

NORTH DERBYSHIRE GREEN PARTY
MEMBERS MEETING HELD ON 26th JANUARY 2026 @ 19.00
AT CHETERFIELD LIBRARY,
New Beetwell Street, Chesterfield, S40 1QN

Notes and Action Points

1. WELCOME TO MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTIONS

There were 11 members in attendance Apologies were received from Simon Swift, Andy Welsh, Steven Raison, Kat Noble and Gary Copeland and Caroline Dryden.

Louis opened the meeting by welcoming all members and introductions were held around the table.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHARE OF INFORMATION

Chair and Coordinator update – Louis

We now have 580 members in our local party averaging at about 7 new members a week.

Finance update – Darren

There is £4300 in our bank account but noted that this is not enough to run a successful campaign. We now have £38 per month being directly donated to our local bank account. We receive about 15% of the national membership fees once a year. A discussion was held on how we could raise more money. Notes that the regional office may help us with funds and that it is difficult to go and keep asking members for more money who may already be giving to the national and regional parties but that we would encourage those members who do feel able to directly fund to the local party on a monthly or one off donation where they can.

East Midlands Regional Party update

Frank reported that the regional party has now been able to recruit a much needed additional member of staff to help with campaigning.

Also noted the great result from the Horsley bi election where Lian Pizzey our Green Party candidate took the seat from Reform. It was a fantastic result and a great campaign that the meeting agreed we could learn from.

ACTION: Louis and Frank to ask Lian if they could come to our next meeting to talk about the campaign and learning points for us.

Noted that we now have 12,000 members in our NE Midlands Region and over 190,000 nationally. Great news.

3. LET'S TALK - David and Pippa

HEALTH

David Kestevan read from the published Green Party manifesto the key messages:

- we need a 4.5% increase in spend to bring the UK up to the European average
- need to roll back privatisation
- abolish the internal market
- devolution

A discussion followed and it was agreed that in the main people would not have an issue with this but the question of funding would be key. The members noted that these were from a fully costed manifesto and that the party would raise the fund by taxing those who could afford to contribute more – the multi-millionaires and billionaires. This was a method of redistributing wealth and a levelling up approach to ensure that all areas and people have access to the services that they need.

Noted that we need to have an economy discussion to how to explain more how finances and funding would work under Green party Principles – a later agenda item.

LOCAL ISSUES AND TOPICS FOR THE NEXT LOCAL SPRING/SUMMER LEAFLET – WHAT ARE THE ISSUES THAT CONCERN YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS?

This session was led by Pippa and the following items were raised as local concerns:

- Ashgate Hospice under threat – ACTION we can start a petition on our Action Network platform and we need to keep aware of any local issues we should get engaged with and use our WhatsApp group and let Louis know as well. ALL
- housing development in Eckington where they are building on the green belt – the Green party supports the building of much needed new homes but they must be the right homes in the right place. They plan 700 or more new home with no shops or enough local amenities like dentists and GPs or bus services.
- A61 Derby Rd. – traffic issues, congestion and no public transport. Notes that the planned Barrow Hill trainline could reduce traffic on Derby Rd.
- Bus Routes and services – significant lack of these and impact people with limited mobility. What we do have is very unreliable as well.
- SEND – children on waiting lists for support and the thresholds that have to be reached to get any support
- Potholes – general state of the roads and the impact on health and safety for all users and pedestrians.
- Getting a doctor's appointment

REFORM promised to cut taxes but are raising them!!

There was no time left to cover any national issues so it was agreed to discuss these at the next meeting. **ACTION all to email ideas for national issues to Louis and Vicky.**

4. CALL TO ACTION

Leaflet distribution – update on progress and developments. Of the 22,500 leaflets there are about 8000 left to be delivered. Most of these were volunteered to be delivered after the meeting. We are very grateful to everyone who has helped us to deliver them. This is the first time we have ever done anything on this scale. We are also in progress of organising the better and will have maps etc. in future. We now have 3 specific areas and lead coordinators as follows: NE Derbyshire – Andy Welsh, Chesterfield – Vicky Noble, Bolsover – David K and Louis. We will be looking for additional coordinators and volunteers later. Watch this space.

Action Day Hasland and Rother – 11.30 am on 24th January – Leafletting.

Social Event – Film – Merchants of Doubt – Sat 31st January @ Chesterfield Library at 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm (meeting for drinks afterwards for those interested) Open to non-members as well. **This is open to friends and family and will be put on Facebook to encourage more people to attend. ACTION Louis and Simon.**

Action Day Wingerworth – 7th February – Door knocking and surveying. 10.30 AM start. Frank had done the leaflets and will arrange the 60 second survey forms and manage the event. **ACTION – Louis to let Frank know who has volunteered.**

NOTE that the bi election for Gorton and Denton will seeking volunteers to stop REFORM. Please support if you are able. Also, as we do not have elections in 2026 Sheffield will be looking for support. Let's rally the might of our local Green members.

Next members meeting – 23rd February 2026 7.00 pm –
ZOOM

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - none