

Political Thinking Meeting Report No 34

Chiltern U3A 'Political Thinking'

Meeting No 34 Monday 29th April 2019 (extra meeting due to available slot in u3a schedule))

Topic; Electoral reform and current issues in British politics

An outside speaker Bruce Nixon was invited to lead a discussion on some of the current major issues in British politics.

The discussion was wide ranging

Some of these major issues are identified below, in no particular order, both political and more general

Electoral reform and the unrepresentative nature of Parliament.

Collapse of Parliamentary system

Failure of democracy

Increasing inequality in income and consequently in many other aspects of life.

The unfairness of the taxation system.

The impact of climate change and the absence of political solutions to the global threat

Impact of globalisation and new technology, in particular the consequences of loss of employment opportunities

Immigration from poorer countries to richer ones.

Overall there seem to be many aspects of public policy in the most general sense where failings and failures are identified; but very limited consensus over what solutions might be or even where the pathway might be found.

The message from the speaker was that solutions would eventually be found and that the route was individual participation in political matters by whatever means were available.