

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm Friday 10TH March 2017
Towcester Conservative Club, Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6DB

MINUTES

1. President's opening remarks

2. Apologies for absence

A list of Apologies was read by Daisy as follows: Mrs Bowse, Baroness Knight of Collingtree, Mr and Mrs Gale, Mr Michael Smith, Lord and Lady Boswell, Mr Michael Hill, Mr Gyde Horrocks, Mr Richard Tooze, Mr Peter Burns, Cllr Dermot Bambridge, Cllr Bob Atkinson, Mr Dominic Goble JP, Mr Derek Batten, Mr Michael Savage, Mr and Mrs Wiltshire, Mrs Mary Clarke.

3. Minutes of the last AGM 11th March 2016

These were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Andrea Leadsom and seconded by Andre Gonzalez De Savage. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

4. To receive and adopt a report on the work of the Association for the year ended 31st December 2016, from the Constituency Chairman, Mrs Sandra Barnes MBE.

Sandra Barnes presented the report included in Annex A. The report was proposed by Sandra Barnes and seconded by Jo Gregory. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

5. To receive and adopt the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2016, presented by the Treasurer, Mr Stephen Clarke.

Stephen Clarke presented the accounts included in Annex B. Particular thanks were given to Michael Savage for his work on the Patrons Club. The accounts were proposed by Andrew Grant and seconded by John Townsend. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

5.b (Inclusion)

To receive a report from Mr Stephen Mold, Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner. This item was moved the end of the meeting (after item 9) as Stephen was delayed. Stephen provided members with an update on what he had achieved in his first 9 months as Northamptonshire's Police and Crime Commissioner.

6. To elect the officers for the ensuing year:

Daisy Peck reported that there had only been one nominee for four of the statutory roles these were:

Chairman – Sandra Barnes

Honorary Treasurer – Stephen Clarke

Community Liaison Officer – Andrew Grant

Campaign & Knowledge Management Director- Andrew Wilby

As there had been no other nominations for these four posts they were duly declared elected.

Daisy reported that there remained four positions for which we did not receive nomination papers before the deadline. There were people wishing to stand in these vacancies but due process meant the nominations needed to be opened up to the floor.

President – Peter Warner

There were no further nominations and Peter was proposed by Andre Gonzalez De Savage and seconded by Pinder Chauhan. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

Deputy Chairman (Political) – Lizzy Bowen

There were no further nominations and Lizzy was proposed by Adil Sadygov and seconded by Allen Walker. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

Deputy Chairman (Membership & Fundraising) – Pinder Chauhan

There were no further nominations and Pinder was proposed by Michael Clarke and seconded by Andre Gonzalez De Savage. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

Additional Officers

Cllr Ian McCord and Cllr Jonathan Nunn to continue and Cllr Adil Sadygov. As there is no limit to the number of additional officers who can support the management team it was put to the members that all seven are adopted en bloc. This was proposed by Pinder Chauhan and seconded by Lizzy Bowen. From a show of hands all members were in favour except for two abstentions.

7. To elect Vice Presidents for the ensuing year

Daisy reported there were no new nominations for Vice Presidents this year so asked the members to vote to maintain the same Vice Presidents as last year. These are: Lord Boswell of Aynho, John Townsend, James Shepherd-Cross, Tony Wilkinson, Stephen Mold. This was proposed by John Grindley and seconded by Andre Gonzalez De Savage. From a show of hands all members were in favour.

8. To receive a report from the MP, the Rt Hon. Mrs Andrea Leadsom.

Andrea updated the members on her Parliamentary work over the last year. This included her work in Parliament and local projects including; supermarket drop-in surgeries, village action days, business breakfast club, HS2 compensation scheme, the proposed rail freight interchanges, Towcester relief road, Farthinghoe by-pass, Horton Hospital obstetric provision, health care provisions in Brackley and Towcester and rural broadband among others. Andrea then took 10 minutes of questions from members.

9. Party Chairman Award

Sandra reported that this year the Party is taking the time to recognise the unsung hero's among our members. The 2017 award was presented to Patricia Grindlay. John Townsend presented the award to her.

Mrs Patricia Grindlay – South Northants Conservative Association's Unsung Hero 2017

Patricia has been a committed member of the Conservative Party for over 50 years. She has seen the Constituency through numerous boundary changes and has remained a truly dependable activist throughout. For decades she ran the fundraising committee where she raised many thousands of pounds organising major local events. Patricia was very active in her local branch and a keen Conservative Party Attendee in her younger days. As well as her main fundraising efforts she has also been an important aid throughout many General Elections campaigns. She would always attend meetings and, whatever her role, Patricia always brought a positive and supportive attitude. She was a huge support to a number of Constituency chairman and would have made a fine example of one herself would she have stood for the job. She is a classic example of a true blue and has left a lasting legacy on our Association.

