

# EAST MIDLANDS REGION

## LINCOLNSHIRE AREA ACTIVISTS

Bentley Hotel, Lincoln  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010



### COMMITTEE

#### **Attendees:** Delegates:

Andy Shaw (Regional Industrial Officer)  
Dave Roome (Regional Officer)  
B Brogan, D Crisp, P Curtis, M Devine, S Evison, C Grimshaw,  
J Hughes (Chair), N Johnson, P McGill, D Nelson, N Newark, P  
Sykes, M Wood, S Hewson

#### 1 **Welcome**

Andy Shaw (Regional Industrial Officer) and Dave Roome (Regional Officer) welcomed and thanked the delegates for their attendance to the first Lincolnshire Area Activists Committee Meeting.

#### 2 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Adrian Axtell (Regional Secretary), Floyd Major, Martin Taylor and Bill Brogan – (who had retired since last meeting).

#### 3 **Previous Minutes**

The previous minutes were taken page by page and adopted as a true record.

#### 4 **Matters Arising**

- Future dates to be discussed and set and appropriate notice to be given to the Committee for organising and attendance.
- Contact numbers for delegates and chair.
- Electronic contact details.

#### 5 **Regional Industrial Reports**

Dave Roome (MOD) gave his report and announced that RAF Cottesmore is to close.

With regard to the 100% Campaign which is ongoing as part of the Unite Strategy, RAF Coningsby has been targeted with currently 89 members. There were various individual issues dealt with within the NHS and other industries.

Dispensing Pharmacies – United Lincolnshire Trust are consulting with staff over better weekend coverage for Lincoln and Boston. There is expectancy on staff from Louth and Grantham to cover Lincoln and Boston over the weekend.

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Individual member issues continue to take up time in the diary.

Andy Shaw (FDT) provided a written report and distributed it to delegates which was supplemented by a verbal presentation.

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### ***Delegates Industrial Reports***

Siemens:- There is an ongoing issue over the company offering 0% pay rise but a possible bonus for xmas 2010 .

Siemens Germany is removing its packing operation to Sweden and Holland. Significant job losses are under consultation, and Redundancy consultation is to be announced due to lack of orders.

Forecast a record profit for the coming year.

Cummins Electrical Engineering – (Phil Sykes):- At the end of 2009 all 270 agency workers were laid off site, all of which were members.

43 employees left on Voluntary release.

Form HR1 was issued to the DTI which affected 60 employees in October 2009.

66 volunteers were subject to assessments; the union opposed the assessments and made 7 compulsory Redundancies subject to Unfair Dismissal claims.

There was a 50% reduction in Staff during 2009 and £1.6m forecasted loss in output.

January – the company are seeking to reintroduce numbers of Agency workers to cope with an increased demand. This is subject to a Failure to Agree.

ITP Engines –:- Aerospace jet engine components. Due to a downturn in orders there was a 25% reduction in the workforce. £5m of orders lost.

Budget targets were met for 2009 due to slight upturn in December.

There was a wage freeze in 2009 but preparations are being made for the annual discussions within the next six weeks.

Bakkavor Pizza:- Annual negotiations took place during Nov/Dec 09 on the back of a wage freeze. Discussions yielded a 1.3% increase and additional benefits to be listed.

This was accepted by the membership. Looking to develop core staff – temporary to permanent arrangements.

Dawn Nelson:- There has been branch development over the last year. Looking to bring the Bakkavor sites together through networking.

Shirley Hewson:- Agricultural Branch Secretary subject to the Agricultural Wages Board Order.

Finnveden (Mick Wood):- This site will close on March 5th due to rationalisation; the work is being moved to Italy, Canada and Sweden.

This affects 106 employees, this time last year there were 240 employees.

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Norprint (Paul Curtis/Nigel Newark):-For 2009 as part of a cost saving exercise employees were subjected to a wage freeze, hourly rate cuts, overtime rate cuts and loss of Pension rights.  
Volumes were high over 12 months; they are financially sound and had a profitable year achieving targets.  
Following negotiations the original rates were reimplemented on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.

Lincoln County Hospital:- Building work is ongoing due to lack of bed space.

CBS (John Hughes):- 130 employees were made Redundant over the last 12 months, of these 40 were Voluntary.  
From Feb 2010 there will be recruitment opportunities – John is seeking agreement on the reinstatement of Redundant employees.  
The contract is secure for Media Centre and toilet blocks for the Olympic Games.

### **7 *Regional Industrial Strategy***

General Election preparation.  
Unite Strategy – marginal seats a priority.  
Network with MP and invite to next meeting.  
Lincolnshire membership mobilise.  
Unite volunteers to telephone bank unite members relating to Political Strategy.  
It was moved to invite Gillian Merron to the next meeting.

### **8 *Equality Committee Vacancy***

BAEM – No nominations from Committee.  
LGBT – No nominations from Committee.

Jimmy Ndjai at Bakkavor not a committee delegate, but may be willing.

If someone stands down from a committee do we replace immediately or follow two year process?

### **9 *Future dates for Committee Meetings***

To take place on a quarterly basis. Identify National dates and agree to hold Area Activists Meeting 2-3 weeks prior to those.

### **10 *Any other Business***

The delayed payment of expenses for both sections – why the case and how to address.

Updated East Midlands pages following Committee Meetings with Minutes on the website.

### **11 *Closure of Meeting***

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.