



# YOUNG LIBERALS

Minutes for the Young Liberals January Executive Meeting  
Taken by Katharine Macy

Meeting held on January 27th 11:00am - Lib Dem HQ, 1 Vincent Square.

## Attendance

### Present

UA - Ulysse Abbate (Policy)  
JL - Janey Little (Chair)  
KP - Kai Pischke (Co-International)  
FK - Fergus Kirman (Co-Branch)  
LN - Lucas North (Events)  
JN - Joe Norris (England)  
HJ - Harvey Jones (Comms)  
JP - Joshan Parmar (Co-Branch)  
MS - Miguel Smith (Co-Elections)  
NOW - Nicholas Orford-Williams (Co-Elections)  
JR - Josh Ruddy (Co-Wales) (online)  
SB - Rebecca Jones (Non-portfolio) (online)  
LD - Leo Dempster (Scotland) (online)  
WT - Will Tennison (Membership Development)  
CL - Chang Liu (Racial Equity, Diversity & Liberation)

CC - Callum Clark (Safeguarding lead) (online)  
MC - Matt Craven (HVP)

Nathan Eve - Member

### Apologies

Emily Baker (Accessibility, Diversity & Standards)  
Sean Bennett (Co-International)

Leena Farhat (Co-Wales)

## Absent

None

## Minutes

### Welcome, Apologies & Exec Member of the Month

- Apologies from Emily Baker, Sean Bennett
- Thank you to Felix for all his work as Campaigns and Fundraising
- Exec Member of the Month: Will, for working so hard on the away day (which retroactively was fantastic)

### Action Points from previous meeting

Completed:

- JL, EB & CC to plan next steps on best practice on engaging with these issues
- Contact Candy for social media code of conduct and potential training
- KP, SB & EB to discuss reaching out to IFLRY & LYMEC for training and support they can provide
- HJ to have the discussion around an international instagram

Working on:

- CC to work with EB on amendment to safeguarding policy
- HJ to refresh safeguarding pages

### Safeguarding update

- Formal safeguarding briefing has been pushed back, CC will be emailing after COB today with slides
- Exec do not have a safeguarding role but if we receive a disclosure we should pass things on

### Action Points

- ALL EXEC to review the slides complete the google form

## Committees & their communication

- KM notes the importance of minutes and tracking engagement and asks all committee chairs to put their committee meetings on the internal calendar

### Action Points

- KM to add committee to google calendar spreadsheet
- JL to send KM Elections Committee minutes

## Improving Membership Experience

- CL - Alderdice review is about how to interact with members etc. Notes we haven't checked how much progress we've made from previous to the report. This is an opportunity to ask members about their experience - both positive and negative - and come up with how we can change to provide better experiences. CL is looking for advice/feedback on the actions
- FK confirms timeline - around May post locals hopefully avoiding a GE
- UA - asks how it relates to the Thornhill Review
- LN - checking on which platform would work best for - looking into what collects good data etc.
- CL - is happy with google forms but happy with suggestions from whoever is better with data
- LN - issue with engagement, how do we overcome this and contact people who ignore emails etc. Even those active in branches will have engagement
- CL - this is where branches get involved, trying to make sure we're encouraging people, regional chair engagement too
- KM - raises studies highlight how tired communities are at being surveyed and seeing no change, so we need to ensure we only do this once and do it right
- CL - notes this is where interim reports can help and ensure we're highlighting how we're taking things on board
- JN - notes contact with LPs are rare and we should make sure we have something substantial
- FK - what's the plan for if we don't find much good practice and how do we move forward from there

### Action Points

- CL to confirm the wordings of the survey, input from ADS, Members Development Officer
- FK & JP to circulate survey to branch

- HJ to advertise the survey across all channels
- States YL Chairs (JN, LD, JR & LF) to circulate survey to members (including regional chairs)
- JL to introduce CL to Nicole Turner in LDHQ

## Code of Conduct (Update)

- UA - delayed til summer

## YL International Instagram

- KP notes a lot of sister parties etc have an Instagram and it would be good to have a specific international insta
- LN suggests we may not be big enough to have a separate insta and raises the concern around it becoming dead and how that looks, citing branch pages as an example
- HJ says we can make sure there's an IC rep on CC
- KM notes this will take pressure from comms out and ensure international officers take on the responsibility to respond to international messages
- FK asks about how quickly it'll get attention etc. and the relative size of other groups
- WT notes follower numbers isn't the only metric - engagement and conversations as well as the value added

The executive voted unanimously to allow an International Instagram account

## Action Points

- KM to bring this back post next IFLRY and LYMEC to see if it's taken off

## Branch update

- [This document was shared](#)
- FK - We used to have more branches than we do now - and we've had branches that no longer exist, evidenced by people not putting the new legal disclaimer in etc. This is partly why it's important to de-credit, and make sure we have an accurate picture so we can build properly
- De credit 39, confirm 29, and 4 where conversations still need to happen
- JP notes these will be useful in working out where we need branches to support target seats and which spots we should work on increasing numbers
- JR - they've identified new members, possibility to save branches

