



MINUTES AND RECORD
of the
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
HELD AT UNITE HOUSE, HOLBORN, LONDON WC1
ON 19TH, 20TH & 21ST JUNE 2017

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Sis. L ADAMS, Bros. K AGYEMANG-PREMPEH, J ALLAM, R ALLDAY, Sis. T ASHWORTH, Bros. D BANKS, R BENTHAM, C BOWEN, C CADMAN, M CASEY, E CASSIDY, J COOPER, Sis. A CROZIER, Bro. T DAVISON, Sis. J DOUGLAS, J ELLIOT, Bros. P ENTWISTLE, M FARRELL, J GAMBLE, N GIBSON, J GILL, Sis. K GILLESPIE, W GILLIGAN, Bro. A GREEN, Sis. R HAYES, Bro. S HIBBERT, Sis. D JACKSON, Bros. A JONES, B KNOWLES, Sis. T LANIGAN, S MATTHEWS, Bros. S McGOVERN, J MITCHELL T MITCHELL, Sis. T MOLONEY, Bro. F MORRIS, Sis. S MUNA, Bro. T MURPHY, Sis. K OSBORNE, Bros. T PEARSON, H PERCIVAL, J PISANI, A REILLY, S ROSENTHAL, S RUDDOCK, Sis. M RYAN, Bro. T SEAMAN, Sis. J SHEPHERD, Bros. D SMITH, A STANSFIELD, Sis. J STEWART, J STILL, Bro. N STOTT, Sis. F SULLIVAN, J SURAYA, F TATEM, J TAYLOR, Bros. M THOMAS, H TURNER, Sis. N VERMA, Bros. P WELSH, D WILLIAMS, T WOODHOUSE

EX OFFICIO: Bro. L McCLUSKEY (General Secretary)
Bro. H BECKETT (Assistant General Secretary)
Bro. T BURKE (Assistant General Secretary)
Sis. G CARTMAIL (Assistant General Secretary)
Sis. I DYKES (Head of Constitutional Administration)
Sis. D HOLLAND (Assistant General Secretary)
Bro. A MURRAY (Chief of Staff)
Bro. E SABISKY (Executive Director Finance, Property & Pensions)
Bro. S TURNER (Assistant General Secretary)
Bro. A WEIR (Assistant Chief of Staff)
Sis. M BRAMBLE (Observer, Gibraltar)
Bro. P WISEMAN (Observer, Retired Members)

IN THE CHAIR: Bro. T WOODHOUSE

FIRST DAY, 19TH JUNE 2017

**Minute
No.15**

1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Formal permission was requested to be absent from the sessions referred to for the reasons stated:

Name	Session	Circumstances
Suzanne Abachor	All sessions	TU Business
Kwasi Agyemang-Prempeh	Monday	Holiday
Roy Bentham	Tues & Wednesday	Work commitments
Cliff Bowen	Tues am & Weds pm	Work commitments
Chris Cadman	Wednesday pm	TU Business
Tim Davison	Tuesday pm	TU Business
Jenny Douglas	Tuesday	TU Business
Neil Durkin	All sessions	TU Business
Michael Farrell	Wednesday pm	TU Business
Alexandra Haworth	All sessions	Holiday
Steve Hibbert	Monday pm & Weds am	TU Business
Trudy Lanigan	Tuesday pm	Medical appt
Philippa Marsden	All sessions	Work commitments
Frank Morris	Wednesday am	TU Business
Kate Osborne	Monday & Tues am	Holiday
Tony Pearson	Monday & Tues am	Holiday
Maggie Ryan	Monday	TU Business
Ken Smith	All sessions	Holiday
Mark Thomas	Monday	Family business
Stephen Thompson	All sessions	Post-Operative
Mark Wood	All sessions	TU Business

Having full appreciation of the circumstances, as reported, the Council

RESOLVED: “That necessary leave of absence be facilitated.”

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Minute
No.16**

2.1 Grenfell Tower

The Chair called the attention of the Council to the recent tragedy at Grenfell Tower in West London which had cost the lives of many working class people including a number of Unite members. He invited the Council to stand in silence in memory of the dead.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED: “That a vote of condolence be recorded in the Minutes.”

9. CONSTITUTION & ADMINISTRATION

**Minute
No.17**

9.7 Adoption of Standing Orders

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 14.9.16, Standing Orders had been circulated to the Council.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the Standing Orders for the Executive Council be adopted.”

3. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**Minute
No.18****3.1 Receipt of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Council held on 6th, 7th & 8th March 2017 were duly submitted.

The following decisions were recorded by the Council arising from their consideration.

