Minutes of the Harrogate and District Green Party Annual General Meeting

Held on 14th November 2023 at 8.30 pm

At the Harrogate and Ripon Centre for Voluntary Service, Harrogate Community House, HG1 5RR

Present: Gillian Charters, Ian Charters, Hannah Corlett, Alex Marsh, Shan Oakes, Bill Rigby, Arnold Warneken, Tamsin Worrall, Clark Pearson, Sophie Smith, Suzanne Saeed, Tim Ellis, Robin Burgess

Apologies: Paul Trewhitt, Paul Ko Ferrigno, Andy Rickard, Mark Flood, Reg Tayler, Bess Miles-Duncan

The AGM was preceded by a talk from Dr. Marie Taylor from the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust.

Support can be given to YDRT by

* Auction: [www.tennants.co.uk](http://www.tennantsco.uk/)
* Downloading: Big river watch app.
* Becoming a YRDT supporter.

The H&D Green Party will be making a donation to YDRT during the Big Give window (this enables the donation to be doubled in value)

1. In the absence of our chair, Paul Ko-Ferrigno, the meeting was chaired by Arnold Warneken. He opened the meeting at 8.30 pm.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous AGM were unanimously approved.

3. CHAIR’s report

Paul Ko Ferrigno submitted the following report:

‘I’m sorry to be missing this AGM, but would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the last year. We have seen and done some good things against a dark national background, and there is a lot of hope for the future locally. Sadly, as my work has taken me away from Harrogate I will not be able to serve on the Exec next year, and I must also resign as your Prospective Parliamentary candidate. I shall continue to be an active Green Party member, and I wish you all every success in your own campaigning for a fairer, greener society”.

4. Treasurer’s Report- Ian Charters.

Ian reported that the Party has £4154 in hand, with outstanding invoices totalling £50. The 100 Club has been closed. It has not been possible to change the Paypal account into my name – there is nothing in it at present and I propose to leave this unchanged until it is needed again – for example to receive paypal donations.

5. Secretary’s Report – Gilly Charters

The executive has met regularly over the year, mostly on Zoom. Hopefully we will be able to meet more in person next year.

6. Campaign Coordinators’ Report – Alex Marsh and Tamsin Worrall

We have supported the following:

* Penny Stables’ campaign in Wetherby
* Arnold’s parliamentary campaign in Selby and Ainsty (where the GP came 3rd and kept its deposit
* Sowerby and Tockwith – current campaign to support John Law

Thanks to Tamsin and Alex for all their hard work as Campaigns Coordinators.

7. Elections Officer – Ian Charters

No activity this year

8. Press and Social Media Officer – Hannah Corlett

Facebook 1079 followers – mostly in Harrogate, 178 on Instagram, 976 followers on X. Website needs updating with current campaigns.

225 active members on Action network. Thanks to Hannah for all her work on keeping the membership list and social media up to date.

10. Ex Officio Executive Member’s reports

Councillor Arnold Warneken - Motions being put through NYC on:

* Water quality – rivers and coasts (stop press, this has passed 15/11/23)
* Banning trail hunting on Council land
* 20 is Plenty (speed limits)

11. Work being done by our elected representatives

Alex Marsh – Tockwith Council

* Applying for residents’ electric vehicle charging points

Local Party Contact – Shan Oakes - Knaresborough Town Council, Scriven Parish Council

* Set up Climate Emergency Group on Knaresborough Town Council
* Knaresborough Forest purchase

Two other elected representatives, Paul Trewhitt and Mark Flood were unable to attend this AGM.

11. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following people were duly nominated and unanimously elected to the posts of:

Coordinator: Sophie Smith

Secretary: Gillian Charters

Treasurer: Ian Charters

Campaigns Manager: Alex Marsh, Suzanne Saeed and Tamsin Worrall (Tamsin to be in a training role)

Elections Officers: Ian Charters / Bill Rigby

Social Media/Membership Clark Pearson and Hannah Corlett (to be reviewed in 6 months)

Press and Local Matters: Shan Oakes

Safeguarding Officer: vacant

The following members were declared ex officio members of the Executive Committee:

Bill Rigby

Cllr Arnold Warneken

The role of Deputy Treasurer is undertaken by Tamsin Worrall.

12. AOB

* Boundary changes
* Planning application for expansion of Harrogate Water (Danone) into the Pinewoods

13. Date of next meeting

5th December (this is a meeting of the Executive)

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm