

Annual Report of the Central England (Eastern & Southern Region) Society Party Council for the year ended 31 December 2019

Officers

Chair: Nutan Modi
Vice Chair: Martin Strube
Secretary: David Brede
Treasurer: Chris Smith

Council Members

Robin Bennett Berneta Layne
Marta Mayhew Brenda McCraith
Tony Redman Peter Weston
Andre Wheeler

We are pleased to present our Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2019

Nutan Modi was appointed as Chair-person. There was a change of officers as Glenda Weston resigned as Secretary and Roger Berrington resigned as Treasurer. Martin Strube was elected the Vice-Chair, David Brede the Secretary and Chris Smith was elected the Treasurer. Since the appointment of the new officers, there have been some changes in the way the SPC organises itself.

Chris Smith, as Treasurer, has taken us into the era of digital accounting and payment systems where his accounts are very clear and payments are made using online forms and credited via BACS.

David has introduced the process of encouraging councillors by asking them to present reports on their work at all members' meetings. This keeps all members updated on how Co-op Party policy is translated into practice and helps councillors reflect on their practice.

Two of our members went to the Co-op Party Common Decency Conference in London where a new policy was launched to put an end to food poverty and promote food justice. After this, James Butler our Party Officer for Campaigns, was invited to speak to us on how the Society Party Council could help to further promote this campaign and branch members took away ideas and petitions to use locally.

We sent 11 delegates to the Co-operative Party National Conference in Glasgow, this time hiring a van to make it more accessible for people who could not negotiate travel by train or car. The conference was inspiring and thought provoking.

We prepared a detailed response to the policy consultation document as an SPC, on Community, Place and Power, Climate Change and Energy and Environment, which went towards the policy making process in time for the Conference.

We would also like to thank Gareth Thomas and Claire McCarthy, who both left their positions for greener pastures, for their support during their tenure.

2019 was a year of elections at national and local government level. Our Society Party Council supported local Co-operative Party candidates within our region. We also supported our MPs, three of whom in Leicester are Co-op Party members.

We have made an effort to improve our promotional activities and have been involved in conferences where there are recruitment opportunities.

We are looking at ways in which we can give the local Co-operative Party Branches more support.

We held regular meetings throughout the year alternating Executive Committee meetings with full delegate meetings. Our Party Council meetings are now open to all members making them more inclusive.

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

Nutan Modi - Chair
David Brede - Secretary

Society Party Council Central England (Eastern & Southern Region)

Income & Expenditure Account

Year ended 31 December 2019

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Society Grant		15,000		14,800
Membership subscriptions		1,088		1,284
Interest Received		444		435
Donations		35		35
Miscellaneous		-		42
Total Income		16,567		16,596
Expenditure				
Operations				
Annual Conferences	6,572		4,781	
Other Conferences (incl. Weekend School)	1,028		6,515	
Affiliation fees	1,054		675	
Grants: Constituency Labour Parties	4,500		300	
Branches	4,356		1,050	
Extraordinary	1,500		100	
Travelling Expenses	2,833		2,681	
Literature and Stationery	42		275	
	21,885		16,377	
Establishment				
Honorarium and Clerical	315		2,092	
Postage	46		24	
	361		2,116	
Total Expenditure		22,246		18,493
Excess / (Deficit) of income over expenditure		(5,679)		(1,897)
Balance Sheet				
as at 31 December 2019				
Assets				
Co-op Bank plc Account		1,477		7,600
CEC Share Account		20,191		19,747
		21,668		27,347
Funded by				
General Fund				
Balance brought forward		23,799		25,696
Excess / (Deficit) of Income over expenditure		(5,679)		(1,897)
		18,120		23,799
Election Fund				
Balance brought forward		3,548		3,548
		21,668		27,347