RESOLVED: “That the Minutes of the Executive Council held on 6th, 7th & 8th March 2017 be adopted.”

**Minute
No.19****3.2 Receipt of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Executive Council held on 8th May 2017 were duly submitted.

The following decisions were recorded by the Council arising from their consideration.

RESOLVED: “That the Minutes of the Special Executive Council held on 8th May 2017 be adopted.”

4. FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**Minute
No.20****4.1 Receipt of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 20th April 2017 were duly submitted.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 20th April 2017 be adopted.”

**Minute
No.21****4.2 Receipt of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 18th May 2017 were duly submitted.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 18th May 2017 be noted.”

5. REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY**Minute
No.22****5.1 Report**

A document detailing the General Secretary's activities since the previous meeting had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented.

The General Secretary referred to the recent General Election and gave an in depth insight into the meetings and activities that he himself and the Union had been involved in during the election campaign.

The General Secretary pointed out to the Council that although he is General Secretary, the Union is run on teamwork and inclusivity. Inclusivity is crucial and together with the common ground that ties us together makes the Union strong. Unite is seen as the leader of the labour movement and its name is well known

throughout Europe, America and the rest of the world, with delegations from all over the world asking to meet with the Union.

The General Secretary highlighted meetings he had had with the United States Minister of Political Affairs, the CEO of Unilever and the Secretary of State for Business and Industry.

UCATT has now been welcomed into the Unite family and the General Secretary reported that any issues are now being resolved. The Executive Officer, Sharon Graham has produced a strategy for the Construction Sector which is being rolled out with Officers and lay committees.

The General Secretary, in referring to several on-going disputes, gave the background and current situation reports on BA Mixed Fleet; BMW, Fasslane; and the Ford Engine Plant in Bridgend.

The General Secretary also made brief reference to TV and media events he had been involved in.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to and included an update on the AWE dispute at Aldermaston.

The following resolution was considered by the Council and the response verbally amplified.

TUC 150th Anniversary – The resolution was submitted by the Wales Regional Committee and called on the Union to ensure any TUC record of its history condemns the divisive and destructive role of the EEPTU during the 1980s. In response, the Council supported the resolution.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

9. CONSTITUTION & ADMINISTRATION

**Minute
No.23**

9.3 GS & EC Elections 2017 – Returning Officer Report

The Report of the Independent Scrutineer, together with a detailed written report by the Returning Officer, Simon Hearn had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by the Chief of Staff, Andrew Murray.

The Chief of Staff outlined the roles of the Returning Officer and the Election Commissioner and advised the Council that the report of the Election Commissioner is not yet concluded.

The Council's attention was drawn to an issue that arose on the Welsh Territorial Seat and were advised that the matter has been resolved informally and the election result stands.

The Chief of Staff also advised that there are a number of issues that the Council may wish to consider in future and take forward when drawing up guidelines for future Executive Council and General Secretary elections relating to the use of data.

The following resolution was considered by the Council and the response verbally amplified.

General Secretary & EC Election Conduct – The resolution was submitted by the GPM & IT NISC and called on the Union to investigate the actions of any candidate

using the Murdoch press and discipline any found guilty of bringing the Union into disrepute. In response, the Council agreed to the leave the resolution on the table.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted in line with the preamble to this Minute.”

7. INDUSTRIAL /EQUALITIES REPORTS

**Minute
No.24**

7.1 Industrial Report – Manufacturing Sector

A detailed written report had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Tony Burke.

The Assistant General Secretary referred to: Brexit and the impact on the manufacturing sector; Steel industry; BMW; Ford’s Bridgend; PSA acquisition of GM Opel; Fujitsu, Manufacturing Strategy; and INEOS.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

**Minute
No.25**

8.3 Education Report

A written report had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by the Director of Education, Jim Mowatt.

The Director of Education introduced his report and drew attention to the work the department had undertaken, highlighting new technology; electronic learning; apprenticeship levy; and hub project.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

9. CONSTITUTION & ADMINISTRATION continued/....

**Minute
No.26**

9.1 Central Office Departments & Administration

A detailed written report had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Chief of Staff, Andrew Murray.

The Chief of Staff advised that a complaint had been made to the Certification Officer by Gerard Coyne in relation to the GS Election and Counsel’s advice will be sought.

The attention of the Council was drawn to the confusion that has been caused for members and staff in relation to the similarity of names of some sections of the union. The confusion relates to Community, Youth Workers & Not for Profit and Unite Community, General Engineering, Manufacturing & Servicing and Service Industries. It is proposed that at the July cycle of the three NISCs, and separately for Unite Community, the Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir, with the support of the EC members will hold a discussion about the name of the sector and possible alternatives, in time for sign off at the September EC meeting. A launch of any change will be made at the Sector Conferences in November.

The Chief of Staff reported that the Government, Defence, Prison & Contractors Sector in the London & Eastern Region is unable to form a RISC. It is proposed that 3 seats be created on the Local Authorities RISC for GDPC members with the usual caveat that only members of the appropriate Sector would be able to participate in Sector specific issues.

The Chief of Staff advised that following a discussion at the December 2016 meeting of the Council in relation to the large number of branches without secretaries, work has been undertaken in the intervening period to reduce this and as a result the figure has dropped by 9%.

Ratification of Officer Appointment

An EC Appointment Panel had met to consider applications for the appointment of two Regional Officers in the South East Region. The successful candidates were Richard White and Philip Silkstone and the endorsement of the Council was sought.

UCATT Employees

The Chief of Staff reported that 17 former UCATT employees have applied for severance and have either left or are leaving the employment of the Union,

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

The following resolutions were considered by the Council and the responses verbally amplified.

Banner Theatre "Get Out and Seize the Day" Production - The resolution was submitted by the West Midlands Regional Committee and called on the Union to support Banner Theatre. In response, the Council agreed to support the resolution in principle.

Memorial to recognise Brenda Sanders – The resolution was submitted by the North West Regional Committee and called on the Union for a room at Jack Jones House to be named after Brenda Sanders and a memorial plaque be put up at Central Office. In response, the Council supported the resolution.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted in line with the preamble to this Minute."

8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS continued/...

**Minute
No.27**

8.4 Report of AGS Steve Turner

A detailed written report had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Steve Turner.

The Assistant General Secretary referred to the recent tragedy at Grenfell Tower in West London and drew the Council's attention to the practical role the Unite Community members had played in giving assistance to the residents. He also referred to the 25 Union members who lived in the block of flats, three of whom had died and seven have still not been contacted.

The Assistant General Secretary went on to refer to: the Young Members Conference; Hotels and Hospitality; Casinos and Croupiers; Eurostar; and Retired Members.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

The following resolutions were considered by the Council and the response verbally amplified.

Young Workers – The resolution was submitted by the London & Eastern Regional Committee and called on the Union to campaign for the enforcement of legislation and international agreements to protect young workers from exploitation. In response, the Council supported the resolution.

Campaign to release surplus funds from the National Insurance Fund – The resolution was submitted by the Scottish Executive Committee and the National Retired Members Committee and called on the Union to conduct a campaign to release surplus funds from the National Insurance Fund and to set the basic State Pension for all above the official poverty level linked to average male earnings. In response, the Council supported the resolution.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted in line with the preamble to this Minute.”

Leader of the Labour Party

The General Secretary welcomed the Leader of the Labour Party to the Council and congratulated him for Labour’s outstanding election campaign and result. Jeremy Corbyn MP then addressed the Council, thanking Unite for its support, emphasising that Labour was now a Government in waiting, ready to take over from the Tories at any time to start implementing the popular policies set out in its election manifesto. The Council greeted the Leader’s remarks with enthusiasm.

7. INDUSTRIAL / EQUALITIES REPORTS

**Minute
No.28**

7.2 Industrial Report – Services Sector

A detailed written report had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Gail Cartmail.

The Assistant General Secretary referred to: NHS; Austerity; impact of austerity cuts in Public Services Sector and pay restrictions; TUC co-ordinated pay campaign; Trade Union Act; Veolia; Bank of England; Birmingham City Council; AWE; Briggs Marine Woolwich; HSE Inspectors; and Skanska.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

SECOND DAY, 20TH JUNE 2017

IN THE CHAIR: Bro. T WOODHOUSE

6. STRATEGY FOR GROWTH

Minute
No.29

6.1 Organising & Leverage Report

A written report on the work of the department had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by the Executive Officer, Sharon Graham.

The Executive Officer gave a detailed update on the work of the Organising & Leverage Department which is now in its twelfth year. The department started with sector organising which delivered growth and industrial wins, increasing the number of shop stewards and building combines. The department then moved into 100% Unite with the key aim to begin to organise workers in the 40,000 workplaces where Unite has agreements.

The Broad Industrial Strategy centred on issues and activists at the workplace, underpinned by collective organisation. Industrial guides for shop stewards, template agreements for negotiators have been produced and the database which includes Unite negotiated pay rises and anniversary dates is now available to shop stewards for the first time. Other key industrial items that shop stewards need to know will be added to the database. A sector paper for the Construction Sector was presented to the Council at their last meeting and work is underway to produce sector papers for all sectors.

This year, for the first time, sector organising and 100% campaigns are being run at the same time with organisers beginning to come out of 100% campaigns to enter sector organising in construction and energy.

The department is giving as much assistance as possible to shop stewards when calling for leverage. Many requests for leverage are received and a full leverage report take around 5 weeks to put together.

A very detailed draft New Technology Agreement had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by the Executive Officer. The agreement will be presented to the National Industrial Sector Conferences later this year where agreement will be sought.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted."

7. INDUSTRIAL /EQUALITIES REPORTS continued/....

Minute
No.30

7.3 Industrial Report – Transport & Food Sector

A detailed written report had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Diana Holland.

The Assistant General Secretary referred to: General Election 2017 – Transport & Food; EU Exit; Automation & Digitalisation; Diesel Emissions Register; Unite Transport Working Group; Food, Drink & Agriculture NISC; Bus Services Act 2017 and Uber Licensing TfL; Industrial Hub Organising; Agency Working Group; Shell contract downstream oil distribution; Disputes; Inter-Union issues; Petroleum Driver Passport; ITF Executive Board; and ETF Congress.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.31**

7.4 Equalities Report

A written report for the Equalities Sector had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Diana Holland.

The Assistant General Secretary referred to: Unite Equality Manifesto and the General Election 2017; Gender Pay Reporting; EHRC and Access to Justice; International Women’s Day; TUC Conferences; ETF Equality Events; Unite Women Officers; Regional Women & Equalities Officers; Migrant Domestic Workers Campaign.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

The following resolution was considered by the Council and the responses verbally amplified.

Establish Regional & Migrant Workers Committees – The resolution was submitted by the London & Eastern Regional Committee and called on the Union to establish regional and national Migrant Workers Committees (MWCs) which should be recognised as fully constitutional bodies. In response, the Council agreed to remit the resolution back to the Region.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted in line with the preamble to this Minute.”

10. FINANCE

**Minute
No.32**

10.1 Finance Report

The financial results for Unite overall in the first quarter of 2017 had been circulated to the Council and were verbally supplemented by the Executive Director, Finance, Property and Pensions, Ed Sabisky.

The financial results in the first quarter of 2017 are satisfactory although negatively impacted by the amalgamation with UCATT. Even with this negative impact, the results are still better than last year.

Total Income amounted to £43.8 million in the first quarter of 2017, up £1.8 million versus the same period a year ago. Contribution Income excluding Driver Care was up by £2.0 million with £0.9 million attributable to former UCATT members. As expected, Legal Income continued to fall, down £0.5 million versus first quarter 2016.

Total Recurring Expenditure totalled £36.1 million in the first quarter of 2017 which was £1.4 million more than last year. Employment Costs excluding Organising rose by £2.3 million with £0.9 million of the rise attributable to former UCATT employees. The 2.3% general wage increase awarded Unite employees further added to the negative comparison. Including Organising, Unite’s employment costs represented 40.8% of Income (39.5% excluding UCATT Income and Employment Costs) in the first quarter of 2017 – above the 40% benchmark. With Contribution Income likely to fall as no member subscription increase is planned for 2017 and paying membership continues to decline slowly plus Legal Income being likely to continue its multi-year decline, Executive Officers are focusing on reducing employee numbers as the only route possible to address the situation and move the Union back towards being under the 40% target. Other Member Benefits excluding Legal rose by £0.6 million in the first quarter of 2017 due to benefit improvements agreed by the Executive Council for Enhanced Members effective 1st September 2016.

As a consequence, Unite recorded a surplus before Investment Income and Non-Recurring Items of £7.7 million in the first quarter of 2017 - £0.4 million better than last year.

Investment Income amounted to £0.6 million in the first quarter 2017 which was up on last year. Non-Recurring Items (excluding Pension Deficit Reduction payments) amounted to a net expenditure of £1.5 million in the first quarter of 2017 comprised principally of the write-off of VAT on property purchase and refurbishment (£1.0 million) and severance costs of £511,000.

Pension deficit recovery contributions totalled £3.1 million in the first quarter of 2017, the same as last year.

Taking everything into account, Unite posted an overall surplus of £3.7 million for the first quarter of 2017 – a result which was £0.5 million better than last year.

Unite's liquid assets totalled £141.9 million as at 31st March 2017 up £6.6 million from year end 2016. Both cash and marketable securities were up. Marketable securities include £1.8 million from UCATT.

From a balance of £37.184 million at the beginning of the year, the balance of the Dispute Fund has risen to £37.328 million as at 31st March 2017. This reflects inflows of £940,528 (the 2.5% diversion from Branch Administration) offset by Dispute Benefit payments totalling £797,058. Note that there has been no deduction of expenses/costs reflecting the EC's previous endorsement of the General Secretary's recommendation to this effect.

The Executive Director referred to a resolution from the South East Region regarding Dispute Benefit that had been referred to him. In light of the more varied and complex work patterns that exist today, the resolution questioned whether Unite's Dispute Benefit which currently is £35 per day full time member / £17.50 part time member can be modified to be fairer in relation to the various work patterns that exist. It was proposed that Dispute Benefit be modified as follows:

Regional Administration will pay the daily amount (£35 or £17.50) unless instructed by the appropriate Regional Secretary or National Officer that the proportionate weekly calculation should be applied to a member or group of members.

The Executive Director referred to a decision taken at the March meeting of the Executive Council for consideration to be given to a harmonised payment for Accredited Support Reps. It was proposed that a common structure of £40 for a half day and £80 for a full day, plus normal Unite expenses. In situations where the Accredited Support Rep was accompanying a member from his/her own Branch, the Branch, if it chose, could increase these payments. As at present, these payments are taxable. The payments, therefore, need to run through the special payroll that Unite currently runs for honorariums.

The Executive Director updated the Council on the Birmingham project, highlighting that the groundwork has been completed and the hotel costings are being revisited.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be adopted in line with the preamble to this Minute."

9. CONSTITUTION & ADMINISTRATION continued/...

Minute
No.33

9.8 Election of Vice-Chair

The Council proceeded with the election of a Vice-Chair to hold office during the ensuing electoral period.

Jayne Taylor

Lindsey Adams
Kwasi Agyemang-Prempeh
Julian Allam
Richard Allday
Tracey Ashworth
Dick Banks
Cliff Bowen
Mick Casey
Eddie Cassidy
John Cooper
Ann Crozier
Jennifer Elliot
Michael Farrell
Jim Gamble
Wendy Gilligan
Andy Green
Ruth Hayes
Dawn Jackson
Andy Jones
Barry Knowles
Susan Matthews
Sean McGovern
James Mitchell
Therese Moloney
Frank Morris
Suzanne Muna
Tom Murphy
Kate Osborne
Tony Pearson
Howard Percival
Joe Pisani
Alan Reilly
Simon Rosenthal
Stan Ruddock
Maggie Ryan
Tony Seaman
June Shepherd
Dave Smith
Alan Stansfield
Jane Stewart
Fran Sullivan
Jasmin Suraya
Jayne Taylor
Mark Thomas
Dave Williams

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Tam Mitchell

Chris Cadman
Phil Entwistle
Noel Gibson
Jas Gill
Kelly Gillespie
Steve Hibbert
Tam Mitchell
Joyce Still
Nigel Stott
Fiona Tatem
Howard Turner
Neelam Verma
Paul Welsh

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At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That Jayne Taylor be elected Vice-Chair of the Executive Council for the period of office of the Council as now constituted."

8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Minute
No.34

8.2 International Report

A detailed written report had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by the International Director, Simon Dubbins.

The International Director commented on the wider international context highlighting the slowing of the populist election victories and the impulsive and reactionary politics of the Trump presidency.

Unite's work and activities in the European and global federations continues with clear signs that more organisations are placing organising at the centre of their work programmes, specific activities and inputs have been made in UNI, IndustriALL, EPSU, BWL, IUF, ITF and ETF.

Workers Uniting continues to make progress with a Unite delegation strongly present at the USW Convention in April, participation in the Los Mineros march in Mexico and the next phase of the Building Power Internationally course about to start. Specific industrial and political activities have also continued.

Support and assistance has been provided to Unite and reps from other European unions in the EWCs and SNBs of, amongst others, Manpower, GE, Engie, IAG, JOST, Westinghouse, Siemens, Leonardo, SPX, DFDS, GKN and Princes Food. Activities in relation to the effect of Brexit with regard to EWCs are also continuing.

Unite continues to play its full role in relation to building solidarity with our sister organisations and struggles in Colombia, Palestine, Turkey, and a number of other countries. The situation in Turkey and Syria are of particular concern, as is the deteriorating situation in Colombia and the rising tensions in Palestine.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted."

Minute
No.35

8.2.1 Brexit Report

A detailed written report of the Co-ordination Team had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by the International Director, Simon Dubbins.

