

Confelicity Manifesto Meeting Minutes



Date: 20/11/2024

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Location: Namasta Village

Present:

Lee H, Layla, Shawna, Sandy, Lee C, Simon, Catherine, Diana, James M, John, James H, Carla, Melissa, Lynsey

1. Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were noted.
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2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and agreed upon.
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3. Leader Updates

- Introductions from all members present were completed.
 - Active campaigning was encouraged by the Leader.
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4. Deputy Leader Update

- John H announced his departure pre-Christmas as he is relocating to Yorkshire.
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5. Election 2026

- James M expressed the ambition to stand candidates for all 51 seats in the upcoming elections.
 - Lee H was appointed Acting Treasurer to oversee campaigns and fundraising efforts.
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6. Manifesto Suggestions

- James M proposed establishing working groups to develop detailed manifesto ideas. He will arrange these groups and present outcomes in a future meeting.
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7. Manifesto Debates

7.1 Erection of 5G Masts

- Discussion focused on health risks, environmental aesthetics, personal liberty, and insufficient information from authorities.
- **Action:** Sandy will email Lydia Hyde to request further information via a Freedom of Information request.

7.2 Smart City Scheme

- Concerns over insufficient information, mistrust, privacy issues, and potential cyberattacks were raised.
- **Action:** Motion proposed to oppose Southend's participation in the national Smart City Scheme.
 - **Votes:** Motion passed.
 - **In Favour (Scores 50-100):** Lee H 100, Layla 100, Shawna 100, Melissa 100, Carla 100, Sandy 100, Lee C 100, Catherine 100, Diana 100, James M 100, Simon J 80, James H 70
 - **Abstained:** John H

7.3 Safety at Night Due to Poor Lighting

- Agreed that improved street lighting in residential areas is essential.
- **Action:** Motion proposed to support the improvement of street lighting.
 - **Votes:** Motion passed unanimously.
 - **In Favour (Scores 50-100):** Lee H 100, Layla 100, Shawna 100, Melissa 100, Carla 100, Sandy 100, Lee C 100, Catherine 100, Diana 100, James M 100, Simon J 100, James H 100

7.4 Fireworks

- Lee C highlighted issues including anxiety caused to people and animals, lack of regulation, and extended firework usage.
- **Action:** Motion proposed to restrict fireworks to permitted time frames and individuals with specific permits.
 - **Votes:** Motion rejected.
 - **In Favour (Scores 50-100):** Lee H 100, Layla 100, Shawna 90, Sandy 80, Lee C 100, Catherine 90, Diana 52, James M 50
 - **Against (Scores 0-49):** Simon J 49, Carla 45, Melissa 1, Lynsey 40

7.5 Reduce Council Tax, Fees, and Charges

- Discussion deferred to the next meeting, also specifically on the handling and income-based collection of council tax.

7.6 Investment in Fruit Trees Across Southend

- Proposal to plant fruit trees in appropriate areas of Southend.
 - **Action:** Motion proposed but rejected.
 - **In Favour (Scores 50-100):** Layla 100, Shawna 100, Sandy 100, Simon 100, Catherine 100, Diana 100, James M 100, James H 100, Carla 100, Lynsey 100
 - **Against (Scores 0-49):** Lee C 49, Lee H 0
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Meeting Adjourned