available. The board would also like disputes to be resolved as soon as possible and this should be fed back to the NEC/NCC.

The board agreed that Peter Willsman, as an NEC member in the south-east region, should be invited to meetings with observer status

Regional Conference

There was a review of regional conference. The board would like to see a yearly event and the next one should be in the North of the Region i.e. Buckinghamshire, Reading or Oxfordshire. AF will come back to the board in March with further details.

There was also a discussion on how to make the dinner in the evening more inclusive.

The board will also like more clarity on submitting motions and the possibility of an independent CAC.

Action Points

- Co-Chairs will write to the NEC about disputes and parliamentary selections, paying for delegates to attend conferences
- AF to check with Governance, if a Co-chair is allowed within the rules
- AF to provide dates for training on selections
- AF to provide dates for Regional Board in early February
- The board agreed to write to previous members to thank them and to congratulate Lloyd Russell-Moyle about his parliamentary speech about HIV.