The Brexit Co-ordination Team has continued to meet regularly in order to discuss, plan and oversee Unite actions in relation to Brexit. Since the last Executive Council meeting, there have been a number of extremely important developments in relation to Brexit:

- UK Election
- Trigger of Article 50
- French and Dutch Elections
- Northern Ireland Elections
- European Parliament position on Brexit defined
- Spanish dropping of opposition to Scotland remaining part of the EU should the UK leave

Although a great deal of the period since the last Executive Council meeting has been dominated by the UK election campaign, Unite has nonetheless continued to have a strong political input in its attempts to shape the Brexit process.

Dealing with Brexit as an industrial issue was identified as a key matter and important actions and issues in this respect have continued.

The Unite Brexit check website is now up and running and being updated regularly with articles, news and details of relevant events etc. Sector documents have continued to be produced and approximately two thirds of Unite sectors now have a specific document either in existence or under preparation.

Unite will continue to push its political and industrial agendas in relation to the Brexit process and will be ready to adapt and change its inputs at short notice to accommodate any key changes.

THIRD DAY, 21ST JUNE 2017

IN THE CHAIR: Bro. T WOODHOUSE

A member of the Council raised the question of the dismissal of the Regional Secretary for the West Midlands. In response, the General Secretary said that the Territorial Representatives from the Region had already been advised and that it had been the intention to report to the Council as a whole but this had been pre-empted by Mr Coyne's own public statement.

8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS continued/....

8.2.1 Brexit Report continued/....

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted."

**Minute
No.36**

8.2.2 Visit to Ecuador

A detailed written report of a visit to Ecuador by the Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir had previously been circulated to the Council.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted."

9. CONSTITUTION & ADMINISTRATION continued/...

9.4 National Industrial Sector Conferences 2017

**Minute
No.37**

9.4.1 Administration Arrangements

A written report detailing the administration arrangements for the National Industrial Sector Conferences had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.38**

9.4.1a National Retired Members Conference – Admin Arrangements

A written report detailing the administration arrangements for the National Retired Members Conference had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.39**

9.4.2 National Industrial Sector Conferences – Standing Orders

A document detailing the Standing Orders for the National Industrial Sector Conferences had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.40**

9.4.3 Distribution of Delegates

A document detailing the distribution of delegates for the National Industrial Sector Conferences had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.41**

9.4.4 TUC Congress – Scheme of Representation 2018 and 2019

A document detailing the delegates to be elected at the National Industrial Sector Conferences to attend the TUC Congress in 2018 and 2019 had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.42**

9.5 Application for National Branches

A document detailing applications to form national branches for Aviva Insurance and HTC Wolffkran had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the applications be referred back to the appropriate NISC and the document be left on the table.”

**Minute
No.43**

9.2 Correspondence including Resolutions

The following resolutions were considered by the Council and the response verbally amplified.

Carphone Warehouse purchase of union phones – The resolution was submitted by the West Midlands Regional Committee and called on the Union that the Union not purchase mobile phones via Carphone Warehouse. In response, the Council supported the resolution.

Grenfell Tower – The emergency resolution had been submitted by the London & Eastern Regional Committee and called on the Union to campaign with and support local community leaders in their struggle for justice and control of their lives; Take the political struggle for safe, decent council homes for all into the London Labour Party, and call for an equivalent national campaign. In response, the Council supported the resolution.

The General Secretary advised the Council that 4 Unite members had died in Grenfell Tower and proposed that a payment of £5,000 be made to their families to which the Council agreed.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted in line with the preamble to this Minute.”

**Minute
No.44**

9.6 The Future of Voting in Public Elections

As a consequence of two motions on reform of the voting system that were remitted to the Executive Council from the 4th Policy Conference held in 2016, a detailed consultation paper had previously been circulated to the Council.

The General Secretary wanted to place on record his thanks to Assistant Chief of Staff, Adrian Weir for the consultation paper and Assistant General Secretary, Howard Beckett for his input. He also advised it was his intention to propagate the document throughout the union and asked for it to be timetabled for debate at the September meeting of the Council and Council members could submit questions in advance of the meeting.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the comments of the General Secretary be accepted.”

11. LEGAL

**Minute
No.45**

11.1 Legal Report

A detailed report was submitted to the Council including updates on recent developments in various areas of the law. The report was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Howard Beckett.

The Assistant General Secretary updated the Council on the following areas:

- Marketing Fees
- Toxic Cabin Air
- Holiday Pay
- Strategic Case Unit
- Update on Blacklisting cases
- Regional Legal Officers' Report
- Certification Officer Cases & Judgements
- Legal Cases of Significance
- Unite Legal Department Accounts 2017

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.46**

11.2 Affiliated Services Report

A written report had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Howard Beckett.

