

# **Annual Report of the Central England (Eastern and Southern Region) Society Party Council for the year ended 31 December 2021**

## **Officers:**

**Chair** Nutan Modi  
**Vice Chair** Titus Ajayi  
**Secretary** Brenda McCraith  
**Treasurer** Chris Smith

## **Executive Committee**

Tony Redman John Howells  
Peter Weston Andre Wheeler

We are pleased to present our Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2021

Through this unusual year the officers have worked hard with the Cooperative party to keep the momentum going in support of Policy processes.

As a Society Party Council, we have continued our work by using Zoom meetings inviting speakers and Party Officers to keep us updated and involved with Campaigning. For example, we had the opportunity to listen to Dermott McKibbin on Leaseholds and Land reform. We also invited John Baruch who spoke at the SPC AGM in March on Proportional Representation. We have had Party Campaigns Officer James Butler enabling us to have more relevant and successful meetings and reporting to us on the work he is doing with officers on our development plan. We are thankful to Chris Smith our Treasurer who has facilitated these digital meetings and reduced our Carbon Footprint

Many of us attended the Virtual Annual Party Conference ;'Building Community Power' which was of the highest quality making it easy for the most digitally challenged participant. The content, speakers and the process of the conference was dynamic, interesting and thought provoking. It also enabled a greater level of participation although most participants held the view that the preference for future conferences would be a blend of virtual and in person. The prelude to this conference had been a series of weekly meetings run by Party Officers and they were focused on different policy areas. Again, they were able to capture a range of speakers who were able to join in from far and near as these meetings were virtual.

We have worked on Party Policy documents on 'Reviving the City Centre' and ' Social Care 'and submitted considered responses to both as a contribution to conference.

We held regular meetings throughout the year alternating Executive Committee meetings with full delegate meetings. Our Party Council meetings are now open to all branch members making them more inclusive. We have tried to reach out to the New Coop Party Equalities Networks inviting presentations from speakers including Dr Roberts who spoke on BAME issues and exploring ways in which to support their agendas.

This year, Party Council financially supported the Labour and Co-operative Party Police and Crime Commissioner Candidates in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. Furthermore, the SPC also supported 44 Council candidates in Leicestershire County Council and the New Unitary Authorities in Northamptonshire North and Northamptonshire West.

The Party Council wishes to thank Central England Co-operative Society for its continued support.

Chair- Nutan Modi

Secretary-Brenda McCraith