

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Goodmans Fields Branch of Amicus
Held on 22nd June, 2006, Conference Room 1, A/2 West**

Meeting commenced at 12:37.

Present.

Five members.

Apologies for Absence.

Received from eleven members and Sue Lawrence, London Regional Officer.

Minutes of the Meeting 25th May, 2006.

These were agreed.

Matter Arising.

- The Chair of the GT Sub Committee would be unable to attend the upcoming meeting of the National Company Committee. The Secretary was not certain whether or not he had a deputy and had, therefore, asked two other people who would be attending if they would provide a short report of the meeting.

Chair's Update.

- The Chair said that he had been in contact with Stuart Davies, who now had responsibility for equality issues in RBS, having taken over from Clare Moody. He had wanted to ensure that the items Branch had raised earlier in the year were not lost and also to discuss the running of a second childcare survey. Stuart had advised him that he was in the process of getting himself up to speed with what was going on in Group and would come back to the Chair shortly. It was agreed that Stuart be invited to speak at Branch.
- If a second childcare survey was run, the original survey would need to be amended to gather as much information as possible regarding who looks after the children when parents are at work and, in particular, what happens when emergency childcare is required. The provision of, or contribution towards, emergency childcare is one of the items we want to see progressed by the Bank.

- The Chair circulated copies of a newsletter focussing on Ulster Bank Integration. The sections of the newsletter covered payment for overtime, additional hours, excessive hours, night shift/unsociable hours, standby and call out. Also covered were annual leave commitments and “What am I entitled to?”

Finance Sector Conference.

This was held in Scarborough over 14th and 15th June and attended by approximately a hundred and fifty delegates, some twenty of whom were from London. A successful first conference of the Finance Sector, integrating fully into the Amicus structures whilst retaining industry autonomy.

Highlights included:

- Derek Simpson’s address, focussing on the general political situation and the need to change New Labour from inside if it is to win the next General Election. This was followed by a very solid Q & A session involving many of the delegates who, amongst other things, ensured that the platform knew of some difficulties that were being met on the ground and sought as smooth a merger with the TGWU as possible.
- A very detailed and interesting presentation on outsourcing given by Professor Philip Taylor, Strathclyde University. Copies of the slides are being obtained.
- The standing ovation given to the Zimbabwean trade unionist who moved some delegates to tears with her depiction of the plight of women in her country.
- A presentation by Baroness Prosser on equal pay.

Steve Fallowell, RBS City Branch, was elected to the Finance Sector National Committee.

All the London delegates will attend Policy Conference in 2007, there were fewer delegates attending Sector Conference than the entitlement for places.

James Beazley, RBS City Branch, will be attending TUC Congress in September.

Local Issues.

Further comparisons were being made between Aldgate Union and Gogaburn. A current buzz concerned the medical and dental facilities for staff working there. Agreed to confirm exactly what is available to staff in the complex and to research what other major companies offer their staff working in similar establishments.

Meeting closed at 13:32.