Knowle, Dorridge and Blythe Labour Party Branch.

Annual General Meeting.

21st June 2017, 7.30.pm, Downing Hall, Knowle.

1. Welcome to New Members: Attendance sheet to be circulated.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of the AGM 10th May 2016.
4. Matters Arising.
5. Correspondence: Letter from the Jo Cox Foundation.
   Treasurer’s Report.
   Membership Secretary.
9. Nomination for the position of Chair of CLP.
11. Report and Discussion of West Midlands Metro-Mayor elections and the General Election 8th June 2017; and preparation of a further General Election before and of year; commencement of Brexit negotiations; Labour’s priorities.
13. Future branch meetings and events.
14. AOB

Knowle, Dorridge and Blythe Labour Party Branch.

Annual General Meeting.

10th May 2016 @ 7.45 pm Shelley Farm Community Centre.

1. Welcome to New Members: Attendance sheet circulated.
   Members present: Simon Johnson, Terry Mandrell, Sardal Marwa, Martin Tolman, Jacky Law, Ian Shearman, Jean Shearman, David Brittin, Margaret Brittin, Phillip Bertram.


3. Minutes of AGM 2016. Received and noted


5. Correspondence. None.
6. **Chairman’s Report.** Simon reported with regret the death of Raj Singh who had died in Australia. 1. 2015 General Election result was not a good outcome for the party. However, since the election of Jeremy Corbyn as party leader by 2/3 of the members, tens of thousands of new members had joined the party. 2. A new meeting place had been found with better disability access.

**Treasurer’s Report** was circulated; £228 had been spent on a new folding machine. There was a closing balance of £1516. 16p.

**Membership Secretary:** There were 202 members in the branch; 143 full members, 28 affiliated, and 31 registered supporters. The gender breakdown was as follows: 129 men and 73 women. The Women’s group for Meriden had been meeting with some 15 women present, some of whom were new members. Questions were raised regarding the status of the 31 registered supporters. In reply it was stated that registered supporters were entitled to attend branch meetings but they could not vote. There was a discussion on how to involve new members and supporters. It was suggested that new members and supporters should be sent a brief questionnaire asking them to specify their interests and possible areas of activity.

7. **Election of Branch officers.** The following branch officers for 2016-17 were elected unopposed, Chairman: Simon Johnson; Vice-chair: Margaret Brittan, Secretary: Terry Mandrell. Publicity Officer: David Brittin, Membership Secretary Jacky Law. Election of two auditors; Ian Shearman and Phillip Bertram

8. A brief verbal report from Solihull and Meriden Labour Party was given by Sardul Marwa.

9. **Election of Delegates to G.M.C:** the branch was entitled to elect 14 delegates of which the following were duly elected Sardul Marwa, David Brittin, Simon Johnson, Martin Tolman, Ken Thompson, Jacky Law, Margaret Brittin.


11. **Nomination of Delegate to Labour Party Conference 2016.** Martin Tolman was duly nominated by branch.

12. **Report and Discussion on Council and Crime Commissioner Elections.**

   Martin Tolman praised the hard work of KDB branch members in distributing the election leaflets in Fordbridge & Kingshurst. Flo Nash was returned as the councillor for the ward thanks to their hard work. In the next 2 years he believed that Labour can take the other two councillors off UKIP. In Lyndon, the Lib-Dems polled 1,100, the Tories 900 and Labour 660, 24% of the total vote.

   The Crime Commissioner position for West Midlands was won by Labour who secured over 50% of the popular vote on a very reduced turn out. However, it should be noted that in Solihull and Meriden the Tory vote was in excess of 20,000, (43% of the local vote) whilst Labour’s vote was 12,000 (25%) and UKIP 18%. The Greens and the Lib-Dems did not put up a candidate.

   Questions were raised about the lack of a Solihull and Meriden Labour Party leaflet. This was felt to be weakness in the local campaign.

   As part of his report Martin moved a critical resolution on the Role of the
West Midlands Regional Board. **Wording of resolution needed from Martin**

After some discussion, the resolution was passed nem con.

13. **Future Labour Party Events.** The EU Referendum will be the main focus over the next 4 weeks.

14. **Branch meetings and social Events.**

15. **AOB**

**RESOLUTION**

Resolution to be submitted to Solihull & Meriden Labour Party Annual General Meeting by KDB Branch Labour Party.

**General Election 2017**

This party believes:

1) Although not, yet, being in a position to form a Government, the results of the General Election must be seen as a victory for Labour. A victory that was based on: the inspirational leadership of Jeremy Corbyn and his team; a radical manifesto that resonated with people across the country; and substantial grassroots mobilisation both physically, on the streets, and in social media.

2) That, with a divided and weakened Tory government, we could well be in a position to see that government fall and replaced either with a Labour-led Government or at the very least an early general election. Therefore we must recognise that the election of the most radical Labour Government since 1945 is within our grasp.

3) That we must now take the opportunity to not only build a party of ONE MILLION plus, but ensure that we continue to democratise our party so that it is truly member-led and maximises opportunities for membership participation.

This party resolves to:

1) Write to the Leader’s Office congratulating him, and his team, on the conduct of the June 2017 General Election.

2) Call on the PLP to adopt a resolution that they will unite around our leader and that there will not be a leadership challenge this side of the next General Election.

3) Promote all activity, including rule changes etc, which maximises democratic participation by members.

Proposed by Martin Tolman