

UNISON
Newcastle City Branch
BRANCH COMMITTEE MINUTES
9th MAY 2011

Present: L Hardie, D Gormley, J Young, PJ Elliott, J Liepins-Hall, M Temperley, C Mullinder, M Brown, L Newton, J Bird, L McGurk, L Scorfield, H Rocke, S Hicks, M Harrison, R Sheikh, L Grainger, W Aitman, J Yugire, F Mendelson, B Wilson, S Loughrey, J Imhoof, P Keenan, B Oliver, A Gilks, S Rounthwaite, M Leach, C McArdle, N Gray, E Whitby, S Herron, N Proudlock, J Horne, D Tree, V Suddes, R McGrath, C McGuinness, N Ramanandi, J Nicholson, G Burin, R Holland, N Nicholson, K Bell, A Hamilton, N Oliver, R Fenton, E Wilson

Acknowledgement of work by activists who are leaving or have left. Presentation of flowers to Anne Gilks futher presentations to follow Margaret Brown, Felicity Mendleson, Bahram Mokhtare

1. Apologies

H Ord, B Taylor, L Ashbridge, J Musham, S Hazel, L Parker, J Dunlop, L Hannon, J McIlwraith, C Armstrong, M Oliver, L Hardy, B Turnbull, P Furness, J Carden, A Carson, P Robertson, D Muse, A Hall, J Kennett

2. Minutes

- (i) Minutes of last meeting noted as a correct record subject to the following amendments
- Item 6 – Far Left to be amended to trouble makers;
 - Item 8 – poached changed to approached.

Matters arising – Item 14b £4000 was raised at the event on 10 March 2011

- (ii) Health & Safety minutes – for information only
(ii) Education minutes – for information only

Agreed – Future minutes will be in line with national and regional format

Agreed – Review new format following trial period

3. Membership – Noted

4. STEP and Budget Cuts

An update was provided on the impact of STEP and budget cuts including possibility of compulsory redundancies, trawl for bump redundancies and details of planned meetings.

5. Single Status

An update was provided on Single Status appeals. Window closed at the end of March.

Agreed – Need to progress Workstreams

6. Academies and Part Year Working

An updated was provided

Agreed – Ask PSA to encourage members to become governors. We can provide a list of vacancies.

Agreed – Talk to Labour Group for support in opposing academies.

7. Workforce Learning and Development

An update was provided on a range of courses. For more information on individual courses contact the Branch Office.

8. Directorate Reports

An update was provided on areas of concern in each directorate. The branch and the TUC want closer working with Community and Voluntary Sector Organisations. It was proposed that we would fund meetings with the bigger organisations to develop these links.

Agreed – Branch to provide funding for these meetings.

9. Health & Safety – no report provided

10. Affiliations, Donations and Correspondence

Affiliations agreed – ACTSA, LGC and ICTUR

Donations Agreed – Tyne Tunnel 2 golf tournament for lifeboat (£50), Tyneside Deaf Club Great Swim 2011 (£50), funds for Nicaraguan activist (£25), Phil Wharton studying Industrial Relations course (£500), Macmillan, Hospice in Durham and Marie Curie (£50 each) and sponsored event for Gaza (agreed in principle subject to further details).

Correspondence – Thanks were received from Cuban Solidarity, Macmillan and Gosforth High School world challenge project.

Agreed – Petition to protect NHS and pensions to be circulated

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Agreed – Recommendations on donation and affiliation request will be agreed at Senior Branch Officer meetings and referred to Branch Committee for approval

Agreed – Regular Treasurer's reports needed for information on donations and so on

Next meeting 4.00 pm, 6th June 2011

Action Log

Branch Committee – May 2011

ID	Action	Lead	Due Date	Status
A1	Develop new format for minutes including action log	Angela Hamilton	June 2011	Complete
A2	Review new format of minutes after trial period taking account of any comets received.	Angela Hamilton	December 2011	Ongoing
A3	Single Status – Health & Wellbeing. Organise a workshop to look at the agenda for this with a focus on women.	Nicky Ramanandi	Update next BC	Ongoing
A4	Single Status – Learning & Development. Raise with HR	Paul Gilroy	Update next BC	ongoing
A5	Single Status – Work Life Balance. No work has been done on this to date. Raise with HR	Paul Gilroy	Update next BC	ongoing
A6	Provide a list of current vacancies and ask PSA to encourage members to become governors	Branch Officer	Update next BC	Ongoing
A7	Talk to Labour Group for support opposing academies	Kenny Bell	Update next BC	Ongoing
A8	Provide funding for meetings with Community and Voluntary Sector Organisations.	Kenny Bell/Emma Lipscombe	Update next BC	ongoing
A9	Circulate NHS petition and information on pension champions	Admin Staff	June 2011	Ongoing
A10	Senior Branch Officers to agree recommendations for donations and affiliations.	Senior Branch Officers	Ongoing	Recommendations to go out with minutes from July
A11	Speak to Treasurer about organizing reports for Branch Committee	A Hamilton		

Outstanding actions from previous meetings

ID	Action	Lead	Due Date	Status