

**GMB Northants Community Branch**  
**Secretary: Gordon Glassford, Corby, Northants, NN17 2LL**  
**Email: [gordonglassford@gmbnorthants.org](mailto:gordonglassford@gmbnorthants.org)**  
**[www.gmbnorthants.org](http://www.gmbnorthants.org)**

## **Summary of the branch meeting held on 26.07.17**

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the situation at Kier. The contract with Corby Borough Council is up next year and we have heard nothing about what is going to happen then. It was agreed we should seek clarification. One of the problems at Kier is that we have no rep.

The secretary has sent a motion for the Regional Equality conference to debate. It concerned the adverse effect of benefit changes on disabled people.

Correspondence:

There had been a [demo opposing cuts being made by the Tory County Council on July 17<sup>th</sup>](#). Notification was received too late to do anything other than to put it on the website.

Nominations were being sought for regional delegates to the GMB National Women's Conference. Unfortunately there were no women at the meeting. The secretary will find out if anyone is interested. They are unlikely to be picked anyway.

It was agreed to sponsor the Kingswood Juniors FC under sevens team

The secretary had attended a branch organisation course at regional office. And, after initial misgivings, had found it very worthwhile. He intends to look at better ways of communicating with members. This could include messaging and the use of a branch app. He will speak to Adrian about this. It was suggested that he could use his own phone at no cost for messaging. The contract on the secretary's phone has run out. The new tariff is £5 down from £10.

There is to be branch activist's course from Friday October 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> at a venue to be arranged. The secretary urged those at the meeting to try and go.

[Mary Turner the GMB National President has died](#). She will be sadly missed. There are more details about her life and achievements to be found on the branch and national websites.

The 19 year old son of one of the reps at the East Midlands Ambulance Service branch had died in a road traffic accident. An appeal had come from region for help for the family with funeral expenses. After consultation with the branch president the secretary had donated £200 on behalf of the branch. This was approved.

It was agreed to donate up to £500 to the campaign to keep the [Urgent Care Centre in Corby](#) open. There will be a rally in support of the campaign on August Bank holiday Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>. This will go on the website when we have more details.

The Supreme Court's decision to rule that the [introduction of fees for industrial tribunal cases](#), introduced by the coalition government, was illegal is to be welcomed and will have an effect on cases being brought against employers for discrimination.

Workplace Reports: Mxxx said that although he was supposed to have been Tupeed over from BCA to GMS this doesn't seem to have happened and his hours had changed drastically. He will contact the Peterborough for advice.

Any Other Business: It was agreed to continue to pay Mxxx subs while she remains a regional council member.