



**GMB Northants Community Branch**  
**Secretary, Alan Irwin**  
[www.gmbnorthants.org](http://www.gmbnorthants.org)

**Summary Minutes of the Branch Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Correspondence.**

- Various correspondence over 2 months. War on Want, Cuba Solidarity, Nicaragua. Campaigning issues and up-dates over the past 2 months.
- Number of emails from individual members on work related issues.
- 38 Degrees, campaigning issues.
- South Yorkshire – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023
- Home Start Kettering – Annual report. On website
- Invoice from Pellecraft. Recruitment equipment.
- Pat – Bladder cancer. Set up meeting for visiting speaker.
- Prospective Parliamentary Candidate, (PPLC) Kettering LP.
- Neil – recruitment at Asda.
- Regional mins, July 2023. Salient point covered.
- Hardship request from member. Payment of £xxx agreed by branch.
- Various WhatsApp notifications on activity in the branch region.
- Accompanying Reps training in Nottingham.
- Numerous correspondence with Adrian regarding website posts.
- Campaign for Trade Union Freedom. Public order laws.
- Team Labour, Mid Bedfordshire by-election.
- Various items of correspondence from Rachelle.
- Pat – fully funded learning courses. No further action.
- Kettering Home Start. Letter of thanks.
- Pat – Police Fire CC report, update.
- Prestige awards, Yorkshire.
- Banner Theatre, new presentations, plays, songs...
- Cuba Solidarity, Cycle trip 2024
- Rachelle , Matalan update.
- EC mins. Salient issues covered.
- Accidental death coverage. Clarification from Rachelle.
- Finbar Bowie, delegates to the CLPs.
- GMB vacancies.
- Martin Allen, Cammell Laird. Labour Party committed to opening up an enquiry if they get into office.
- Nicaragua updates.

- New EC positions. Covered in Secretaries report.
- Kettering CLP – campaigning events.
- Pat – equality training.
- ITF- union busting report.
- Spirit of Corby Festival.
- Pat Congress 2024 – Pat has declared an interest to be a delegate again. Agreed Pat should represent the branch.
- Rachelle – Grand Union Housing dispute.
- Pat – Planks Gave Way – logistics of taking it to Congress.
- North Northants journal – report around the region.

### **Secretary's Report**

- Fight Bladder Cancer – Agreed separate meeting.
- Meeting PPLC KCP. Full discussion on the process and the potential for inviting candidates to the branch. Secretary to discuss with Finbar Bowie.
- Accompanying Reps training. Secretary reported on course which he attended.
- Solidarity Saturday, TU – 14<sup>th</sup> October, Corby.
- Congress 2024 – Pat elected.
- Materials from Regional office – employment law etc...
- New industrial sector seats on Midlands EC. No further action.
- Play by Paula Boulton, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, Corby.
- Meeting with Rajko, branch up-date.
- Report on meeting with Corby Home Start.

### **Digital Communications Officer**

*Website activity for last 30 days: we had 223 (+55) website visits (sessions) by 172 (+51) people (users)*

### **News Items Added to Website:**

[SOLIDARITY SATURDAY IN CORBY, SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER 2023](#)

[SEPTEMBER 2023 BRANCH MEETING](#)

[SUMMARY OF BRANCH MEETING 270723](#)

[WORLD MENOPAUSE DAY](#)

[TUC MIDLANDS EQUALITIES CONFERENCE](#)

[GMB POLITICAL FUND BALLOT](#)

[GMB CONTINGENT INDEMNITY INSURANCE](#)

[DENSO MARSTON LTD WORKERS DEMAND FAIR PAY](#)

[SAVE OUR RAILWAY TICKET OFFICES](#)

[GMB FIGHTING FOR A BETTER FUTURE](#)

[CORBY CORONATION PARK MEMORIAL WALK](#)

[NORTHANTS PFCC MUST GO](#)

[1 IN 8 WORKERS IN EAST MIDLANDS IN INSECURE WORK TUC WARNS](#)

[LABOURS PEOPLE LIKE ME TRAINING PROGRAMME](#)

WhatsApp Group has 31 members (+1)

The September email newsletter was sent out on Friday 22nd September to 1,602 members (August list) and has been opened by 677 members, a 42.6% opening rate

X / Twitter: 800 (+7) Followers. Last 28 days: Tweets viewed (impressions) 56 (-3.4%)

Facebook: 310 (+14) Followers. Last 28 days: Posts seen (reach) 243 (+127.1%)

### **Regional Organisers Report**

- Solidarity Saturday. 14<sup>th</sup> October, Corby
- Workplace reports:
- Matalan – new rep and up-date on site meetings.
- Rack concrete in schools report.
- Grand Union Housing Group – update on current negotiations.
- ASDA – equal pay campaign update, training days and legal challenges in the court.
- Wilkinsons – update on company redundancies and the impact on our members. Potential claim for lack of consultation! Real concerns around pensions.

### **Accompanying Reps Report**

Secretary reported on cases that he had covered in the month of September/October.

### **Workplace Report**

- Neil reported on his workplace activities.
- Neil reported on his recruitment day. 5 new members and 2 new reps.
- Neil raised concerns about cleanliness in the stores. A real H&S issue!
- Neil planning a future recruitment day for Halloween.

### **Next meeting 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Yours fraternally  
Alan Irwin  
Branch Secretary