10. Closure of the meeting

- END -

**South Northamptonshire Conservative Association
Annual Report 2016**

Background

The Chairman's Annual Report 2016 on the work of the Constituency is combined with our Financial Statement 2016, as required by the PPER Act 2000. This Act requires the Association to collect and declare all financial information & results from branches (and anyone else) within this constituency that raise funds in the name of the Conservative Party.

The Constituency is referred to by the Electoral Commission as the Accounting Unit. This report will be submitted to the Party Compliance Officer at Conservative Central Office, who will in turn submit the report to the Electoral Commission along with those from all other constituencies. For the purposes of the Act, the Constituency Chairman is the "Treasurer" or Constituency Compliance Officer, and is responsible in law for ensuring that the Act is complied with.

This Annual Report contains all the information sent to the Electoral Commission, but has been expanded to include the more usual information given in an Annual Report. The Officers of the Association are indebted to all the Branch Treasurers who have responded to our Agent's request for information in order to enable us to complete this report.

This Statement of Accounts provides a report on the political and financial activities of the South Northamptonshire Conservative Association. The Association's registered address is:

78 St. George's Avenue,

Northampton,

NN2 6JF

Tel: 01604 859721

E-mail: agent@wnc.uk.com

For the purposes of the Political Parties Elections Referendums Act 2000, Cllr Sandra Barnes MBE is the Constituency Compliance Officer and Treasurer.

Review of Activities

In memorandum

We were saddened to hear of the death of Paul Gifford over Christmas. Paul served as Chairman of the Yardley Chase Branch for several years in the late 1990's.

Political activities

The Association provided support to Stephen Mold in his bid to become Police and Crime Commissioner; he had good support from across the County and thus won the Election. He then had to stand down as a Councillor for Old Stratford where we were able to get Ken Pritchard elected in his place in September. Simon Clifford then stood down from his seat in Grange Park, due to taking a politically restricted role in the PCC Office. After another good campaign our candidate Andrew Grant was successfully elected in his place. We also held selections for the County Council seats for the elections in May 2017, and began the campaigns and producing the election materials.

Constituency Fund Raising

The highlight of the year was 'Dinner with Boris'. It was extremely well supported from across the County. Andrea held another successful High Tea at her home in Slapton and we thank her for hosting it. A Summer Garden Party was also held in Rebecca Breese's garden in the early evening and was most enjoyable. The Chairman's Dinner was held at Whittlebury with Matthew Parris as the Speaker. Members have said how much they enjoyed it.

Business Breakfast Club

This is now in the sixth year since Andrea set it up. Membership is still strong but any new members would still be welcomed. At the last meeting, business rates were the hot topic.

Patrons Club

Michael Savage is continuing to organise very enjoyable and profitable Dinners. The last one was kindly hosted by Ben and Andrea, who were somewhat disappointed with the ratio of South Northants to Daventry Members. In 2017 we would like to increase the amount of patrons from our Association.

Ladies Luncheon Club

The last meeting was held on International Women's Day, a very appropriate date. Angela Bambridge worked very hard to line up a good variety of speakers in 2016 and a push for new members was made in December which has resulted in more members in 2017. However, we are still working together to try to increase membership further.

Committees

The Executive Council continued to meet four times a year as did the Management Committee, and I am very grateful for their support.

Conclusion

As I have only been your Chairman for less than 6 months and have had to step up to the plate very quickly, and therefore have been very busy. I would like to thank Simon Clifford for his short but very active time as Chairman.

This past year has proved to be exceptional in the amount of interest shown in things political such as Brexit, and Mr. Trump. This is a great opportunity for the Conservatives to become the must-go-to-party, instead of the must-leave-party of Labour. We must seek new ways to connect with the voters. I would like to thank Daisy and the helpers in the Office who help to keep us ticking over. Last but not least, all our Councillors and supporters who freely give of their time to help, and Andrea who does not forget us, despite her very important DEFRA Portfolio.

CIr Sandra Barnes MBE

Chairman

South Northamptonshire Conservative Association 10th March 2017

Annex B.

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2016

**SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2016**

Introduction

These accounts provide a report on the political and financial activities of the South Northamptonshire Constituency Conservative Association Accounting Unit.

