

Unite Retired Members' Branch, Glasgow
Action Sub-Committee
17 January 2019

Apologies: Seven members present. Apologies were received from David Sherry, Helen Hutchison, Bob McKenna and David Edwards.

Time of next January meeting: As few of those who attended the ASC went on to the song club it was felt that next January's ASC should commence at 12.30.

May Day March: It was reported that this year's May Day March and rally could not be held in the Tramway as had been intended but would now take place on George Square on 5 May.

Glasgow City Council Equal Pay Dispute: It was reported that the campaign for gender equal pay for workers had at last been resolved.

Inchgreen Dry Dock: More optimism on the campaign to save the Dock was expressed and the widening of the campaign to include the whole Clyde was welcomed.

The Awards for All application: The length of time which has elapsed since the Branch's first idea for a trip to Liverpool and Manchester was mentioned and it was believed that the application form had been modified to suit comments from AfA. This will require feedback from D. Edwards who is drafting out a new application. Plans for a centre in Glasgow to review the City's involvement in the slave trade were discussed as well as the campaign for the return of artifacts taken from the Third World and a history of decolonisation. The idea for a Branch visit to sites in Glasgow associated with slavery, modified to reflect the age of our members, and to find a speaker on slavery were further discussed.

In summary, it was felt that, having discussed the present state of play the Branch should make one more effort to make a formal application for funds, but if this could not be done by the time of the next ASC on 14 February, then The ASC should recommend abandoning the concept.

Following the meeting the Chair has emailed D. Edwards and from his reply he is working on the application and will report to the Branch Committee in February.

The Union's power-switching offer: This was again discussed and it was felt it would be useful if time could be made available at a Branch meeting for members with experience of this to give their views. The Chair has emailed B. Began to ask if he could speak on it at the February Branch meeting if agreed by the Committee.

Branch Banner: The prospective design for a new Branch banner was discussed and it was mentioned that it was believed that John Vine was to produce a further design and a producer of cheap Union banners had been identified.

Ageism a discriminatory factor: It was reported that there is now a consultation period on the proposal to legislate to make ageism a discriminatory factor in hate crime and it was wondered whether the Branch should make a submission.

Summer outings: Some doubts were expressed on whether another summer outing on the Waverley was desirable. Other ideas mentioned were the V and A in Dundee, the Fishery Museum at Anstruther, the Bell Rock Museum, the Durham March, and Smokeries in Arbroath. However disability for some of the visits would be an issue for some members.

Participatory budgets: The pilot schemes for participatory budgets in four of Glasgow's poorest wards (Carlton, Canal, Pollokshields and Greater Pollok) were discussed and it was felt that some members might wish to involve themselves in these projects. (See the report on this month's Trades Council meeting).

The General Secretary of the STUC: the attacks reported in the Sunday Herald were mentioned and it was felt that it was regrettable that such attacks had been aired in the public media.

The STUC HQ: It was reported that the Woodlands Road building was proving too expensive to maintain and would be sold, with a possible move to more modest accommodation in the East End.

The next ASC meeting will be on 14 February at 12.30pm in Floor 4 meeting room.

Thanks to Bill Newman for drafting the minutes.