The Council were updated on the following:

- Retired Members Plus
- Member gets Member
- Driver Care
- Unite Home Insurance
- Unite Tax Refunds
- Financial Advice
- Vauxhall Partners Car Purchase Scheme

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

**Minute
No.47**

11.3 Membership Report

A membership report had previously been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Assistant General Secretary, Howard Beckett.

The Assistant General Secretary reported on: UCATT merger; Retention Project; Hardy Evans Call Centre; Section 24: Duty & Membership Audit Certificate (MAC); Statistical Trends.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

The following resolutions were considered by the Council and the response verbally amplified.

Lapsed Members – The resolution was submitted by the North West Regional Committee and called on the Union to take necessary steps to ensure lapsed members are encouraged to pay their arrears on re-joining. In response, the Council agreed to leave the resolution on the table.

Drivers over 65 years of age – The resolution was submitted by the South West Regional Committee and called on the Union that all members aged 65 and over be entitled to remain in the Over 60's element of the DriverCare Scheme. In response, the Council agreed to leave the resolution on the table.

Reduction in Union Fees – Big Lottery Fund – The resolution was submitted by the West Midlands Regional Committee and called on the Union that special dispensation from the EC for any branch to allow a reduction in fees for a period of time to be determined by the EC and overseen by the National Officer. In response, the Council rejected the resolution.

Social Media & Harassment of our Representatives – The resolution was submitted by the London & Eastern Regional Committee and called on the Union to discuss how we best defend our reps and officers from social media bullying and harassment and explore all legal avenues available in defence of our reps who are attacked over social media. In response, the Council supported the resolution in principle.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted in line with the preamble to this Minute.”

8. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS continued/...

**Minute
No.48**

8.1 Political Report

A separate written report on political activities had been circulated to the Council and was verbally supplemented by Political Director, Anneliese Midgley.

The Political Director gave a detailed report on the General Election campaign and in highlighting the results, she advised that the turnout was the highest in a General Election since 1997 at 69%. The increase in vote share of Labour was significant at 9.5%, the biggest increase in vote share at a General Election since 1945 and represents a swing nationally of 2% from Conservatives to Labour. At this election, Labour increased its vote by 3.45 million and while analysis of the makeup of this vote is still being done it seems likely that the increase was driven by a higher turnout of young voters and those in lower income groups.

Before the General Election, the Political Department ensured that Unite policy was consistently represented in different discussions and structures where Labour policy development was taking place on a wide range of issues. The Labour Party put forward the most progressive programme for decades; a manifesto which addressed many of the key concerns of our members.

Unite’s overall strategy was to encourage and convince as any members to vote Labour as possible. Resources were targeted to key sets where there was an opportunity for Labour to make gains from the Conservatives, UKIP and other parties. The resources took a number of forms, from donations to public-facing campaign advertisements and member to member communications.

Chief of Staff, Andrew Murray supplemented the report by sharing his thoughts and comments on his secondment to the Labour Party to assist with the management of Labour’s campaign for the month before polling day.

Questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

The General Secretary supplemented the report and expressed his views and comments on the General Election and recorded his thanks to the team and Andrew Murray.

Further questions and comments from members of the Council were responded to.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

9. CONSTITUTION & ADMINISTRATION continued/....

9.9 Election of Committees – 2017/2020 Electoral Period

**Minute
No.49**

9.9.1 Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of members to constitute the Finance & General Purposes Committee during the ensuing electoral period.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the Finance & General Purposes Committee during the ensuing electoral period:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
 Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
 John Cooper
 Maggie Ryan
 Dick Banks
 James Mitchell
 Therese Moloney
 Phil Entwistle
 Eddie Cassidy
 Wendy Gilligan
 Richard Allday
 Julian Allam
 Simon Rosenthal
 Joe Pisani”

**Minute
 No.50**

9.9.2 Branch Reorganisation / Rule 6 Appeals Panel /Rule 27 Appeals Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of the Branch Reorganisation/Rule 6 Appeals Panel/Rule 27 Appeals Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the Branch Reorganisation / Rule 6 Appeals Panel /Rule 27 Appeals Committee:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
 Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
 Jane Stewart
 Sean McGovern
 Tracey Ashworth
 Andy Green
 John Cooper
 James Mitchell”

**Minute
 No.51**

9.9.3 EC International Sub-Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of the International Sub-Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the International Sub-Committee during the ensuing electoral period:

Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
 Tommy Murphy
 Dave Williams
 Kate Osborne
 Lindsey Adams
 Susan Matthews”

**Minute
No.52**

9.9.4 EC Education Sub-Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of the Education Sub-Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the Education Sub-Committee during the ensuing electoral period:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
Tracey Ashworth
Kwasi Agyemang-Prempeh
Suzanne Muna
Ruth Hayes”

