



ENGLISH YOUNG LIBERALS

EYL Executive 2023 Meeting - 4th December 2022 - Minutes

Present:

James Green (Chairing)	he/him	james.green@youngliberals.uk
Joe Norris (Minutes)	he/him	joe.norris@youngliberals.uk
Charlie Moore	they/she	
William Tennison	he/him	
Jack Worrall	he/him	
Nicholas Orford-Williams	he/him	
Miguel Smith	he/him	(joined during item 5)
Patrick Gilbert	he/him	(left during item 6)
Toby Hawkins	he/him	(left during item 7)
Tom Sutton	he/him	(left during item 7)

Apologies:

Roben Franklin he/him

Absent:

Nathan Eve he/him

Also in attendance:

Callum Clark (Co-BDO) he/him (left after item 3)


Agenda: [📄 Agenda Dec 22](#)

Meeting opened at 4:00pm.

1. Welcome and Apologies

JG opens the meeting. Apologies were received from Roben Franklin.

2. Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising

 November 2022 Minutes

JN recaps the action points from the previous minutes as matters arising.

JG asks for Regional Chairs who have not had their handover yet to email to set up a meeting time.

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. These were approved unanimously.

3. Branch Review Update from BDO (CC)

CC introduces himself as Co-Branch Development Officer, and explains the Branch Review process that is beginning. The Co-BDOs are gathering information on branches and will disaffiliate dormant branches.

CC to email JN and JG to ask Regional Chairs to share information on the states of the branches in their regions.

CC leaves the meeting at 4:14pm.

4. Reflections from Conferences (WT)

WT explains what he did at the EoE Regional Conference as YL Regional Chair. The Regional Conference Committee granted him a 15 minute talk on stage to talk about YL, as well as a stall and the ability to hand out leaflets about EoE YL. People at the conference were interested and readily came up and chatted with the YL Regional Exec, proving a great networking opportunity for the organisation. WT says that it was a great success, and that he would encourage other Regional Chairs to do the same at their Regional Conferences. It was noted that the combination of a talk, a stall and leaflets all together proved very effective.

JN explains about the similar talk he gave at the East Mids Regional Conference, as well as training he has done for LP Chairs in the Region, as well as a talk about engaging YL at a recent LP AGM.

CM says that in the West Mids, the Regional Exec has expressed an interest in learning more about YL, and that Helen Morgan MP in particular came up to them at Regional Conference and was interested in working with YL.

TS says that the North West Regional Conference didn't have a stall, but that he used it as an opportunity to network, talking to key people such as Lisa Smart PPC with the ambition of holding future action days. TS also observed that it was a great opportunity to meet other YLers that aren't yet involved with YL who were at the Conference.

JG requests that JN and WT circulate the resources they made; JN to share the powerpoint for the LP AGM he made, and WT to share the handout leaflet design he made.

NOW shared his experience of being at Regional Conference, echoing others' comments that it is useful and beneficial to go.

JG queries about the Chairs of Y&H being on Regional Exec, as they have previously been refused a seat. JW says he will argue that he and PG should be allowed a place on the Regional Exec, and will make sure they are granted it.

5. Social Media Training

JG explains that LDHQ are offering social media training to the Federal Exec. JG has requested that this be offered to Regional Chairs. It is noted that there are considerations to make the training available to the wider membership. JG asks for opinions on how to encourage the wider membership to attend this training, should it be offered to all.

CM observes that all members of Regional Execs would benefit from social media training. Endorses that training goes out to Regional Comms Officers, in particular.

TS agrees that it is a good idea to offer the training to Regional Exec members, however expresses the need to be flexible and to not make it a requirement for members. Is happy to have the training opened up to the wider membership.

WT agrees with the idea of social media training, however doubts the effectiveness it might have for some people who have previously had issues with their online presence. Suggests a code of conduct be introduced to apply to people who publicly identify as YL online.

NOW is hesitant for the training or a potential code of conduct to be seen as disciplinary, especially if it is offered in a targeted way. NOW asks whether any rules in particular are being broken to prompt this discussion. JG says that, as far as he is aware, there are no rules being broken routinely at present.

JG expresses that there is a wider appetite to make the online presence of YLers more positive, and that the training could be a preventative but positive measure to achieve this.

JW questions the ability of YL to encourage those who would benefit the most from receiving the training to attend. In response to NOW's previous question, JW thinks that some rules have been broken by members online. JW thinks it would be particularly beneficial for Regional Comms Officers to have the training, in order to improve the quality of YL's social media across the board. Endorses the idea of EYL having an online presence distinct from YL.

