



**GMB Northants Community Branch**  
**Secretary: Gordon Glassford, Corby, Northants, NN17 2LL**  
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**Minutes of the branch meeting held on 31.07.2019**

1. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true record
2. Matters Arising:
  - a) The payment has been paid to Corby Warriors FC but no photos have been received yet
  - b) Craig confirmed that any rep who didn't take the GDPR course would have to stand down.
  - c) It was agreed to pay Ray's travel and hotel expenses for attending congress as a visitor.
  - d) We have received a reply from Martin regarding our concerns about regional branches lack of support for our Workers Memorial Day event. It was felt that his reply did not address our concerns.
3. Correspondence:
  - a) An election will be held for general secretary. This is being held a year early. After a good discussion it was agreed that we nominate Kathleen Walker Shaw.
  - b) The regional equality timetable has changed, for no good reason that we were given. Instead of holding the regional conference in November when motions are discussed there will be a national motions conference in November in Leeds which will decide what motions go to the national conference in November 2020. A year later. The regional conference will now take place in January 2020. The secretary will try and find out the reasoning for this.
  - c) It was agreed to continue our sponsorship Kingswood Juniors FC
4. Financial Report: branch finances remain healthy
5. Social Media: Website is back to normal activity after a bit of a slump last month. 33.3% had opened the newsletter compared to a non-profit industry average of 21.8%. There had been the usual level of activity on twitter with facebook being a bit quiet. Debbie and Natalie said that they couldn't get on the national website members section. Adrian has had the same problem. Rachelle suggested that the secretary contact membership at region to try and find out how to proceed.

6. Workplace Reports:

- a) There will be an induction of permanent employees at Matalan. The secretary will supply some branch goodies, pens, lanyards and trolley tokens.
  - b) Rachelle has been spending a lot of time at ASDA dealing with one to ones over the proposed contract changes. The changes will not benefit members. Negotiations are ongoing. There will be a demo in Leeds on August 14<sup>th</sup>.
7. Any Other Business: Natalie had attended the Tolpuddle Festival and had camped in the GMB area for free. The secretary said he had received nothing from the union about the event. There had been a large contingent from head office, mostly middle-aged white men. It was pointed out that our motion to congress this year had tried to address this issue but had been rejected by region.