

## Minutes of the Unite Glasgow Retired Members Branch Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Chair welcomed 38 members to the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Allan Cameron, Susan Adams, Margaret Campbell, Rosemary Carmichael, James Colville, John Ferguson, Ian Findlay, Noelle Harvey, Peter Heaney, John Johnston, John Lowe, Hugh McLuskey, Terence McGahan, David McGurk, Dennis McLellan, Jessie Morrison, Jim O'Rourke, Charles O'Brien, James Patrick, Mark Reilly, Mick Rice, Susanna Rice, James Haw, Graham Stewart, John Thomson, Lillian Thomson, Terence Tochel, Dennis O'Donnell, Kenny Lamb, Gordon Carson, Charlie Taylor, Sammy Morris, Charlie Screen, Jim Friel, John McNally, Douglas Hamilton, Russell McLintock, Omar Draz, Danny Carrigan, David Stevenson, Bernard Beagan.
2. **New members and/or members attending a branch meeting for the first time were welcomed to the meeting.**
3. **Minutes of the previous Branch Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 were agreed as correct.**
4. **Matters Arising**
  - a) **Members were reminded that Union Diaries were available for sale at the end of the Branch Meeting.**
  - b) **Members were informed that due to constraints over the holiday season it was not possible to arrange a speaker for the January Meeting.**
5. **Reports from Meetings / Conferences attended**
  - a) **The Assistant Secretary reported on matters discussed at the Branch Committee Meeting as follows:**
    - 1) **New Branch Banner: Committee agreed to progress a draft design for approval of the Branch as soon as practicably possible.**
    - 2) **Motion on single person water charge discount (copy of motion attached to agenda papers)**
    - 3) **Arrangements for Summer Outing: Members were asked to consider and/or submit proposals for the summer outing to be discussed and voted on at the next Branch Meeting. First proposal is for the Waverley 'Doon The Watter' trip enjoyed in previous years however all reasonable suggestions for alternatives would be considered.**
    - 4) **Stand Up to Racism Conference 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019: Committee recommended to donate £50.00 to the conference and pay for 4 branch delegates to attend at £5.00 per delegate. Branch agreed with the recommendation and John Rodger agreed to attend as a delegate.**

- b) David Paterson reported on the Action Sub Committee Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (copy attached to agenda papers).**
  
- c) Maureen Gardner reported on the Scottish Pensioners Forum Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (copy attached to agenda papers). Maureen drew members attention to the demonstration planned to protest any proposal to withdraw entitlement to free tv licences for over 75s. The demonstration will take place at BBC Scotland HQ at Pacific Quay Glasgow on 1<sup>st</sup> February at 11.00 am.**
  
- d) Maureen Gardner reported on the Scottish Regional Retired Members Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (copy attached to agenda papers).**

#### **6. Education Officer Report.**

**Eleven members indicated an interest in participating in an education course on legal issues relevant to retired members (e.g. age discrimination, wills and powers of attorney etc.) David Paterson agreed to take this forward and report back as soon as practicably possible.**

#### **7. Equalities Officer Report**

**Irene Graham reported on proposed motions to put forward to the Unite Rules Conference. Amendments to Rules 10 and 14 are being considered, with a proposal to entitle Retired Members to delegate and representative status rather than observer status at conference. Bill Newman agreed to draft proposed amendments accordingly for approval by the Branch prior to submission to the Regional Retired Members Committee. Irene Graham encouraged members to review the rule book and submit suggestions for amendments for further consideration at the February Branch Meeting.**

#### **8. Treasurers Report**

**Maureen Gardner submitted the Treasurer's report to the meeting (copy attached to agenda papers). The report is summarised as follows:**

**Carried forward from 2017**

**£6345.35**

**Income**

**£5232.48**

**Expenditure**

**£5795.69**

**Balance**

**£5782.14**

## **9. Trades Council Report**

**Bill Newman reported on the Trades Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (copy attached to agenda papers). It was noted that the May Day Rally is planned to be held in the Tramway Theatre on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May. It was also noted with concern that funding deficits remain a serious problem which threatens the future of the May Day Rally. Members were encouraged to approach their former branches for support.**

## **10. Disputes**

**Current disputes involving fellow trade unionists were noted as follows:**

**EIS pay claim**

**GCC Equal Pay**

**University and College Lecturers pay claim**

**Glasgow Life Workers (Emirates Stadium)**

## **11. Motion submitted by Maureen Gardner asking the Scottish Executive of Unite to support the continuation of the 25% single person household discount on water charges (copy of motion attached to agenda papers).**

**James Ito suggested that the motion might be amended to propose a 50% discount for low income households.**

**Chair respectfully suggested that the amendment be withdrawn and submitted if James so wished, as a separate motion in writing at the next meeting.**

**Voting took place on the original motion which was carried unanimously.**

## **12. Any Other Business**

**Robert Buirds gave an update on the campaign to save Inchgreen Drydock in Inverclyde. Meetings with officials from Inverclyde Council and the Scottish Government were continuing. A letter has been sent to Derek McKay, Minister for Transport in the Scottish Government, suggesting that the drydock should be taken back into public ownership.**

**Robert thanked the Branch for donating £ 100.00 to campaign funds.**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.15pm with a vote of thanks to the chair.**

**Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 12.30pm.**