

NORTH DERBYSHIRE GREEN PARTY
MEMBERS MEETING HELD ON 28th JULY 2025 @ 19.00
VIA ZOOM

NOTES

Attendees: Louis Hollingworth (Chair), Darren Yates, Simon Swift, David Fox, Helen Davies, Kat Noble, Vicky Noble (Notes)

Apologies: Naila Dracup, Steven Raison, Andrew Slack

1. Agree minutes of the last meeting

David said he had not received the last minutes and Louis confirmed they had been sent out in an email. Louis agreed to put a link into the Zoom chat so people could access them to read. This was completed by Louis.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

2. Update on Action Points

Five action points had been completed and the following action points were carried forward:

ACTION – committee members to provide pictures. Still some outstanding - CFWD

ACTION: Darren to look into using the Stripe payment facility to collect donations from our new website page. CFWD

ACTION: Darren and Simon to mock up a possible leaflet for distribution in late September 2025. CFWD

Ask a new member to do a voxbox (or such) to say why they have joined the Green Party. Suggested we ask Andrew Slack or Alison Hamilton. ACTION Vicky/Louis

3. Chair's Report – Louis

Louis reported that one new member had informed him that he had now left the party. It was asked if he may have joined the newly formed Jeremy Corbyn party but Louis said this was not the reason given.

4. Finance Report – Darren

Darren reported that we have just over £2000 in the bank account and that the last expenditure was for the leaflets for handing out at the Chesterfield PRIDE event. It was agreed that we would still need to be able to raise more money for future campaigns.

5. Feedback from the Green Party regional AGM meeting – Vicky

An update was given by Kat and Vicky from the East Midlands regional meeting. It was very interesting to see Ellie Chown and Zack Polanski at the hustings. It was also very interesting to hear from Harriet Lamb the new CEO of the Green party who came across very positively. The main issues are how we gain a step change in membership and finances and get our messages across and engage with people who still just see us as “tree huggers”.

6. Feedback from Chesterfield Pride – Louis and Simon

Update given by Louis and Simon. It was good to be able to speak with people but the weather stopped many people from wandering round the field to see the stalls. We raised about £7.00 which was a loss as it was hard to get people to stop because of the weather.

7. Future campaign strategy and activities (for next 3 – 5 years)

Louis explained the agreed strategy which was that we would still use the Target to Win strategy and focus on the Wingerworth and Shirland, and Hasland and Rother wards. We realised that there are limitations to the approach so we have agreed that we will leaflet all wards hopefully about twice a year if we can get the volunteers to help. These leaflets will show that we are an active Green party in their area and hopefully drive more engagement and members and votes etc. It was also discussed and agreed that we would ask for more suggestions from people as to issues that concern them and for ideas on engagement.

Helen suggested that we target schools as Frank has done when he has been invited back as a councillor to speak at his old school. We agreed with the voting age being lowered that chesterfield College would be a good place to focus on.

8. How do we encourage new members and volunteers to help campaigning?

David said that for many people cost of living crisis was more important than traditional green issues that people think we are about. We need to get a broader more targeted message out. It was agreed that this is still an issue getting people engaged enough to be able to help as there had been little response back from call for support.

David said that he was very happy to donate all his pictures to sell to raise funds for the local Green Party, he also has many CDs and Videos to donate. This was gratefully accepted but we need to find how we could do this and it was suggested that maybe we take donations to a car boot sale in the area.

ACTION – to find a local car boot sale we could attend. Vicky

Vicky raised the idea put forward by Naila on having a family friendly event and a litter pick was suggested by Helen and agreed as a possible event. Davis asked if we have a Facebook presence which we have and Simon has now taken over the lead for increasing our social media presence.

Vicky shared Tom Stubbs who she met at the regional meeting, as a possible contact for ideas on building our social media presence. Simon says we need to plan our communication. All agreed that Zak seems to be getting through on social media which is great.

Simon to share on Facebook the pictures from the regional meeting with Zack, Ellie and Harriet on.

ACTION Simon to put regional meeting pictures on our Facebook page.

9. Update on involvement with local activities to raise our profile and any more ideas to share.

Various ideas were discussed. David mentioned raised issue of all the emails being received especially the ones from Green Organise. He asked for any copies of our leaflets so he could ask the local laundrette to put up.

The state of the roads in Dunston was also raised.

AGREED Vicky agreed to visit him and take a look and get letters to the Derbyshire Times and the local councillor.

Davis also mentioned social injustice in all its context and we agreed that we should investigate this and be able to use this with the national messaging.

10. How do we encourage, select and train new candidates?

Louis said that we had not had anyone expressing an interest in standing as a councillor in the next elections. Frank and Darren will be our candidates going forward. We have a click button in all our emails for people to express an interest which we agreed to leave in.

11. Any communication we want to share?

Our next meeting is an AGM and Frank is standing down from his committee position, as is Naila standing down as lead our lead on membership but we believe that she is happy to stay on as committee member without portfolio which is great. We need to encourage more members to attend the AGM and join the committee.

12. Date of next Meeting is 29th Sept. 2025 and is the – AGM with a standard agenda. This will be held at Chesterfield Library at 7.00 pm

The meeting closed with Louis thanking all for attending.