

United Kingdom Independence Party – Dorset North Constituency
Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting – Tuesday 26th July 2005.
Held at the Blandford Corn Exchange.

Committee members present:

Peter W. Watson – Chairman

Bill Warren – Membership Secretary and Acting Treasurer.

Guest Speaker – Mr Malcolm Wood, South West Regional Organiser.

Also Present – Mr Richard J. Frampton-Hobbs, Ex-P.P.Candidate.

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1. Meeting declared open by the Chairman Mr. Peter Watson at 7.35pm.
2. Vote of Acceptance of the Minutes in principle of the previous AGM dated 23rd April 2005.
3. Apologies for absence received from: Adrian Lewis Evans and Richard Sheridan.
4. Written formal resignation from the post of Secretary received from Mr. Richard Sheridan on the grounds he has moved from our constituency. His keen efforts on UKIP's behalf were acknowledged.
5. Treasurer's Report given by Mr. Bill Warren postponed from the AGM of the 23rd April 2005 was approved unanimously. The Report included the following detail: Previous to the split of the two branches North and West, a combined membership of 150 in March 2004 was now 85. The Opening balance of £796.00 had been reduced to £510.00 by August 2004, and it had been agreed that each branch would retain half the funds. Thus at September 2004 funds stood at £255.00. By January 2005, the balance was £260.20. Income by way of donations, membership and sales of merchandise have since totalled £4,612.30. Expenses including items such as Advertising, Room Hire, candidate expenses, and branch running costs amounted to £4,414.00, giving a current balance of £198.30. Report ends.
6. The Chairman spoke about the results of the May General Election when our candidate achieved 1900 votes, losing his deposit by 300 votes. Mr. Richard Frampton-Hobbs, the unsuccessful candidate, briefly spoke of the experience.
7. Guest Speaker Mr Malcolm Wood spoke of the recent elections not being the failure they perhaps seemed. He then referred to past elections and his hopes for the future. An example quoted being that 36 deposits were saved at this general election. 7,000 UKIP votes were cast in our area in the previous EU election. Simple, positive lines were required for the next election. Advised those present Nigel Farage would be on Channel 4 at 7.55 Thursday 28th July 2005.
8. Called for volunteers to run Dorset North Constituency as Peter Watson, Bill Warren, Richard Sheridan and Eric Styles were retiring at this meeting or had resigned recently due in most part to commitments outside of UKIP. The Committee were praised for their dedication and hard work for the General Election campaign in such as wide-spread constituency.
9. As a result of Mr. Wood's plea, Mr. Charles Upton was elected unopposed as Committee member with special responsibility for Treasury. Mr. John Lees Baxter was elected unopposed as Chairman, despite his professed lack of oratory skills. Two further members, Mr. Eric A. Styles and Mrs Betty Dandridge were elected unopposed as Committee members without Portfolio. The chair of the meeting was offered to the new Chairman and accepted.
10. The new Chairman thanked Mr Wood for his help and speech, then reiterated the thanks to the retiring Committee, especially Mssrs. Watson and Warren for their considerable efforts that he had witnessed first hand.
11. Thanking the members who had attended, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Signed by: *John L. Baxter*

Acting Secretary

29th April 2006.