

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

DERBYSHIRE AREA ACTIVIST COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Lee Wood Hotel, The Park, Buxton, SK17 6TQ
Monday 28 June 2010



COMMITTEE

Attendees: Adrian Cowley, Steve Froggatt, John McCallum, Sue Pass,
Joe Woods, Adrian Axtell, Tony Tinley, Jackie Williams,
Mark Young

1 *Apologies for Absence*

Apologies were received from Dave DeLacy, Stu Grant, Simon Hemmings, Steve Hibbert, Mahf Khan, G Lowndes, Robert Mays, Julia Williams and Ian Wilson. **NOTED**

Adrian Cowley was accepted as Chair in the absence of Simon Hemmings. **NOTED**

2 *Minutes of Last Meeting*

John McCallum raised that he had sent a motion but it was not minuted. Adrian Axtell explained that the Chair had not accepted it as business of this Committee. With this amendment, the minutes were accepted unanimously. **ACCEPTED**

3 *Matters Arising*

Vernon Gate Office

The Vernon Gate office closure had been expected but had been stopped on the intervention of one of the General Secretaries.

Education Officer

Dave Jeffery had been successful in his application and has now taken up the role.

BNP Leafleting

Twenty lay reps and FTO's had issued leaflets at Derby train station for over an hour before being evicted by the transport police. The Chair thanked all who had helped. When properly organised it is impressive what can be achieved. **NOTED**

4 *Regional Industrial Report*

AMPS

AMPS now disbanded – had been dominated by Post Office managers. Reports that AMPS East Midlands had not met were incorrectly reported at the Exec.

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

H&S Conference

Seats were filling up.

Nottingham Office

The new Nottingham office will be opening on 19 July 2010. Tony Woodley has approved this.

Chain Festival

The festival is being supported by the East Midlands. Tickets are available from Mandy at the Derby Pride Park Office.

Political Weekend

Seven delegates will be attending.

Policy and Rules Conferences

Conference went well. East Midlands had a good impact both in comment and content.

The East Midlands has two seats, one must be a woman and a number of industrial seats are up for election.

General Secretary Election

Rules and protocol now issued for branches and workplaces. Michelle Wynne is responsible for workplaces within the Region.

Timetable as follows:

Nominations: July – August
Election: September – October
Result: End of October

Executive Council

Minutes were circulated and Regional Committee minutes issued.

John McCallum requested further information on workplace nominations. Adrian Axtell believes this would be based on bargaining groups through normal negotiating structures. Information and clarity should be sought through officers.

Celenese, Derby

Jackie Williams informed the meeting of the risk of the closure of the Celenese Plant. Information came out that the Company were talking to Bombardier about possible job vacancies. Jackie requested that delegates keep her and Ian Halley informed of any vacancies in the area.

The Company were speculating that they would not be making people redundant before June/July next year. There is other dialogue with Caterpillar. Sandvik had taken on approximately four new employees on temp to perm contracts

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Mesothelioma Event

Tony Tinley invited colleague to attend the event on Friday 2 July at The Quad in Derby.

E.on Pay Settlements

Tony Tinley reported on the following pay settlements within E.on:
Retail, 2% over three years
Generations, Distribution and Renewables, 4.1%

Derby Homes

TUPE transfer from Derby City Council had gone pretty smoothly.
Current issue of Joint Company Council having none reps on it.

Bemrose Booth

Lakhy Mahal and Sean Kettle are the new Life Long Learning Co-ordinators. Kathy Brooks has been taking the lead with the redundancies at Bemrose Booth.

Bombardier

Mark Young reported that pay deal had been accepted – 1.5%.
Performance policy had been agreed.

Rolls Royce Aero Repair and Overhaul

Memorandum of Understanding agreed. Work is starting to appear and need to support for further shortfall. Four people fallen foul of assessment but will be redeployed.

TNT

Please see attached.

Women and Equality Team Report

Please see attached.

NOTED

5 *Delegates Industrial Reports*

Derby City Council

John McCallum reported on Derby City Council awaiting the impact of Notts outsourcing all manual labour. Speculation of public sector one day industrial action.

Federal Mogul

Please see attached.

NOTED

6 *Regional Industrial Strategy*

Mark Young spoke about the 100% campaign and organising to win strategy.

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Key Points:

- In France CGT had grown by 900,000 members since March 2010
- Consistent campaigning around issues delivers measurable fans
- Been in post with Annmarie since November 2009
- In front of other regions but need to make step change in process
- Impact on membership in traditional workplaces is quite bad following economic downturn
- Trade Unions have allowed combines work committees to disparate
- The 100% campaign is different to each composite unions campaigns but need to work for Unite moving forward
- Jimmy Kelly is the National Officer responsible for this area
- We must avoid mechanised models and identify real improvements in structures and members
- Must ensure reps in target companies take responsibility for being organised and developing strategies to increase membership
- Improvements in terms and conditions and health and safety are the core of activity and should be used to gain trust and confidence of none members and deliver a real difference in the workplace
- Need to ensure we come out of this period stronger and better prepared
- We are looking to run a number of short seminars in October 2010 with officers and reps to support, learn and develop our structure

Joe Woods asked when we would have access to membership packs. Mark replied that recruitment packs are available in the health service and can potentially be produced. Regional Officers need to develop this if necessary and gain funding through the regional funding structures.

John McCallum stated that parallel with pensions issues, people will respond to issues based on campaigning and Unite should be leading this criteria. Working another year will have significant impact on members and Unite leading will support recruiting. We need to recognise and identify this as core issues to members. Adrian Axtell welcomed the comments and stated that the structure does allow this and needs to be activated. Mark asserted that the union needed to identify the right campaign, right time, right resource and right focus to get the right outcome.

NOTED

7 Any Other Business

Information regarding the General Secretary's election is on the Unite website.

Derby TUC is at threat of closure, Adrian Axtell is fully engaged in the campaign.

NOTED

The meeting closed at 9:15pm