

GMB Northants Community Branch Secretary: Gordon Glassford, Corby, Northants, NN17 2LL Phone: 07792208229 Email: gordon.glassford@gmbactivist.org.uk www.gmbnorthants.org

Summary of the branch meeting held on 25.07.18

Four branch members were elected as delegates to the Regional Equality Conference on November $\mathbf{8}^{\text{th}}$

We will try and find out who to make the cheque out to for the 'Votes for Voices' exhibition.

Correspondence:

It was agreed to make a donation to the Meningitis Research fund.

The secretary will order 2 more LRD Disciplinary and Grievance booklets.

Secretary's Report:

The secretary had attended a 2 day branch organisation course in Nottingham. He felt that there should have been more young people there. Too many of the delegates had, like him, been doing it for years. David Castledine gave a presentation about GDPR, it turns out we have nothing to worry about as long as we are careful, which we usually are.

The secretary had, along with Rachelle Wilkins, attended a meeting with members and potential members from St. Andrews healthcare. It appears there are many problems there which are not being adequately handled by Unison, which currently has recognition. We were told that most of the problems are racial in nature, bullying by senior staff and blocking of promotion being the main ones. The secretary has contacted the regional equality officer, Tye Nosakhere, to see if he could come down to a meeting but hasn't heard back. He will pursue it as it is too important to let go.

It was agreed that the secretary should try and set up a meeting, to take place in September, to discuss a plan of action regarding the proposed change to unitary authorities in Northants. GMB comrades from Northampton Borough Council to be invited.

Communication Officers Report.

1576 newsletter had gone out 29% opened. Visits to the website are down on last month. Website contacts page updated, and info on upcoming events added. Facebook and Titter likes and followers

were about the same. Adrian had done some work on the new logo and it was felt that the one with Northants on top was best.

Equality Officers Report:

Workplace Reports;

Kier: There had still been no sight of the 'measures letter' detailing the changes to be made.

BCA: Martin reported that the company is now up for sale. He hopes the new owners will be more on the ball than the last ones. Martin is now retiring but he will still be involved as an accompanying rep.

Accuma: Problems still ongoing.

Prince William School: it was reported that there were ongoing redundancies in the science dept. One long serving colleague, not a union member, had been made redundant by email. Rachelle has been informed.

Panther Distribution Northampton: A member from Panther Distribution attended the meeting along with three colleagues. They have various problems, common among self employees workers in the sector. We will get Rachelle involved.

Any Other Business.

Apparently there is to be a TULO fundraiser sometime soon.