



### **GMB Northants Community Branch**

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### **Summary of the branch meeting held on 30.01.19**

The taxi that will be carrying the branch logo is now on the road full time. We will have some business cards printed. Adrian will look into that.

We have spoken to a representative from Heart radio about advertising. The branch decided it would be too expensive at this time but will look into other forms of advertising in the south of the county.

We still haven't been able to make a donation to [Red Box Corby](#) as they are still having problems setting up a bank account. Donations have been made to [Red Box Kettering](#) and [Red Box Brackley](#).

There being not enough members nominated for the regional delegation allowed at congress, our nominee was elected unopposed. A motion has been sent concerning the representation of minorities in the GMB.

All the diaries have been distributed.

It was agreed to re-affiliate to [Justice for Columbia](#), [Nicaragua Solidarity](#) and the [National Pensioners Convention](#), we also made a donation to the NPC.

The secretary has been chasing up foodbanks in the county to make sure that there have been no changes before we continue with our support. All have replied, eventually, except for Towcester who are always last. Adrian said he was trying to get the details for Irthlingborough foodbank and will get back to the secretary when he has them.

It was agreed to make a donation to [Corby Nightlight](#).

Tim Roache will not be able to come to our Workers Memorial Day event because of a prior engagement. We will invite Martin Allen to speak. The secretary will book a band for the event, either Corby Silver Band, who played last year or Gordons Band, who did it for a couple of years before that. Burt Schouwenburg might be able to come to speak. We will look into modern slavery charities to see if they can supply a speaker and the secretary had written to Nick MacWilliam from JFC who was supposed to speak last year but had cancelled due to illness.

It was suggested that a branch meeting in Northampton should be held in July if possible not in March as originally suggested.

The branch finances remain healthy



The opening rates for the annual email from the secretary and the January newsletter were well above the average for non profit organisations. Website content has been updated. Social media activity was lower than usual on Facebook and about average on Twitter.

The merger of street services between Corby and Kettering councils goes ahead on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February. Signs are good at the moment but we will see.

An accompanying rep had attended a redundancy consultation meeting at a Corby school and had not been impressed with management who had been arrogant but with little idea about the rules regarding redundancies. Rachelle will be going back there in a week or two. The secretary will be getting his credentials as an accompanying rep soon. This will bring us to a total of nine in the branch including two at St. Andrews in Northampton.

The cuts to the Northampton County Council road gritting budget has been reversed following pressure from the GMB, labour party and others after a number of accidents.