

UNISON – Newcastle City Branch

BRANCH COMMITTEE MINUTES - Monday 13 June 2016

PRESENT: E Peck, W Aitman, A Hall(AH), P Gregory, V Suddes, M Wilkinson, L Wilson, A Carson, L Hardie, C McGuinness, M Hollings, A Hamilton, J Bird(JB - Chair), M Dobson, T Leddicoat, J Imhoof, D Mead, J Horne, A Wardley, L Roberts(LR), P Gilroy, J Nicholson

In Attendance: K Loughlin

APOLOGIES: T Cook, N Bone, J Liepens-Hall, U Kaferawanthu, J Yugire, J Kennett, N Oliver, J Carden, S Haque, E Wilson

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

JB opened the meeting.

2. Minutes for Confirmation

Branch Committee – **AGREED**

Matters Arising – Streetworx have given thanks for donation

H&S – none provided

Branch Ed – noted & no matters arising

3. Branch Membership

Decrease of 10 noted

4. Financial Report

The treasurer reported that at half way through the branch financial year, the spend/budget was in line with expectations. The branch is still waiting for money agreed for school facility time approx. £20,000

Affiliations & Donations:

- renew Labour Research £122.25 - **AGREED**
- UNISON President Charity 'Schools in Gambia' £100 – **AGREED**
- Newcastle Westgate Junior Football Club – donation - £50.00 - **AGREED**
 - It was further agreed to look at what other help could be provided other than cash donation.

5. Health & Safety

No report

6. Workforce Learning & Development

Festival of Learning going well. Reading Challenge – asked for return of completed diaries event 1 July 2016 for certificates. May be able to achieve Gold Award.

Bridges to Learning – report tabled

PART TWO

1. Branch Resource Review

It is expected that there will be a significant debate at National Delegate Conference. This discussion was to decide the branch delegate position.

- NEC have produced a report
- General discussion –Branch committee agreed to mandate the branch delegation to support the motion.

2. Local Government & National Delegate Conference

Uncontentious this year.

LGC – support all on agenda – AGREED

Expecting Emergency Motions – agreed that delegates will adopt a position at conference

NDC –Support all bar those identified:

63.3 – oppose

83 – Palestine – oppose

Remaining Order of Business – Vote Leave –oppose – agreed

127/ 128 – oppose – agreed

Rule Changes – Last BC agreed to support rule change brought forward re: Disabled members allocated two seats on NEC.

Oppose all rule amendments advocating bi-annual position - Rule G; Rule D; Rule D; Rule G

Retired members – one off payment – oppose

3. Holocaust Study Tour – Held over to next meeting

Part Three

1. Directorate Reports

Social Work Event – EW & LR – event was positive and discussion section went well. Speaker VI is happy to work with Branch on a conference in future. Working at moment on second event due to take place in July.

2. Branch Officer Reports

Women's, LGBT & Welfare – tabled

NR – update on Women's themed meetings going forward. Health & Welfare Agenda in next meeting. Refugees will be focus of meeting in December

Black members – policy weekend in July.

3. National and Regional Committees and Conference Reports

PG- gave update on NEC –vast majority was regarding conference

TU Bill –now an Act – update given.

Discussion moved forward on proportional representation, votes for 16's & House of Lords.

Any Other Business

Newcastle Living Wage – discussion

Long Service Award –discussion

Durham Miners Gala – Saturday, 9 July 2016 start from Redhills at 8.30am. Asked for stewards to commit to attending and helping with banner.

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 4th July 2016, 3.00pm, Committee Room, Civic Centre