



## Confelicity Meeting

**Date: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July**

**Present:**

James Miller, Jon Humphrys, Melissa Aylott, Dee Curtis, Josephine Melville, Lee Clark, Connor Bines, Kayleigh Burgess.

Apologies for absence:

Michael Arkas Binder, Linzi Arkas Binder, Lizzie Smith, Dean Harris and Simon Jones

**Actions:**

- Connor and James set up bank account
- Connor to post financial report to Electoral Commission
- Connor and Melissa to set up camera for the meetings to be recorded
- All confirmed candidates to start a Confelicity ward facebook page.
- James to invite local teachers to a future meeting about education
- James to transfer education notes to future education meeting

**Manifesto policy to vote on in the next meeting:**

1. Formal introduction of a free tutoring system whereby top students from each school are organised to personally tutor students from other schools. 'Each one, teach one'
2. Formally introduce a Southend school philosophy that would underpin a child's education
3. To abolish grammar schools
4. To return grammar schools to serve Southend citizens only
5. To agree a student per population policy when building new housing
- 6.

Jon has purchased a contactless machine for donations.

The following candidates are lined up to stand in the 2023 local elections:

1. Kayleigh Burgess: Shoeburness
2. Michael Arkas-Binder: West Shoebury
3. Dean Harris: Southchurch
4. Melissa Aylott: Thorpe
5. James Miller: Kursaal
6. Brian Ayling: St Luke's (awaiting confirmation)
7. Dee Curtis: Milton
8. Lee Clark: Victoria
9. Jon Humphrys: Chalkwell
10. Nicky Gilbert: Westborough
11. Connor Bines: Eastwood (unconfirmed)

Welcomed Josephine Melville to the meeting, who is the Chair of the South Essex African Caribbean Association. She informed the group of 'Time to Shine', which is a once a month event to bring local artists together, and the East Beach Festival taking place on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August.

James spoke about Confelicity and all would welcome Josephine into the party if she so wished.

Dee has officially joined the Executive Committee.

The 2023 local manifesto is being put together over the year in order to build on the current one that is in place.

The main discussion was on education and the following are general issues raised:

- Teacher contracts and zero hours
- Ensure more teachers are being trained and workload is spread/assisted
- Pay for teachers
- Effects on teachers mental health
- Lack of support
- Academies and their issues
- Quality of teachers
- Get local experts and professionals into schools such as artists, musicians, business people, medical professionals.
- Exams being based on ability rather than memory
- More practical education
- Taking groups outside of the community
- Build or expand schools to reduce class sizes
- Lee mentioned there was a first, second and third class education system
- re-evaluate school times and holidays
- link to options (GCSE and uni) to local / jobs available nationally
- visits from local politicians
- lessons of business and real life

### **Any Other Business (AOB)**

Nothing to report.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm