UKIP NEC Meeting Minutes

09/12/23 – 12.00 to 16.00

Meeting held in London – ZOOM Link also in operation.

1. Attendance/Apologies

   Ben Walker (BW), Janice Mackay (JM), Donald Mackay (DM), Jamie Baker (JB), John Poynton (JP), Gary Johnson (GJ), Jack Thomson (JT), Ruth Purdie (RP), Neil Hamilton (NH), Anne-Marie Water (AMW), Peter Richardson (PR)

   Attendance via ZOOM

   Pat Mountain (PM), Ian Garbutt (IG), Party Secretary (PS)

   Apologies received from Steve Hollis & Rebecca Jane.

2. Approval of Minutes

   Carried out in advance of the meeting by email.

3. Party Secretary & General Secretary Reports

   There was nothing to report from the General Secretary.
   (BW) updated the meeting about live legal matters.
   (DM) raised his concerns over the lack of in-person attendance by (PS).

4. Treasurers Financial Report

   (IG) gave the NEC a full report on the party’s accounts for the last 6-month period and Party Conference expenditure.

   The meeting also discussed investment planning to enhance the party’s income.
   (JP) offered to pay the small shortfall which had occurred in conference spending to ensure the event broke even. The NEC thanked him.

5. Chairmans Report

   (BW) updated NEC Members on the following:

   Conference
   Partnership Working
   External Donors
   Ex-Member Telephone Initiative
   Revised Agenda
   Communications with Press
   Investments (BW) & (JP) to provide further information for January 2024 meeting.
   Messaging Direction
   Member Newsletter
   Website
Reports numbered 1-7 were circulated and remain confidential. The NEC resolved unanimously to agree a new campaign plan, direction in messaging *(to be finalised in January 2024)* and to a leadership election in 2024 – details of which to be published/advertised in due course. Proposed by (PR), Seconded by (GJ).

There was no regional update given as the next meeting takes place on 15/12/23. (BW) would be updating that meeting with NEC decisions from this meeting.

(PS) managed to join the meeting via the ZOOM link and gave a short report on the matter already reported by (BW).

6. **Campaigning**

(JM) had produced a report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. NEC Members had no additional questions in relation to the report and thanked (JM) for her work preparing the new campaign plan which requires regional committees to fully support and had been covered in-depth and agreed under section (5) of the meeting.

The following candidates were ratified as PPC’s.

Robert Bilcliff TAMWORTH
Stan Robinson Llanelli
Martin Potter Worcester
Anne-Marie Waters Hartlepool

Proposed by (JB), Seconded by (IG) and carried unanimously.

There were no updates from the NNO.

7. **Strategy**

(BW) expressed the importance of the agreed campaign and stated that although strategy appeared on the agenda, it had previously been covered in (5) & (6). However, “strategy” would remain a stand-alone feature of future NEC meetings.

8. **Items from Members**

A revised list of Spokespeople was presented to the NEC, agreed by (NH) and ratified by the NEC unanimously. Proposed by (GJ) and Seconded by (PR).

Lester Taylor The United Kingdom
Dr Chris Ho Health & Social Care
Steve Grimes Business, Foreign Affairs & Culture
Steve Unwin Home Affairs, Local Government & Political Reform
Anne Marie Waters Justice, Equality and Disability, Abuse & Exploitation
Tony Nailer Treasury, Energy, Transport & Environment
John Gartside Fishing
Pat Bryant Food and Rural Affairs
Donald Mackay Education & Religion
Peter Richardson Defence & Veterans
Patricia Mountain Immigration & Housing

The NEC instructed (BW) to advise new spokes of the requirements upon them and speak to certain spokes who need to ensure those requirements were met. (BW) was also to write and thank those spokes who had stepped down or had been reshuffled.
9. **Date of Next Meeting**

A 2024 Meeting Diary was circulated to NEC Members. The NEC is scheduled to meet 03/02/24 in London.


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Ben Walker
National Party Chairman