

## **Brentwood & Ongar CLP**

### **AGM**

#### **Notes of the Meeting held 16 May 2016 at Pilgrim's Hatch Parish Room**

##### **Present:**

Emma Benson, Toby Blunsten, Fran Dapp, Gordon Dimmock, Pat Dedman, Peter Dedman, Will Gilley, Simon Hearn, Philip Holland, Stephen Howarth, Ann Howarth, Ann Huish, David Jobbins, Mike Le Surf, Richard Millwood, Clarisse Martin, Peter Mayo, Jenny Mayo, Julie Morrissey, David Minns, Ben Nolan, Gillian Norris, John Pickard, June Simmons, Pauline Watts, Michele Wigram, Jane Winter

(27 members and supporters)

##### **Apologies:**

Ron Huish, Kevin Brailey, Gareth Barrett, Tim Barret, June Barrett, Paul Barrett, John Acton, Doreen Acton, Susan Kortlandt, Dick Carter, Liam Baker, Clare Dorothy, Paul McNamara, Malcolm Burgess, Kees Maxey, Mike Preston, Ray Sturmer, Andy McGeeney, Joanna Moncrieff

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

New Members were welcomed introductions were made.

#### **2. Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> April Meeting**

Copies had been circulated in advance and there were no outstanding issues.

#### **3. Election Report & Debrief**

Julie Morrissey, who was re-elected to Brentwood South, circulated a written report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Campaigners commented on the many positive mentions of Julie from the electorate during the door knocking.

The Knight's Hall room had been booked from 9am to 9pm as a 'Campaign HQ' on the day. It was thought that in future this should be extended to 10pm especially as the Labour total vote is dropping and every voter we can get to the polls is going to be important.

The next Council election in this patch will be in May 2018 as May 2017 sees the County Council elections taking place.

The importance of the quality of the data obtained during the year is going to be increasing significant.

Julie intends to continue 'campaigning activity' from June to continue the high visibility of a Labour presence.

Other suggestions included: campaigning with a large group appears to be effective, 'front garden' politics is important to identify street issues and acting promptly on fly tipping etc with results reported via social media has an immediate impact.

During the campaign, members had been surprised to learn that many people had no idea the election was taking place, and thought the campaigning was probably about the European Referendum.

#### **4. AGM**

The minutes of the 2015 AGM were agreed.

##### **Chairman's Report**

A written report had been circulated with the Agenda.

It was agreed that there is strong sense of the Party working 'together' in the constituency.

On the position nationally, some Members reminded us that the Labour vote did actually increase at the recent Elections despite issues such as anti-semitism being raised close to the end of the campaign.

It was agreed to have a debate on this issue during this year.

##### **Finance Report**

The report had been circulated with the Agenda and was accepted.

##### **Secretary's Report**

Jane gave a verbal report, notes of which are attached to these minutes.

It was agreed to rotate the meetings both by day of the week and venue across the constituency.

#### **5. Election of Officers for 2016**

Some names had been put forward prior to the meeting for specific roles, and others were put forward at the meeting.

None of the roles were contested and the new Management Committee/Group will be:

CLP Chair & Deputy Registered Treasurer	Richard Millwood
Secretary	Jane Winter
Registered Treasurer	Pat Woods
CLP Vice Chair	Neil McAree

CLP Vice Chair	Emma Benson
CLP Campaign Co-ordinator	Liam Preston
Women's Officer	Vacant
Youth Officer	Toby Blunsten
Membership Secretary	Vacant
Fundraising	Ann Huish
CLP Computer Officer	Vacant
Political Education Officer	Susan Kortlandt
Press Officer	Mike Le Surf

## **6. European Referendum**

A discussion followed about importance of the Referendum.

It was agreed to hold a street stall on Saturday 28 May in Brentwood High Street to alert the public to the vote. The focus will be on staying in the EU rather than just a Labour Party presence.

Leaflets will be obtained to distribute, particularly those that challenge the myths.

We will also encourage people to register to vote by the cut off date of 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Julie will put out a 'thank you' leaflet to electors of Brentwood South, and mention the Referendum in the text.

## **7. County Council Elections**

It was agreed that the Secretary will circulate information on this item with the minutes.

There are 75 seats up for election and Labour wishes to field a candidate in every seat.

Many Tory seats were won on small majorities and the outcome can be hard to predict with the range of smaller parties in the field at present. Labour is looking to hold its 9 current seats and hope to win a further 11 seats.

There are no target seats in our constituency.

The results of the last elections in 2013 are attached.

## **Meetings and Events Calendar**

Saturday 28 May	European Referendum Stall, Brentwood High Street
Tuesday 7 June	Shenfield Parish Hall
Wednesday 13 July	Pilgrim's Hatch Parish Rooms
Saturday 16 July	Fundraising BBQ
Thursday 8 September	East Horndon Church
Monday 10 October	Ongar Town Hall
Tuesday 8 November	venue to be advised
Wednesday 7 December	venue to be advised

Jane Winter : 20 May 2016