

Minutes of Unite Retired Members Branch Action Sub-Committee Meeting 14th February 2019

1. Welcome and Apologies

8 members were welcomed to the meeting. Apologies were received from Dave Sherry, Bill Newman and Maureen Gardner.

2. Marches and Demonstrations

Members were encouraged to support upcoming marches and demonstrations as follows:

- a) Unite against Racism and Fascism, 16th March, George Square, Glasgow.
- b) May Day March and Rally, 5th May, George Square, Glasgow
- c) UN Day of Older Persons, 1st October 2019. Noted that the theme of the day has yet to be decided. Members are asked to consider and/or suggest suitable themes for the Glasgow event.
- d) Other issues the Branch might campaign on. Suggestions included State Pensions (currently the lowest in developed nations), and the crisis in the NHS. Ian Findlay stated that a meeting regarding the NHS crisis would be held in the Mercure hotel in Ayr on 20th February at 7pm. Speakers included Richard Leonard, Scottish Labour Party Leader and Jim McGinn, former Unison NHS Branch Secretary.

3. Ageism and Discrimination Factor

Branch may consider making a submission to the current consultation on whether legislation might be passed to classify ageism in certain respects as a hate crime.

4. Speakers for Branch Meetings.

Noted that Dave Sherry was arranging for Phil Taylor to speak at the next Branch Meeting on the subject of the FBU centenary. Suggestions for future speakers were as follows:

Representative from NHS Branch

Representative from the Trussell Trust, Darren McGarvey Representative from EIS (depending on ballot outcome).

5. Area Activists Meetings

Members should consider attendance at meetings, held quarterly. Helen Hutcheson and Dave Sherry attended the meeting held on 7th February. Dave Sherry would give a report at the next Branch Meeting.

6. Branch Banner

Noted that member John Vale agreed to sketch a design for the banner. Unfortunately, John is currently unwell. He was wished a speedy recovery.

7. Any Other Business

Ian Findlay reminded members of the upcoming residential education course to be held in Eastbourne in October. Interested members should come forward to apply.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.50pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 14th March 2019 at 12.30pm.