CM notes that Regional YL accounts tend to have automatic retweets set up for their Regional Execs and YL Twitter, which is not a great online presence for the organisations. Expresses wanting to create a universal brand across the regions as an ambition, and reiterates JW's opinion that EYL should have a distinct presence, in that it can afford to have a more informal and lighthearted approach than the main YL account.

TS wants to professionalise the discourse on official channels, but concurs that humour should remain on the EYL account as there is a benefit to having a different type of content, while making sure there is no slip in standards.

JG summarises that the EYL Exec believes that social media training should be about improving the quality of comms, and not just moderating content, as well as that EYL's presence should be unique from the wider YL in terms of branding and tone of content.

It was agreed by consensus to request that the availability of social media training be extended to the members of Regional Execs.

6. Budget Approval and Amendments

JG introduces the budget. In the most recent Federal Exec meeting, it was agreed that £600 would be allocated to EYL for the year of 2023. JG and JN propose that this be split evenly 12 ways, with £50 being reserved for each of the 11 regions, with the final £50 being a 'reserve pot',

JW thinks that £50 for the regions is a good idea, but that it might be better that the money be spent when needed, where it is needed, rather than having allocations for each region. Emphasises however that the money allocated to EYL should be spent on EYL and Regional activities, and that it should not be funnelled back to a Federal scheme such as Young and Winning.

CM says that their region hasn't spent any money and has no provision for handling finances. JG explains that YL will be holding the money on behalf of EYL. Payments will go through the EYL chairs for approval first, and will then go to the Federal Finance Officer for approval and payment. That way, the regions do not need to handle the money themselves.

CM says that it is hard to see where a region would spend the money, should each region be allocated a budget. Worries that divvying up the money will disadvantage regions that do need money, while allowing less active regions a budget that will not be used.

WT says that having leaflets he produced for Regional Conference would've been beneficial, as he had to print them using his university's printing facilities, and thus is in favour of having money for the Regions to access. Notes that his Federal Region denied their request for money to print leaflets.

JW believes that YL Regions should be asking their Federal Regions for money first and foremost, and that the EYL budget should only be used in the case that the Regions deny a budget request.

WT suggests the text of a motion for the budget: "For each region to be allocated £50, which may be returned to a central pot. Spending must follow requests being made to the regional party, with agreement of the EYL Chair and Federal Finance Officer".

The motion is voted on and passed unanimously.

7. Consideration of Nominations for Co-options

JG shares the document containing all Co-Option nominations.

JG proposes a vote to move the meeting to closed business.

The exec votes in favour of conducting the discussion within closed business.

JG to inform the nominee for Devon and Cornwall Chair that their nomination is invalid due to membership registration reasons.

JG to discuss with CM about the means of holding the votes for co-option.

Chairs to make a list of all YLers on EC for the next year, whether it be as an EYL Rep, or as a rep from the Regions.

8. Adoption of Executive Regulations and Standing Orders

JG states that no feedback has been provided on ERs and SOs.

CM queries what these are given their previous absence. JG explains the ERs and SOs. CM asks if it is appropriate for this Exec to vote for these, given that many of the Exec have not taken office yet. JG explains that it is since the ERs and SOs will come into effect during the next term of the Exec.

WT queries about reports. JG clarifies the reports will be written and not oral.

Exec votes in favour of adopting the ERs unanimously.

Exec votes in favour of endorsing the SOs unanimously.

9. Planning for January Start

JG asks if the regional chairs are ready for January.

JW thinks that every Regional Chair is informed and prepared to take office. Emphasises the need to make sure that Regional Execs are in place, that each have a copy of their constitution, have their social media passwords, etc.

JG to make a checklist for each region to include these points and others.

JW encourages that Regional Chairs go to their Federal Regional Execs to send out emails, as they have the data for their region.

JG reminds the Exec about the monthly bulletin that will be beginning in January, and that the deadline is at the end of the month for any content they would like to be included.

10. AOB

No AOB was raised.

Action Points

- Regional Chairs who have not had their handover yet to email JG to set up a meeting time.
- CC to email the Chairs with the information he wants for the Branch Review.
- EYL Chairs to pass on CC's request, and Regional Chairs to fulfil the data request.
- JN to share the powerpoint for the LP AGM he made about engaging YL.
- WT to share the handout leaflet design he made for EoE Regional Conference.
- EYL Chairs to request social media training be extended to the members of Regional Execs.
- JG to inform the nominee for Devon and Cornwall Chair that their nomination is invalid due to membership registration reasons.
- EYL Chairs to make a list of all YLers on EC for the next year.
- JG to discuss with CM about the means of holding the votes for co-option.
- JG to make a checklist for each region to include these points and others.
- Regional Chairs to communicate any items for Bulletin to the Chairs by the 29th December 2022.

Next meeting will be the 8th of January.

Meeting closed at 5:46pm.

E&OE