



FAREHAM UNISON – MINUTES

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8 March 2017
at 12:30 hrs in the Council Chamber, Floor 8, Civic Offices, Fareham**

PRESENT

Chairperson: Lee Sprake

There were 31 members of the Branch present as recorded in the attendance register. Jenny Mason and Elizabeth Wagstaffe were also present on behalf of the Regional Office.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from 35 members.

2. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

Jess Wicks and Pearl Gillies were appointed as scrutineers.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2016

3.1 The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9 March 2016 were **AGREED** as a correct record.

Proposed by: Cian Wagstaffe

Seconded by: Rob White

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the Annual General Meeting held on 9 March 2016.

5. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRANCH EXECUTIVE

5.1 The Annual Report was moved by Charlie Dacke and was formally **ADOPTED** by a show of hands.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

- 6.1 The Treasurer's Report was moved by Jenny Moses and seconded by Sarah Bryant
- 6.2 The report was **CARRIED** by a show of hands.

7. MOTION – HOMELESSNESS

- 7.1 The following motion was proposed by Richard Gustar, seconded by Andy Lynch and **CARRIED** by a show of hands:
- 7.2 Across the UK the numbers of people rough sleeping in our Towns and Cities has been increasing in the last year. This is due to many reasons but primarily down to the reduction in support for vulnerable individuals to help them maintain accommodation since the Supporting People budget was axed, coupled with the massive increase in rental costs whilst benefits are cut and capped.

It is almost impossible for rough sleepers to break the cycle of homelessness without support. Here in Fareham we have seen a 200% rise in the numbers of rough sleepers in 2016* - A rise bigger than that seen in Gosport or Portsmouth.

Support for rough sleepers is provided by Two Saints who employ an outreach worker to engage with them and assist in resettlement. They conduct welfare checks, arrange access to Medical Services and ensure benefits are in payment. Those who are in the greatest need are supported to gain a place in the homeless hostel at 101 Gosport Road. However there is not room for all.

Fareham Unison Branch commends the Libral Democrat group at Fareham Council who have urged the council to allocate an additional £9,000.00 to fund an additional day of outreach support from Two Saints. We task the branch committee to communicate our support to the leader of the Lib Dem Group, Councillor Roger Price.

We also task the Branch committee to write to the Chairman of the Health and Housing Panel urging them to support the funding.

8. MOTION – RULE AMENDMENTS

- 8.1 The following motion was proposed by Jess Wicks, seconded by Cian Wagstaffe and **CARRIED** by a show of hands:
- 8.2 The branch has the following branch rulebook change motions for consideration:

1. Amend 5 (a) as follows:

The branch shall elect the following officers annually in accordance with rule 5(c):

- Chairperson

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Education Officer
- Equality Officer
- Health & Safety Secretary
- Communications Officer
- Membership Officer
- Lifelong Learning co-ordinator
- Labour-Link Officer
- Young Members' Officer
- Welfare Officer
- International Officer
- Sports & Social Secretary
- Environment Officer
- Women's Officer
- Retired Members' Secretary
- Others to be determined as necessary for the effective operation of the Branch

2. Amend 6 as follows;

After 'g)' insert 'h)' The Branch Executive Committee shall be able to take an electronic vote outside of monthly Branch Executive Committee meetings if it is not possible to convene a special branch meeting. The quorum rules shall apply as in point 6d.

9. MOTION - HONORARIA

- 9.1 The following motion was proposed by Jenny Moses, seconded by Rob White and **CARRIED** by a show of hands:
- 9.2 The branch committee agreed that honoraria should be paid to officers and stewards where the officer/steward has been active in the branch this year, by way of attending meetings, acting as a point of contact, carrying out work on behalf of,

and/or feeding into, the branch. The branch has the following honoraria motions for consideration:

1. That a payment of £309 be made to the Branch Secretary.
2. That a payment of £309 be made to the Branch Chair/H&S secretary.
3. That a payment of £138 be made to the Branch Treasurer/Welfare Officer.
4. That the sum of £68 to be paid to the Membership Officer
5. That the sum of £34 each to be paid to the Floor 7 steward, Depot Grounds steward, Young Members Officer, Sports & Social Secretary, Communications Officer, International/LGBT Officer, and Equalities Officer

10. MOTION – TRUMP

10.1 The following motion was proposed by Andy Lynch, seconded by Pearl Gillies and **CARRIED** by a show of hands:

10.2 The Policies of President Trump

In the aftermath of President Trump coming into power it has become clear that he will be implementing the promises that he set out in his campaign speeches.