- FK – notes it's about what currently exists not about what we hope will exist
- 10 votes for  
1 vote against  
0 abstentions

## Executive Reports

- UA informs none of our motions were accepted but it was competitive and we had positive feedback. Amendments will be considered and submitted. Work with other AOs such as LDCRE is positive, and ALDES (or Lib STEM – a moment of appreciation was taken)
- JL asks LN about FCC – LN confirms their first meeting was the selection meeting and it went well
- Minutes thank you to LN and UA for their work as newly instated FCC and FPC
- FK brings up break down of Sheffield, impressive first timers, notes the lack of women and that sharing those stats may put women off
- LD confirms that over Christmas things die down
- JR – successfully done co-options
- KP – asks what the plan of the international officer is
- JR – to improve relationships and would like a observer seat on IC
- KP – apologies for not submitting a report and takes full responsibility, will be sending it over and it'll be added in
- NOW – Elections Committee have codified how Y&W will operate, which will iron out future problems, there's been a few action days – Winchester & Salford (the latter was successful in electing a young candidate)
- LN – asks Wales if they would like a rep to events committee
- JR confirms he will be staying on

## AOB

- The executive unanimously vote to open co-options for fundraising

## Action Points

- JL to work with AH to open co-options

The executive voted to move to closed business.

The meeting concluded at 12:36

The next meeting will be on Thursday February 22nd at 6pm online.

# Goal Setting

Note: This was a reasonable chaotic conversation discussion - we approached several goals, of varied discussions and comments brought up. I've tried to record it by theme and best I can. We have generic conversations, then more goal/action point issues and then the themes we concluded with at the end of the session

WT talks through SMART goals and provides a few examples

Layer 1 - Overarching goals for the organisation i.e making the organisation more accessible

Layer 2 - Large goals/projects i.e updating the policy books

Layer 3 - the goals to achieve layer 1 & 2 i.e ideally SMART

Policy book

Overall goal: Update the policy book and make it more accessible

- Policy book can be overwhelming and intimidating, potentially adopting what the party do for manifestos
- Translate it into other minority languages

FK - Website navigation - a reasonable accessible document on our website, ensuring everything that's easily findable can be understood

KM - notes it's important to consider which document is for what audience and how they interact

WT - suggests we could look beyond just documents and also include videos

HJ - suggests a divide on website between members and prospective voters

Branch data

- Making sure we have the data
- Fix all the resources for branches
- Getting money into branch pockets

Diversity and engaging women

- Specific goals around conference attendees
- KM brings up even specific goals - how do we do this and how to we achieve this
- JL shares this issue has been flagged up to CGB, we're working with Lib Dem Women, and EB is working on this issue

- MS - campaigning on women's issues - making sure we're being wider in discussing women's issues
- WT - making sure we're talking about the engaged women about what they're achieving
- HJ - asks about LDW internal comms - scope for putting our newsletter items in their newsletter and vice versa
- JP - retention rate of members esp. women
- LN notes we need to acknowledge how the "graduation" successes work and how we ensure member engagement is reasonable
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YL's role in a GE

## Action Points/Goals

Review of the website within the next two months

Fix all the resources for branches

Review sister party websites and rival party websites

- KM to work with HJ in conducting this

Set up website working group

- KM to work with HJ to gather interest and set up support

Diversity - especially engagement with women

- Finding the retention data for women and if they're more likely to return after one conference etc.
- Comms pictures etc./making sure we're putting our best foot forward
- Women's action day? Same style as Caroline Vodane as women's canvassing
- Reach out to LYMEC on women engagement support?
- Reach out to ALDC and LGA for women engagement?

Working with LDW

- Seeing if we can get communication between LDW and us and appearing in each other's newsletters

- Lib Dem Voice article on how transphobic members are reducing women's engagement

## Relationships with other AOs and Bodies within the party

### Membership engagement

- Working out how people get involved in YL, is it through branches etc.?
- Going into schools and sixth forms etc.
- Membership recruitment campaign?
  - Supporting branches

### Single issue/external campaigning

- Ties in to engaging women
- Working with people like Charlie Murphy on housing issues and making YL more grassroots

### Election goals

- YL should be getting in as many target seat candidates as possible we're engaging and communicating to support as many of them to winning
- 10 Y&W applicants
- Working with LDHQ to provide training sessions etc. before action days

## Themes:

Membership recruitment

Diversity - focus on woman

Communications & accessibility

- Website

Values and actions

- Value within the party
- Values

External campaigns