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Subject: News on our Party's Registered Treasurer



Last week, our Registered Party Treasurer, Anthony (Tony) Harris stepped down from his role. He has been succeeded by Mike Cox, who brings a wealth of experience from his time working in the City and now runs his own accountancy firm. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Mike to the role. Mike is a Councillor in his hometown of Christchurch, Dorset. I'm sure you'll all get an opportunity to meet Mike over the next few months.



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tony for the work he has done. Unlike other political parties, our Registered Party Treasurer (RPT) is an unremunerated volunteer role. However, like all the political parties, it is an incredibly demanding 'job'. Ultimately, the RPT is the individual who bears personal legal responsibility for ensuring that the Party meets its legal compliance obligations. It is worth pointing out that the RPT is the only Committee Chair who has such a liability.



It was clear from my first meeting with Tony that he took his responsibilities seriously and was across the detail. I hope that we have improved our internal systems and communication over this time, whilst competing with the ever changing and sometimes inconsistent approach from the Electoral Commission.

One thing I would never have guessed from our first meeting, was just how much of a heavy metal fan he is, or that he is a helicopter pilot, training to teach others how to fly. Over recent months, Tony has completed his PhD and his academic career has taken off with a Fellowship at Clare Hall (Cambridge). This is something he is clearly passionate about and is taking up more and more of his time.



Tony has spent many, many hours fulfilling this challenging role and I want to put on record my thanks and the thanks of the Compliance Team, for his support over the last few years. I am sure we all wish Tony well in his flourishing academic career and on his recent engagement to Karen.



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