

## PARLIAMENTARY LIBERAL PARTY MINUTES OF MEETING 27 MARCH 2023

### Special Victorian Parliamentary Liberal Party Meeting

**Date:** 27/03/23

**Time:** 10:00am

**Location:** Liberal Party Meeting Room, Parliament House.

Present: 31/31

Matthew Bach, Brad Battin, Roma Britnell, Chris Crewther, Georgie Crozier, David Davis, Moira Deeming, Wayne Farnham, Sam Groth, Matthew Guy, Renee Heath, Ann-Marie Hermans, David Hodgett, Wendy Lovell, Trung Luu, Bev McArthur, Joe McCracken, Nick McGowan, Cindy McLeish, Evan Mulholland, James Newbury, Michael O'Brien, John Pesutto, Richard Riordan, Brad Rowswell, Ryan Smith, David Southwick, Bill Tilley, Bridget Vallenge, Kim Wells, Jess Wilson.

Meeting opened by Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party, John Pesutto

#### Motion on Notice

Mr Pesutto moved the motion which was circulated 20 March 2023 and proposed a secret ballot.

Pursuant to the *Victorian Parliamentary Liberal Party Constitution*, dated 30 August 2022, (the **Constitution**), that the Victorian Parliamentary Liberal party expel Mrs Moira Deeming from the Parliamentary Party.

Pursuant to clauses 57 and 59 of the Constitution, the reasons for such expulsion being, on the evidence contained in the attached Annexure hereto, that Mrs Deeming, on 19 March 2023 and in days preceding that day, conducted activities in a manner likely to bring discredit on the Parliament or the Parliamentary Party, such conduct by:

- a) on 19 March 2023 and on days prior organising, promoting and attending a rally where Kellie-Jay Keen (also known as Posie Parker), was the principal speaker in circumstances where Ms Keen was known to be publicly associated with far right-wing extremist groups including neo-Nazi activists; and
- b) on 19 March 2023, meeting with and publishing a video with Kellie-Jay Keen, Katherine Deeves, and Angie Jones and that Angie Jones, on that day posted on Twitter words that, in the mind of any reasonable and lay observer, made association with Nazis including on 4:41pm by posting the words "Nazis and women want to get rid of paedo filth. Why don't you", that quote being set out in the Annexure hereto, which Annexure also contains a hyperlink to the video referred to in this reason.

Mr Pesutto spoke to the motion.

Debate ensued.

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Speakers included Mr Riordan, Ms McArthur, Mr Battin, Ms Crozier, Mr Smith, Mr Davis, Mr Wells, Mr Crewther, Mr McCracken, Dr Heath, Dr Bach, Mr McGowan, Mr Hodgett, Mr Southwick.

Members addressed: concerns about participation in events, women's rallies, neo-Nazism, impacts on the Liberal brand, team discipline and compromise on the motion moved.

Mrs Deeming responded to the motion.

**Mr Pesutto suspended the meeting from 11:33am until 11:56am**

**Meeting resumed and called to order at 11:56am.**

#### **Amended Motion**

After discussion led by Mr Pesutto, the meeting agreed that Mrs Deeming not be expelled and that:

1. Mrs Moira Deeming be suspended from the Parliamentary Liberal Party, effective immediately for a period of nine months (until 27 December 2023);
2. The Leader's Office to work jointly with Mrs Deeming on an agreed statement to be made by Mrs Deeming;
3. The Leader confirms that there is no allegation made that Mrs Deeming is a Nazi or Nazi sympathiser.

**Motion put and agreed to.**

**Meeting closed: 12:12 pm.**