For instance;

Building a wall along the Mexico: US Border to prevent Mexican Workers from travelling to the US.

Implementing the “**First Amendment Defence Act**” which will prevent the US government from taking action against a person on the basis that they believe or act in accordance with a religious belief or moral conviction that; marriage is or should be recognized as the union of one man and one woman, or sexual relations are properly reserved to such a marriage. This would also be in direct conflict with the aims of our own Equality Act, a vital piece of legislation encompassing all that we stand for in Unison. Trump has also reinstated a ban on giving family planning money to international health groups that provide family planning care, refer patients to specialist clinics and even give advice and information about reproductive choices. Trump also feels that women that have terminations should be prosecuted but no action will be taken against the male partner.

These are some examples but the devastation is set to continue with hard fought for rights and values being rolled back.

This Branch formerly condemns these backwards policies of Trump and commits to support, wherever possible, any member wishing to travel and take part in anti-Trump rallies being held in the UK.

11. APPOINTMENT OF STEWARDS AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

11.1 The Chairperson reported that Departments had appointed the following Stewards:

11.2 Floor 1 steward – Charlie Dacke

Floor 5 steward – Jax McMain

Floor 6 steward – Karen Brett

Floor 6 H&S rep – Cian Wagstaffe

Floor 7 steward- Jess Wicks

Depot Office steward – Rob White

Depot Grounds steward – Rob Eckstein

Building Services Trades steward and H&S rep – Lee

Gosport environmental health steward – Richard Gustar

Sheltered Housing steward – Annie Britton

11.3 The Chairperson reported that Departments had appointed the following Safety Representatives:

11.4 Sheltered Housing - Annie Britton

Depot - Colin Ellis

11.5 The appointments were **APPROVED** by a show of hands.

12. ELECTION OF BRANCH OFFICERS

12.1 The Chairperson reported on the nominations received for the various Branch Officers and that only one nomination had been received for each post.

12.2 The following appointments were **APPROVED** by a show of hands:

12.3 Branch Chairperson – Lee Sprake

Branch Secretary – Charlie Dacke

Branch Treasurer – Jenny Moses

Health & Safety Secretary – Lee Sprake

Branch Membership Officer – Karen Brett

Education Officer – Jax McMain
Young Members Officer – Pearl Gillies
Equalities Officer – Chris Motherwell
Women’s Officer – Jess Wicks
International Officer – Andy Lynch
Welfare Officer - Jenny Moses
Communications Officer – Cian Wagstaffe
LGBT Officer – Andy Lynch
Environmental Officer – Nick Cutler
Sports & Social Secretary – Sarah Bryant
Branch Auditor – Linda Arthur
Retired Members Secretary – A job share between Malc Stevens and John Upton

13. ELECTION OF CONFERENCE DELEGATES

13.1 Richard Gustar - Regional Local Government Service Group delegate
Charlie Dacke - National Delegates conference.

14. GUEST SPEAKER – JENNY MASON, UNISON

14.1 Jenny is an Area Organiser based in the Guildford Unison office and has worked for UNISON for 9 years. As well as working on Communications for the region, Jenny is also the Regional Young Members Contact and despite technical issues with the projector system, gave an interesting talk about the organisation and participation of Young Members in the South East region.

15. RAFFLE DRAW

15.1 The winners of the raffle were Cian Wagstaffe, Giles Hearn and Jenny Moses.

16. ANY OTHER APPROVED BUSINESS

16.1 There was no other approved business

The Chairperson thanked everyone who had helped to make the meeting such a success and declared the meeting closed at 14:00 hrs.