

## Agenda item 4

### Motion to amend the Local Party Constitution

Proposed Judith Walker. Seconded Ian Marks

'This meeting approves amendments to the Warrington Local Party Constitution to bring it into line with the current constitutions of the Federal Party and of the Liberal Democrats in England.'

#### Explanatory notes

A new Model Constitution for Local Parties has been produced by the party and we have to bring our Warrington Constitution into line with this.

There are a few clauses in our current Constitution, which was updated in 2018 and approved at our AGM in 2018, that need minor alterations. These are set out below.

#### Section 3.1 The objects of the Local Party shall be

At 3.1 b (i) which reads

*'To secure the election of Liberal Democrats as members of Parliament, UK members of the European Parliament, members of regional, local and other elected public authorities and other public office.'*

**Remove the words: 'UK members of the European Parliament'.**

#### Section 4 membership

At 4.4 ( c) which reads

*'Initial membership shall run for one year from the quarter day (last of March, June, September or December) following commencement.'*

**Add the words: 'or such other arrangements as shall be specified by the Federal and English parties.'**

At 4.5: which reads

*'The Executive Committee may refuse membership to, or revoke the membership of, any person on the grounds provided by the Party Constitution, using the procedure defined in the Membership Rules of the Liberal Democrats in England.'*

**Remove this section completely as discipline of members is now handled by the independent adjudication system.**

#### Section 10 Finance

At 10.7 which reads

*'The Local Party shall maintain one or more bank or other appropriate accounts in the name of the Local Party for which the mandate for withdrawal shall require the signature of at least two Officers who shall not come solely from members of any one family. The Local Party may maintain further accounts for the deposit of money not required for the time being, requiring the same signatures.'*

**Add the words:**

(b) The Local Party may take advantage of electronic banking facilities if they are provided by its bankers as long as appropriate safeguards are put in place by the Executive Committee to agree expenditure and cash movements both at Executive meetings and by a minimum of two officers in between meetings in advance of such expenditure or movements taking place. Where such action is taken between meetings it will be reported back to the next Executive meeting.

ENDS