

## AGM of Green Lib Dems held at Jury's Inn hotel on Tuesday 20th September 2011

### Apologies

none

Present - 37

It was agreed by meeting that Susan Heinrich take the Chair, in the absence of the President, Simon Hughes.

Catherine Bearder (President elect) gave a speech before the AGM. She proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair Susan Heinrich and praised the improved website.

### Minutes of previous AGM 2010

Agreed

### Reports of officers

The reports were circulated and agreed.

a) Chair - Susan thanked the previous exec for their support especially through her health problems. She said we had made a number of achievements as can be seen from the executive members reports. These achievements included a 3-year business plan and in response to questions she confirmed we are an AO and had gone through a process of review to confirm that status subject to the 2010 accounts being agreed. Susan thanked Brian Orrell for helping us through that process. She thanked in particular from the Executive, Simon Oliver for sorting out conference arrangements and the website, Christian Vassie for revamping Challenge, Steve Bolter for coming onto the exec late in the year and immediately undertaking a number of projects and Mary Page for sorting out conference accommodation.

b) Vice Chair (political) - no questions.

c) Vice-Chair (organisation) - no questions

d) Treasurer and presentation of Accounts 2010 - Agreed as true and accurate record. (Prop. Mary Page Sec. Cathy Manning)

Judith Ost then took over the chairing of the elections, as the Chair was a candidate

### Election of Honorary officers

President	Catherine Bearder	Pat Ost	Susan Heinrich
Vice president 1	Chris Huhne	Duncan Brack	Susan Heinrich
Vice president 2	Martin Horwood	Simon Oliver	Jonathan Coles
Vice president 3	Tess Munt	Simon Oliver	Steven Bolter

## Election of executive committee

Chair	Steve Bradley	Simon Oliver	Mary Page
Vice Chair	Mia Hadfield-	Simon Oliver	Susan Heinrich
-political	Spoor		
Vice Chair	Simon Oliver	Mary Page	Susan Heinrich
-organisation			
Hon Treasurer	Susan Heinrich	Mia Hadfield-	Simon Oliver
		Spoor	
Membership	Mia Hadfield-	Susan Heinrich	Simon Oliver
Secretary	Spoor		
Ordinary member	Peter Chival	Susan Heinrich	Nick Sandford
Ordinary member	Steven Bolter	Susan Heinrich	Mary Page
Ordinary member	Jonathan Coles	Simon Oliver	Mia Hadfield-
			Spoor
Ordinary member	Mary Page	Steven Bolter	Susan Heinrich
Ordinary member	Christian Vassie	Steven Bolter	Susan Heinrich
Ordinary member x 2	no nominations		

Thanks was given to Judith for all her help and efficiency as Returning Officer.

The Chair was then handed back to Susan Heinrich

## Membership Rates

Agreed that the concessionary rates are increased to £12 to cover the cost of production of Challenge.

## Proposed Amendments to GLD Constitution Standing Orders, and Election Regulations

All the following amendments were agreed nem-com (no-one opposed).

*GLD Constitution (see website for copy under documents)*

Paragraph 2.

“The mission of the Green Liberal Democrats shall be to raise awareness of environmental issues among Liberal Democrats and encourage them to embed these issues into all Liberal Democrat and economic policies in a distinctive and electable way.”

### *GLD Election Regulations*

Paragraph 3

Nomination forms for all posts must be circulated not less than four weeks before the date of the AGM. The deadline for the receipt of nominations shall be 15 days before the date of the AGM. The Returning Officer shall validate the nominations within five days. They shall notify all rejected candidates within this time to allow them to appeal before any ballot forms are circulated.

#### Paragraph 5

a) In the event of a contested election, copies of the personal statements of all candidates involved and ballot papers shall be circulated to members if they are not able to attend the AGM. To vote in an election, members must, not less than 20 days before that election, notify the Membership Secretary of the address or e-mail address to which they require a ballot form to be sent. Members who have been issued with a ballot form, whether used or not, will not be eligible to receive a ballot paper at the AGM for the same election.

b) The votes of those who are not fully paid up members at the start of the election period will be invalid and will not be counted. Notwithstanding the requirement for a secret ballot, ballot forms will be identifiable to allow the Returning Officer to reject invalid votes.

c) No less than 10 days before the AGM, in the event of a contested election:

i) ballot forms shall be sent to all paid up members who have registered an address for that purpose;

ii) a list of all candidates shall be posted on the website

iii) copies of the personal statements of those involved shall be included in the requested mailings detailed in i) and ii) above and on the website.

d) It is the member's responsibility to ensure that the Membership Secretary has been given up to date postal or e-mail address if registered for pre AGM voting and to inform the Returning Officer if the ballot form does not arrive. No allowance will be made for postal, individual or local internet failures, but in the event of widespread internet problems the Returning Officer will send an email advising how this will be dealt with and will endeavour to give e-voters at least an additional 48 hours in which to vote.

#### Paragraph 6

Ballot papers must be returned either to the Returning Officer to arrive no less than six days before the AGM unless a later time is specified by the Returning Officer. At the AGM ballot papers shall be issued to qualifying members who have not been sent ballot forms. The count shall be conducted at the AGM, giving equal weight to paper and electronic votes.

The new Chair, Steve Bradley then took over the chairing of the meeting.

Steve Bradley also thanked the previous executive and reiterated our thanks to Susan. He said that we were tidying up internally and were building on where we were. GLD was pushing forward with policy by the formation of a policy panel and a 'green book'. He stated our aim is to galvanise members through improved communication and she reminded members how to get involved through challenge. Steve said we were looking at becoming an SAO. Steve also stated we are the largest campaign group with the second largest membership and we would be looking to increase participation at a regional level.

#### Any Other business

No further questions