



LIBERAL NEWS AUTUMN 2021

LIVERPOOL ELECTIONS

The Liberal Party Team made tremendous strides in the Liverpool City Elections.

As the Mayoral candidate I welcomed the opportunities for Liverpool as a post Brexit Global trading city and the need to positively engage with Government to encourage public infrastructure investments.

We also worked flat out to rid the city of the Cycle Lanes that had been placed for maximum congestion and did not follow previously consulted cycle routes

We launched video's promoting our views and in particular the pressing need to combat fly tipping with stiff prosecutions. Video Facebook

postings helped with the city-wide increase in our party's vote.

In the local wards we saw amazing progress with Mick Coyne in Old Swan whose vote rose to 21 % from 7%, whilst in In West Derby Ann Hines vote rose to 22% from 8%.

Liam Buckley strode ahead to 19% in Clubmoor, up 10 %, and in Anfield Jimmy Richardson came second gaining a 10% share of the vote. I hope members do not under play the achievement of a 4.1 to 7.5 % city wide vote increase and we overtook a well-financed Tory party.

LIBERAL PARTY ELECTIONS RESULTS MAY 2021

The May 2021 elections saw a resumption of political activity after the suspension of the polls in the spring of 2020 imposed by Covid-19, whilst social distancing restrictions had some effects on canvassing.

Nationally we ran 48 candidates including 36 at council and 10 at parish level. The spread reflected the election cycle with candidates contesting 27 seats in Liverpool plus a by-election, 2 each in Cornwall and Lincolnshire, and further seats in Sefton, Tameside in Manchester, Reading and Bourton-on-the-Water and Northleach in Gloucestershire.

Steve Radford took 7135 in Liverpool at the Mayoral contest with another 8114 across the City at the council elections. The corresponding result in 2019 was 4120 votes over 22 seats. Our national total was 8763 council votes.



I have no figures for the parish seats as most if not all were contested. Paul Holmes is an elected councillor on Carn Brea and Illogan Parish Council's in Cornwall and has told me that his local district is still short of 10 councillors, and I suspect this is repeated across the country. Again, parish councils offer an entry point for potential elected office.

We are grateful for all those who were willing to fly the flag for the Liberal Party in these elections.

GLASGOW SOUTHSIDE CANDIDATE

“The Liberal Party notes the actions of the former Candidate Derek Jackson at the Glasgow Southside Scottish Parliament seat electoral count. Derek Jackson’s acts do not reflect on Liberal Party core values or policies and break our constitutional rules.

As of 9th May 2021, Derek Jackson has been expelled from the party and given a lifetime ban on future application of membership with The Liberal Party.

The Liberal Party’s Core values stand for

Individual Freedoms, Fairness and Equality within an open and tolerant society for all individuals and communities.

The Liberal Party is sorry for the events that have unfolded and with immediate effect, will begin the process to tighten up our vetting process for applicants that wish to represent themselves as Liberal Party Candidates.

Richard Phillips
NEC Chair”

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

The NEC and a sub-committee have been working on amendments to the Liberal Party constitution with the aim of redefining the role of Leader to be one of political leadership and the President to carry out a purely constitutional compliance membership investigative role.

These proposed changes will be put to the annual Assembly in October for approval before being passed to the Electoral Commission. Copies of the constitutional amendments for debate can be obtained by e-mailing Stephen. grahamg5@gmail.com.

Please note it is not envisaged that these amendments will be approved prior to this year’s NEC elections.



NEC ELECTIONS

The Bi-annual Presidential and NEC elections are due this autumn. Any members are asked to register their interest with Jim Halcrow/Hazel Williams.

A vote has been taken by the NEC to change the threshold for this Presidential nomination threshold to twenty members and retain NEC nominations threshold to 3 for 2021 elections

**The closing date for nominations is the
1st November 2021.**

EMBLEM CHANGE

The Liberal Party NEC has been actively looking at modernising the party emblem and our social media presence.

After an appeal for potential emblems the NEC had agreed to bring the following image proposed by Farès K Moussa to the annual party Assembly for debate and approval from the membership.



Please note the original sunburst emblem will be retained for local campaigns



RIP CLLR JOHN CLARK, RYEDALE



We are saddened to report Liberal Party Cllr John Clark from Ryedale died last Wednesday 11th August after being admitted to hospital with breathing difficulties. Our thoughts are with Cathy and family at this time.

Cllr Mike Potter, Ryedale's new Liberal group leader, said it was a "devastating" loss to the community.

He said: "John's been a stalwart of local politics for 40 years.

"Everything he has ever done has been with honesty and integrity, and for the community, which is possibly something that you cannot say about a lot of politicians.

Mr Potter said Cllr Clark would always fight "for the underdog" and was a farmer who fought to raise awareness of climate change.

He added: "He would never compromise, and he was a very clever man"

Cllr Steve Radford said "I will sorely miss the banter and questioning by John on our Sunday morning chats. John was a larger than life character and it was a privilege to work with him".

MY JOURNEY TO 'THE LIBERAL PARTY' – KAYED AL-HADDAD

I was a life-long Conservative party member as well as voter... or so I had thought. My interest in politics began at the tender age of 16; however, my affinity for the Conservative Party as well as their philosophy slowly began to peter out firstly due to a disillusionment with the party (on the surface it might appear to be a pretty cohesive and united force prima facie; however, its only after being in the party for a certain number of years that I began to realise that they are in fact just as divided on most issues just like any other party most notably, Brexit) and secondly circumstantial – not long after moving out of my parents' house and thereupon enrolling into university at the age of 21: I began to look at life through a different prism hence why I began to make the journey to not only a new party but also a new philosophy, namely, Liberalism. Thus, back in February of this year – after some deliberation – I contacted Paul Bradshaw (the membership

secretary) and subsequently joined the party.

I have been pleasantly surprised by how welcoming everybody has been in the party thus far and I have to confess that I knew very little detail about both the rich history (the party traces its roots right back to the time of the Enlightenment with the writings of John Locke) of the party as well as the many aspects of policy (two favourites of mine thus far are the introduction of Land Value Tax and abolishing the House of Lords for a fully elected Senate) which I have recently familiarised myself with.

In addition, I was also delighted to have recently been appointed The Scottish Liberal Party Secretary: much work is required in order to add to the existing membership north of the border; however, I am relishing the challenge!

Kayed Al-Haddad

Annual Assembly 2nd October 2021

The annual party conference will be held on the 2nd October 2021 at the Briar Hotel in Birmingham subject to any government covid restrictions and will commence at midday.

It is intended to broadcast the event live via Zoom and a telephone dial-in facilities permitting.

The meeting will discuss the adoption of a new party emblem and changes to the party constitution but will also be open to the submission of motions for debate from the membership.

Details of the Zoom meeting will be published prior to the event.