

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION SECTOR

Rutland Hall, Loughborough University

Monday 14 June 2010



COMMITTEE

Attendees: **Committee:** B Haveliwala, C Marlow, L Alessandro, M Gee, D Roach, M Bryce, Manohar Patel, A Stone and Sulina Hendy

Garry Guye, Regional Officer

13/10 Apologies

The Chair - Chris Marlow welcomed delegates to the meeting and took Apologies which were received from Mike Robinson, National Officer, Alan Wilcox, John Corrie, Declan Brady.

14/10 Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 21 March 2010

AGREED: to accept the minutes as a true record. It was also suggested that a copy of the Minutes should be forwarded to the National Committee.

15/10 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

16/10 Relevant Correspondence

❖ Political School in Durham

There were no nominations as it was felt that there should have been more notice about this event.

❖ Students Union – Leicester

The Secretary advised of a letter received from the Students Union. This letter implied their intentions to de-recognise Unite. Following a discussion regarding whether or not there was a formal recognition agreement in place from past years.

AGREED: that the secretary undertake an investigation and respond to the letter accordingly and report to the next meeting.

❖ Regional Equalities Events during 2010 including LGBT; BAEM; Young People; Women and Disabled members.

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17/10 Regional Young Members Conference 2010

The Secretary advised the meeting of the current position concerning the Organisation of young Members in Unite. Subsequently, there will now be a Young Members Committee and a Young Members Conference in each Unite Region. Young members will be under the age of 27. The Conference is being held on 10th July 2010, in Derby.

Following debate it was **AGREED**: to note the matter as there were no nominations. It was also noted that Branches would endeavour to make nominations prior to the closing date.

18/10 Regional Health & Safety Conference 13th October 2010

The Secretary advised delegates of arrangements for this very important conference. Delegates **AGREED**: that there was immense value in attending this conference and will encourage the widest participation.

19/10 Establishing a Regional Industrial Strategy for 2010/2011

The Secretary outlined the basis of the Draft Strategic Plan he had prepared and circulated to delegates. A number of amendments had been proposed and adopted.

AGREED: to accept the final document as a working document and that the item to remain as a permanent item on the agenda which will be used as a quarterly review.

20/10 Regional Industrial Report - Officer

The Regional Officer reported on a number of items including: Progress being made at Alderwasley School – Derbyshire, in recruiting and Organising members following a very successful Pay Structure dispute.

With regards to the National Pay Claim. There will be a workplace Ballot in the next few weeks and National Officer/Regional Officer will be available to attend any organised meetings of our membership at each establishment.

The union had undertaken a project regarding Personal Injury Claims which had now ceased. A new Form is now being used and completed Claim Forms needed to be sent to the Regional Office and not King Street.

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There still appear to be a reluctance by members to pursue formal grievances and we needed to encourage our members to exercise their legal rights at work.

21/10 Regional Industrial Reports - Delegates

Loughborough – Dave Roach reported on his involvement with a member who had been dismissed for misusing the IT Equipment including Face Book. It was also noted that this member only involved the union well after the event.

Management was in the process of organising Joint Meetings with involvement of the other Unions.

A Partnership agreement is being progressed.

The Facilities agreement is being updated.

Faculty to schools department is being created and this will have an impact on support staff.

Leicester – Chris Marlow reported on issues related to the Pension Scheme and early retirement and that a meeting is awaited between Unite and the University.

An Informal Partnership meeting had been established with a view to meeting once per term.

Changes were taking place from Departments to a College system and Terms and Conditions were being changed which will in future be applicable to all staff.

A new Redundancy Policy and Procedure is being negotiated.

They are now preparing for a ballot on the .4% pay offer.

A Voluntary Severance Scheme is being introduced.

A sustainable Travel Plan is being considered, and this will virtually see the end of a car park at the university.

Nottingham – A Joint working Group is being established to discuss issues at work, but there is growing concern about the lack of a time line.

Time off for TU Duties is an issue.

Regradings are almost at an end for support staff.

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There is a Voluntary Severance Scheme in existence, but this is cost neutral and impacts on Pension Benefits.

There is much corporate Bullying from Departmental Managers

Cost Cutting and Car Parking are the Big Issues at the moment.

22/10 Election of Regional Delegate to Higher Education National Committee – Estates

The Secretary explained the background to this item and the efforts made without any success to seek a delegate from the former T&G from other Universities. First meeting due on 29th June 2010.

AGREED: Manohar Patel - Leicester is elected unopposed

23/10 Any Other Important Business

- (a) A request was made by Chris Marlow for consideration to be given by the Union to produce a Reps Handbook for Higher Education.

The Secretary replied that he will take this matter up with the National Secretary.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 1pm.

25/10 Date, Time and Venue of the next Meeting

AGREED: The next meeting to take place on 11th October 2010. At the Loughborough University. To commence at 11 am.