

EAST MIDLANDS REGION



DERBYSHIRE AREA ACTIVISTS

2A Wentworth House, Vernon Gate, Derby

Monday 29 March 2010

COMMITTEE

Attendees: **Delegates:** R Baldwin, A Cowley, W Coxon, S Froggatt, Mrs S Harrison, S Hemmings, Ms S Pass, I Wilson, J Woods

Adrian Axtell, Regional Secretary

Jackie Williams, Regional Industrial Officer

1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from F Barron, D De Lacy, S Hibbert, M Khan, G Lowndes, J McCallum and T Tinley.

2 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Agreed

3 **Matters arising from previous Minutes**

Delegates e-mail list to be sent to Olwyn Emery, Labour Party Co-ordinator.

Minute 4 – Officers` Regional Industrial reports – Adrian to **ACTION** for next meeting.

Minutes 7 – Steve Froggatt has now been elected to the Disability Committee.

4 **Regional Industrial Report**

Adrian Axtell, Regional Secretary advised that the Rules Conference delegates may now be dealt with by the National Industrial Committees.

Vernon Gate office closure is expected to take place w/c 26th April.

Health & Safety Conference flyer was handed to Delegates and it was reported that Mandy Shoker was attending a conference in Yorkshire to ascertain whether anything could be used at future conferences.

Regional seminars – some of these are now full but there are still places left on some seminars.

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PI Briefing – Further work needed to increase numbers at the Derby event. Simon Hemmings explained that he has not yet sent in the list of reps from Rolls Royce and this would significantly increase the numbers.

Regional TUC meeting has been held and Gerard Coyne elected as Chair and Adrian Axtell elected as Vice Chair.

Education Officer – closing date for applicants was 5th March.

General Election campaign – Pride Park offices are open every Saturday for activists to conduct telephone banking and Olwyn Emery is keen to hear from anyone who can assist with the Unite4Labour campaign.

Joe Woods reported one representative was not able to attend the Conference and will be resigning at the end of May. If Joe is not able to attend Colin Smith would deputise.

Adrian Cowley spoke about the Policy Conference to ask if activists would be elected from the RISCs and how Branches could put forward Motions, could the Regional Committee endorse a Motion from Branches which would then be put to the RISC and National Committee.

Four Delegates from the Aerospace industry are having problems getting female members to attend and this blocks any male members being nominated.

Many RISCs only have 1 seat with no proportionality but where there are more Delegates proportionality should apply.

Regional training will be set up in respect of contract workers and if this is raised at the Regional Committee it should be acted upon.

Adrian Cowley attended a course in Buxton and was shocked to find only two activists had already received training, three new activists had not completed Stage 1 or 2 or a health and safety course. There was a big problem with activists not being able to attend a Stage 1 or 2 until later in the year. The first day was spent discussing who the Officer is etc.

Adrian Axtell reported that too many courses were being run with some having to be cancelled due to lack of applicants. If there are 15-20 new activists a 1 day course could be organised and agreed to raise this with Regional Committee

Rolls Royce redundancy course worked really well as did a course at Bakkavor.

Adrian Axtell advised we need to be more reactive to activists needs.

NEC report noted.

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5 Delegates Industrial Reports

Adrian Cowley, Federal Mogul – the pay claim has now been finalised with the hourly rate paid onto monthly pay + 3% but long service pay has been frozen to new starters.

Rolls Royce – Derby works – 1 left at high risk and the number of service mechanics hope to retain numbers. A rise of 2% on all grades has been secured + £500 from the 1st January back-dated.

Derby staff – pay rise 2% from March + £600, blue print and new facilities discussed through the global Council. Blue print race to bottom not top. Derby AR&O 119-130 at risk and it is hoped all but 3 mitigated. 2% + £500.

Joe Woods, Bombardier has had consultation with HR on discipline and grievance procedure on performance management and now has a blue print for disciplinaries in April which was first stage disciplinary but we believe should be further down. The medical centre which is due to close will now come under BUPA but no consultation had taken place.

Margaret Beckett visited the site as did Ray Collins. Three major orders had been lost and if we don't get the Thames Link order there will be redundancies. Chris Williamson, Pat McFaddon and Peter Mandelson are involved in talks.

Pay talks are not progressing.

Susan Pass, TNT – conducted a survey of the membership to determine the issues within the workplace.

Bob Baldwin, Hansons – In September 2009 the Company had been on a 3 day week due to the building industry having a 2 year excess of stock. In November 7 employees left by voluntary severance. The Company have to produce tonnage per day per number of employees and it was announced at the March review they needed to lose 15 employees who will finish at the end of the month but only 2 compulsory, the rest were voluntary. The industry is still poor and selection was under the matrix system. Company indicating they will be on short time for the rest of the year.

Reps have been reduced from 12 to only 4. New plant and 6 new jobs were being created.

Adrian Axtell stated that the 23rd April is the provisional date when we will be distributing leaflets from 0630 at the train station as the BNP will be fighting hard. If anyone is available to assist can they first e-mail us to check the date

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CSEU meeting cancelled.

Derby Trades Council – May Day rally would take place on 1st May congregating at the Assembly Rooms from 10.30 a.m. for 11.00 a.m. start. Joint General Secretaries will be speaking

6 *Regional Industrial Strategy around Organising*

Political – A discussion took place about the Trade Union for Labour website - <http://unite4labour.org/> which is a tool for Unite members.

7 *Equality Committee vacancies*

It was raised that there are still vacancies on the Equality Committee.

8 *Committee dates*

The following dates have been agreed for future meetings:

Monday 28th June to be held in Buxton and Jackie Williams to action this and organise with Adrian Cowley.

Monday 4th October to be held at Derby Rolls Royce Foremans Club, Osmaston Road, Derby.

9 *Any Other Business*

Motions

A Motion in respect of redundancy was received from Rolls Royce and it was agreed by the Committee this should be forwarded to the Policy Conference.

Adrian Cowley was disappointed that High Peak was not on the list of key seats as he wanted to give the new candidate as much support as possible.

Derby North has been added to the list of key seats and the Political Committee has a role to support Unite MPs as in the past.

Bob Baldwin stated he had received letter from his old Officer releasing him from West Midlands to East Midlands.

Susan Pass has been nominated to attend the TUC Conference.

Meeting closed.