Registered address

The South Northamptonshire Constituency Conservative Association Accounting Unit's registered address is:

4 Matthew Parker Street,
London,
SW1H 9HQ

Elected Representatives

Andrea Leadsom

MP

Responsible Officers

Sandra Barnes
Stephen Clarke

Chairman and Registered Treasurer
Honorary Treasure and Deputy Registered Treasurer

Political activities

Overview of political activities

The main election last year was the Police and Crime Commissioner held on 5th May 2016. We then had two further South Northants District by-elections held on the 22nd September 2016 for Old Stratford and the 1st December 2016 for Grange Park, but seats were Conservatives holds.

Branches

The Unit has fifteen branches under its direct control and all income received and expenditure incurred by those branches has been included in the Unit's accounts:

Aynho, Croughton & Evenley	Helmdon
Brackley	Kings Sutton & Middleton Cheney
Chipping Warden	Moreton Pinkney & Eydon with Washington
Cogenhoe	Steane
Danvers & Sulgrave	Silverstone
East Hunsbury & Nene Valley with Grange Park	Towcester & District
Hackleton	West Hunsbury & Upton
	Yardley Hastings

Financial activities

Income overview

The Association had a surplus for the year of £9,848 compared with a surplus of £709 for the previous year. A notable success was the Dinner with Boris Event in July, where the association benefitted by 50% of the £20,000 sponsorship raised by Chris Heaton-Harris MP, without which the profits would have been marginal.

Expenditure overview

Continuing expenditure

The Association's expenditure is anticipated to continue at the current level in 2017.

Balance sheet overview

The Association has net assets of £9,300 compared with net liabilities of £548 at 31st December 2015.

Accounting notes

These accounts have been prepared using the accruals accounting method, the same as last year.

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2016

	Note	2016		2015	
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Membership	1	9,632		9,282	
Donations	2	9,080		7,071	
Branch income	3	3,444		13,105	
Fundraising income	4	19,183		49,703	
Miscellaneous income	4	<u>821</u>		<u>842</u>	
Total income			42,160		80,003
Expenditure					
Office costs		8,512		16,282	
Branch expenditure	3	1,178		6,673	
Staff costs	5	19,241		20,794	
Campaign expenses		625		34,000	
Financing charges		699		513	
Miscellaneous		<u>2,057</u>		<u>1,032</u>	
Total expenditure			<u>32,312</u>		<u>79,294</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure			<u>£9,848</u>		<u>£709</u>

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET AS AT
31st DECEMBER 2016

	2016		2015	
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Cash at bank and in hand	16,264		380	
Current liabilities				
West Northamptonshire Conservatives	(964)		(928)	
Accrued income	<u>(6,000)</u>		<u>-</u>	
	(6,964)		(928)	
Net assets/(liabilities)		<u>£9,300</u>		<u>£(548)</u>
Financed by:				
Reserves brought forward	(548)		(1,257)	
Surplus for the period	<u>9,848</u>		<u>709</u>	
		<u>£9,300</u>		<u>£(548)</u>

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2016

1. Membership

	2016	2015
	£	£
Membership fees received directly by the accounting unit	8,935	9,282
Membership fees received centrally by the central party on behalf of the accounting unit	<u>697</u>	
Total	<u>£9,632</u>	<u>£9,282</u>

2. Donations

	2016	2015
	£	£
Cash donations	<u>£9,080</u>	<u>£7,071</u>

During the year the unit had no donations that were reportable to the Electoral Commission i.e. donations that were over £1,500 from the same donor in the year.

3. Branch income and expenditure

	2016		2015	
	Income £	Expenditure £	Income £	Expenditure £
Aynho, Croughton and Evenley			9,038	4,638
Cogenhoe			1,732	-
Kings Sutton	416	-	-	-
Silverstone	<u>3,028</u>	<u>1,178</u>	<u>2,335</u>	<u>2,035</u>
	<u>3,444</u>	<u>1,178</u>	<u>13,105</u>	<u>6,673</u>

4. Miscellaneous income

	2016	2015
	£	£
Raffles	<u>£821</u>	<u>£842</u>

5. Staff costs

	2016	2015
	£	£
Salary costs	18,076	19,250
Social security costs	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,544</u>
Total	<u>£19,241</u>	<u>£20,794</u>

Number of staff	1.25	1.5
Average cost	£15,392	£13,862

I confirm that the above the Income and Expenditure Account on page 2, the Balance Sheet on page 2 and the notes on page 3 have been prepared in accordance with guidance issued by the Electoral Commission and are correct to the best of my knowledge. In addition, I confirm that these accounts have been approved by the members in general meeting.

Cllr Sandra Barnes MBE
 Chairman
 10th March 2017