**Minute
No.53**

9.9.5 Trustees of the Unite Pension Fund

The Council proceeded with the election of the Trustees of the Unite Pension Fund to hold office during the ensuing electoral period.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed as Trustees of the Unite Pension Fund:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
Dick Banks
Dave Williams
Dawn Jackson
Stan Ruddock
Andy Jones”

**Minute
No.54**

9.9.6 Directors of the Unite Trustee Company

The Council proceeded with the election of the Directors of the Unite Trustee Company.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed as Directors of the Unite Trustee Company during the ensuing electoral period:

Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
Sean McGovern
James Mitchell
Tommy Murphy”

**Minute
No.55**

9.9.7 Strike Pay Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of the Strike Pay Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the Strike Pay Committee during the ensuing electoral period:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
Joe Pisani
Jane Stewart”

**Minute
No.56**

9.9.8 Severance Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of the Severance Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the Severance Committee during the ensuing electoral period:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
Phil Entwistle
Jane Stewart
Therese Moloney”

**Minute
No.57**

9.9.9 Labour Party Conference – EC Delegates

The Council proceeded with the election of EC members to attend the annual Labour Party Conference 2017.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to attend the Labour Party Conference 2017:

James Mitchell
Dave Williams
Fran Sullivan”

**Minute
No.58**

9.9.10 Workers Uniting Steering Committee

The Council proceeded with the election of the Workers Uniting Steering Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members be appointed to constitute the Workers Uniting Steering Committee during the ensuing electoral period:

Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
Jayne Taylor (Vice-Chair)
Maggie Ryan
Tommy Murphy
Phil Entwistle”

**Minute
No.59**

9.9.11 EC Delegation to Annual TUC Congress

The Council proceeded with the nominations to represent the EC as delegates to the annual TUC Congress.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following EC members together with GC nominees be elected to represent the EC as delegates to the annual TUC Congress:

Tommy Murphy
Andy Jones
Dave Williams

Jasmin Suraya
Ann Crozier
Susan Abachor
Joyce Still”

**Minute
No.60**

9.9.12 TUC General Purposes Committee

The Council agreed that Linda McCulloch be re-nominated as the Unite representative on the TUC General Purposes Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That Linda McCulloch be re-appointed as representative to the TUC General Purposes Committee.”

**Minute
No.61**

9.9.13 Labour Party – National Constitution Committee

The Council agreed that Kate Osborne be nominated as the Unite representative on the National Constitution Committee.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That Kate Osborne be appointed as representative to the National Constitution Committee.”

**Minute
No.62**

9.9.14 TUC General Council

The Council proceeded with the nominations for the TUC General Council.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the following members be appointed to the TUC General Council:

Len McCluskey (General Secretary)
Tony Woodhouse (Chair)
Gail Cartmail (Assistant General Secretary)
Tony Burke (Assistant General Secretary)
Steve Turner (Assistant General Secretary)
Jane Stewart
Maggie Ryan
Sean McGovern (Disabled Member)
TBC (BAEM Member) “

**Minute
No.63**

9.10 West Midlands Region

The General Secretary reported to the Council that, having spoken to the EC members from the West Midlands Region and the Chair of the Regional Committee, with immediate effect Assistant General Secretary, Howard Beckett will be Acting Regional Secretary for the West Midlands Region. Des Quinn who is currently acting in that role will support the Acting Regional Secretary until the end of July when he will then act as National Officer in the Automotive Sector due to the needs of the Sector.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: “That the report be accepted.”

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**Minute
No.64****12.1 Ownership of Resolutions**

A member of the Council referred to a resolution that had previously been remitted back to the Region and highlighted a previous discussion where it had been agreed that the Executive Council would be advised of which Officer would have ownership of resolutions submitted to the Council for reference purposes. In response, the Chief of Staff advised that this information should be contained in the GS Briefing and is also circulated to the Regional Secretaries.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted."

**Minute
No.65****12.2 Hazards Conference**

A member of the Council enquired if the Union would be sending more delegates to the Hazards Conference in July as currently 47 delegates attend from Unite and if it was necessary to be a Health & Safety Rep to be able to attend the conference. In response, the General Secretary advised that the number of delegates would be looked at although it was possibly too late for this year. He also confirmed that it is Health & Safety Reps that attend the conference.

At the close of consideration, the Council

RESOLVED: "That the report be accepted."

**Minute
No.66****Documentation**

The Executive Council noted that all documents specified within the Minutes had been circulated to all members of the Council and were filed on the records of the Council.

**The Meeting of the Council
thereupon terminated**