

# GMB

## Chesterfield No. 1 Branch

### AGENDA for Extraordinary 9th March 2010 meeting

#### Present

C Bennett, Graham Stocks, Colin Davies, Bob Gachagan, Dave Wallace, D Clayton, Peter Nixon (Retired), Colin Hampton, Ian Mottley, Terry Ashley, Tony Devereux, G Benton, Stewart Langley, Stewart Walker, Shay Boyle, Patrick Harvey.

In attendance - Graham Benton, GMB Organiser from Sheffield Area.

#### Apologies: Kalvinder Degun

The Secretary welcomed everyone to this first meeting since Trevor had resigned. Graham Benton gave a brief report on how the old branch would be closed by region and a new one started. This was normal procedure and was needed for financial reasons. Graham was pleased to see that most of the business, election of officers etc. had already been sorted out by Trevor at the last meeting. There was no explanation for Trevor resigning other than he said it was for personal reasons. Everyone hoped everything was all right with Trevor and it was agreed the branch should write a letter of thanks to Trevor for all his work and support in the past, and it is hoped he will still have some involvement in the branch in the future.

*Agreed - Secretary to draft a letter and let Graham see it first.*

#### Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were read out.

#### Matters arising

**The Strikers Story** – Colin Hampton reported on an excellent turnout to watch the film The Strikers Story last Saturday. The Ballroom in the Winding Wheel was standing room only. Ex-miners came from Liverpool, Durham and far and wide.

**Membership:** Nothing to report

**Finances:** Kalvinder was hoping to explain the financial situation but is unable to attend.

#### Reports

##### **Trades Council**

**May Day 2010** – Colin reported that plans were well in advance. This year's theme is Women's role in the trade union movement. We still need a brass band to lead the march. We could do with finding more TU banners and bodies to carry them. The Chesterfield Colleague students are to steward the march this year.

**The Spirit level** – Colin reported on the planned talk by Professor Wilkinson on more equal society's faring better, which is taking place in the Winding Wheel on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Colin encouraged the members to attend.

It was agreed at the last meeting to donate £200 to the May Day fund. Graham said Kalvinder was going to bring it to tonights meeting but had to go elsewhere.

### **Trade Union Safety Team**

Shay reported on a very good launch into Lincolnshire of DAST, the Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team.

The campaign for Employers liability insurance changes seems to be making progress.

No decision yet on Pleural Plaques but an offer of £500 is proposed to some claimants who had their claim in before the court decision.

### **Other Reports:**

A discussion was held about the new office at No. 34 Glumangate. Work is progressing and the bottom floor is nearly ready with the new carpet down. The upstairs, to be taken by the Trade Union Safety Team and Derbyshire Asbestos Team is still unfinished. It was asked if there would be a launch? Graham said that hopefully there would be launch event with some publicity announcing the opening of the new office. C Bennett asked if it could be classed as a training event and this would mean more members would get time off to attend.

The next Public Services meeting is on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. Tony Davro asked if an officer would be attending the Public Services branch meetings. Graham explained that the post of C40 branch officer would be advertised and a replacement would be found. The Public Services would decide if they wanted an officer, or Shay to attend in the meantime.

Tony agreed to continue without and to invite Shay if needed.

### **Political**

Campaign to get a labour candidate in Holmewood and Heath. Shay reported on a successful campaign

### **Correspondence**

- Graham Benton's letter to all members in the No.1 Branch
- Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010 meeting
- Vacancy – GMB Southern Region, Plymouth Office.
- Protecting Vulnerable Workers – Session briefing on 9<sup>th</sup> March Leeds
- CEC Minutes December 2009
- REC minutes December 2009 Dawn of a New Age – Chesterfield's New Football Club Stadium booklet
- **No.1** - Branch affiliation for 2010.
- **Danesmoor D11** - Branch affiliation for 2010.
- **Staveley** - Branch affiliation for 2010.

*Secretary to send affiliation forma to Kalvinder for processing*

Defend the Welfare State – Rally London 10<sup>th</sup> April

*Agreed to donate £50 towards a coach from Chesterfield if one is organised.*

AOB



Date of next meeting - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

*Agreed to write a letter of thanks to Trevor for all his past work and support*

*Agreed to donate £50 towards a coach from Chesterfield if one is organised.*

*Secretary to send TUC affiliation forms to Kalvinder for processing*

Dated.....

Signed.....