

St Ives Labour Group

Minutes of meeting

MEETING DATE: 5th September 2017

Place: Broad Leas Community Centre

Chair: Mick White

Apologies: Helen Rushton

Previous Minutes Approved: 01/08/2017

Next Meeting: 03/10/2017

Matters Arising:

As per August the agenda for the meeting was open forum, instead of the traditional meeting agenda to facilitate a brainstorming session. This format will be the norm for the moment – probably until we have attendance numbers which prevent this format being useful and/or productive.

What follows is the highlights/headlines of topics discussed.

Mick White asked if everyone present was happy with the open agenda format for meetings for the time being. Everyone agreed. Minutes of the last meeting were handed out and accepted.

Paula said that the petition raised against the Whippet bus route closures was signed by about 80 people in a quite short space of time and sent to the local head of the Environment and Transport group. It was also pointed out that there is a local survey being carried out (but unsure of exactly who was involved) so we should keep an eye out for it if it appears.

Daniel and Paula spent some time explaining the workings of the Slack software and when it would be rolled out for other members. Currently it is only in use by the HCLP committee members.

Paula and Sue are currently working on a 'New Members Pack' which will be sent to all new members. It will contain information about Huntingdon CLP committee, meetings, structure etc. along with information about all officers, their pictures, why they joined, or re-joined, the Labour Party and how to contact them.

It will be up on the HCLP website (and hopefully the St Ives website) so that we can also let existing members know about it. Two new members that were in attendance, Annette and Roy, suggested that we send out the pack to ALL local members. It was suggested that we either post it or go and deliver it ourselves and introduce ourselves at the same time.

Daniel suggested that we organise local special interest groups (SIG's) with members taking a lead. Members of the SIG's would not necessarily have to be Labour members.

Delegates for the National and Eastern Conferences will be selected at the HCLP meeting on 18/9/2017. HCLP members are encouraged to attend the Eastern conference. We're not sure what the parking will be like so a shuttle bus was suggested from a local car park.

Ken made the suggestion that we should investigate the possibility of producing our own newspaper. Advertising should be kept to a minimum with more emphasis on articles of news and local interest. Mick suggested members should also take a look at 'The Gussset' on Facebook!

It was requested that we make an attempt to change the meeting room to one that is downstairs. Mick said he would make enquiries to see if this is possible.