

UNISON – Newcastle City Branch

BRANCH COMMITTEE MINUTES – Wednesday 9th November 2016

PRESENT: C McGuinness, L Hardie, J Liepins-Hall(JLH), W Aitman(WA), V Suddes, L Wilson, A Carson, J Yugire, J Carden, P Barwick, A Ibbetson, I Spencer, M Dobson, G Smith, M Symington, N Oliver, T Cook, D Mead, L Jackson, J Kennett, P Gregory, N Ramanandi(NR) – Acting Chair, P Gilroy(PG), T Carr(TC)

In Attendance: I Mackintosh

APOLOGIES: J Horne, A Brudenell, P Cobb, E Peck, J Nicholson, S Barnes, A Stewart, A Hamilton, E Peck, L Patterson, J Bird

PART ONE – Regular Business

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

NR opened the meeting.

2. Minutes for Confirmation

Branch Committee – **AGREED**

Matters Arising – None

Health & Safety – None

Branch Education – Minutes Noted

3. Branch Membership

T Johnstone recruited 20 members and 1 steward as part of his work in the GFF CVS project - report circulated at meeting.

4. Financial Report

Donations:

- War on Want renewal £25 - **AGREED**
- Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign £50 – **AGREED**
- Hazards 2017 £200 – **AGREED**
- Show Racism The Red Card, Wear Red Day, Match Funding £50 - **AGREED**
- Durham Teaching Assistants £1000 – **AGREED**
- Ritzy Strike £150 - **AGREED**
- PG - TA's lobby in Durham supported by Branch banner being taken and attendees from the Branch

Correspondence:

- Letter of thanks from Justice For Columbia and also St Gemma's Hospice

5. Health & Safety

PG - Heating issues on the 9th floor, Civic Centre, being addressed.

6. Workforce Learning & Development

Report Noted.

PART TWO – Specific Business

7. Pensions Presentation – Tony Carr

WA introduced the item as requested by members and Reps - the session was put together by TC and JLH - both ULRs and Pension Champions. Copies of the presentation enclosed which is current to date.

8. Honoraria Paper - Ian Macintosh

IM - The report was discussed then questions were answered.

- A vote was taken and the Honoraria was agreed to go forward to the AGM.

9. Branch Budget – Paul Gilroy

PG gave a presentation, referring to papers circulated prior to the meeting. Proposals for release of Adults Convenor and ACX/Resources/I&D Convenor for 1 day per week in 2017.

- The budget was **agreed** by Branch Committee.
- The admin review was **agreed** by Branch Committee

10. ERA Framework – Paul Gilroy

Discussions on Industrial Relations and facilitated time to be picked up via DJC.

- Framework **agreed** by Branch Committee

11. Council Budget

- **Terms and Conditions** PG highlighted the ongoing work of the Branch and also asked for ideas to take forward. A range of ideas were suggested including the use of twitter and social media, and lobby of Labour Group.

PART THREE – Officer Reports

12. Directorate Reports

Reports Noted.

13. Branch Officer Reports

Reports Noted

14. National and Regional Committees and Reports

None

15. Any Other Business

None

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 5 December, 3.00pm, Committee Room, Civic Centre