

Minutes of Unite Retired Members Branch Action Sub-Committee Meeting 9 August 2018

5 members present. Apologies received from Bill Newman, Ian Findlay, Jake McLeod and Anita Shelton.

Branch Banner. Further review required. James Ito has agreed to research non-copyright photos for possible use as background.

Branch Recruitment Leaflet. Noted that the Community Branch has a recruitment leaflet already in circulation, copies of which are on display at John Smith House reception. Committee to review draft leaflet and submit any amendments to the next committee meeting, hopefully for final approval. Unite to be asked for funding support.

Pensioners Issues. Concerns reiterated over fuel poverty affecting low income households. Pressure should be brought to bear on the relevant authorities to address this issue, particularly regarding vat applied to energy bills.

E.I.S. Dispute. Chair distributed copies of E.I.S campaign leaflet outlining the case for its pay claim. Agreed that the Branch should lend support.

Education Course Evaluation. Chair distributed copies of a report on attendees' evaluation of the recent course on the history of the labour movement, trade unionism and socialism. The report summarised the aims, expectations and outcomes of the course, in addition to suggesting 'next steps'. The course was generally very well received. Suggestions are sought for course subjects to be held in the future.

Food Banks. Discussion held on best ways to support food banks. Bobby Brennan and John Rodger suggested that approaches should be made to the Trussell Trust, a charity that administers food banks throughout the Glasgow Area.

Trade Union Education in Schools. Chair distributed copies of a Scottish Government paper entitled 'A Better Way to Work in Scotland'. The paper outlines a strategy for familiarising school students with rights and responsibilities in the world of work. In conjunction with the STUC it has produced a 'Unions in Schools' resource pack. The STUC has staffed a 'Unions Into Schools' team. Schools can book a trade union classroom session through contact with the STUC team. It is suggested that the branch contacts the STUC for further information.

Suggested Speakers at Future Branch Meetings: 1) E.I.S. Representative regarding their current struggle for fair pay.
2) Representative from the Trussell Trust regarding their work in food banks.

Date of Next Meeting Thursday 13th September at 12.30pm in John Smith House.