



Minutes of the Association Committee held on 6th May 2015 at Long Road Sixth Form Centre, Long Road, Cambridge.

Present: Jon Duveen, Lesley Jackson, Phillippe Harari, Matt Kelly, Isobelle Humphries, Tom Woodcock, Paula Champion, Philip Yealds

- 1. Apologies:** Amy Crane, Asim Khairdean, Martin Field, Richard Rose, Brian Chadwick, Louise Crook, Jackie Francis, David Seagrave
- 2. Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd April were read and signed by the Chair Matt Kelly as a true record.

3. Matters arising:

Three conference reports came in, FP's conference report was put up on the website. TW – need to drip feed more information regarding the conference in future newsletters.

4. Report on Baseline Testing meeting and next steps

PC – networks have been contacted and this is becoming a national campaign. Heads are under pressure to do these tests due to targets. Some schools have said they will boycott the tests but not prepared to be names. Need to publicise events, such as the picnic on 17th May and seminar on 20th June. Campaign is inching forward but need more events and stalls to keep the momentum going. DV had article published in Cambridge Evening News regarding this.

Key events: picnic 17th May; news, radio and seminar (10th June)

TW – this issue is not just for nursery teachers but the rest of the education spectrum as well as the impact of these tests will impact on targets, pay and pensions of all teachers.

If you make contact with reps/contacts – try to set up a meeting. Also, organizing stalls and JD will try to help out.

Strawberry Fair – 6th June – Arbury Carnival – 13th June.

5. Education Question Time follow up – is there a space for a campaign on education?

Regardless of who gets in the upcoming general election, the financial position of schools isn't going to change much. A lot of academies have already used up their financial reserves and close to becoming bankrupt as they are not allowed to run at a deficit. School budgets are being squeezed on an unprecedented level and therefore, many redundancies are a real possibility.

Cambridge Peoples' Assembly want to support us in the possibility of a campaign related to this. Call a meeting in June to discuss the organization of this.

Broad spectrum of people attended, would be interesting to keep any campaign based on this.

Although it may also be prudent to keep any campaign focused on a specific element –ie- baseline testing.

However, funding is a key issue that also needs to be addressed. Heads of academies are suggesting that the cuts would cut into the curriculum.

Suggested that as soon as we know who is elected as the local MP, we should approach them to discuss education.

Need to keep in touch with attendees of the EQT in order to keep in touch with them and utilize them

when necessary. We don't want to miss the opportunity to use this and perhaps shouldn't just focus on baseline testing when we could include another issue to campaign around – should not become a one campaign union.

- A) Exploratory discussion JD to send out email about EQT issues and end of June/July meeting.
- B) 20th June People's Assembly demo (Anti Austerity) – coach leaving from Cambridge at £5 per person.

6. Health and Safety – asbestos update – BC to introduce

BC not present at meeting but letter on back of minutes to state health and safety concerns with academy. Government guidance has changed with asbestos – Head etc have responsibility to inform employees in school where asbestos is. Someone should take responsibility in school to make people aware where there is any asbestos in school and tell people this information.

This is becoming acute – teachers and pupils – ex pupils – are dying from asbestos related illnesses. Need to take this on in schools as classrooms with 30 students will agitate asbestos and cause a serious H & S threat.

Asbestos will be included in next committee meeting.

7. Next Association Meeting, June 3rd, where to meet and organization of the meetings

Nominations for officers in the union but not sure where it will be yet.

8. Correspondence:

Harringay Sixth form strike and Monax strike regarding redundancies and sacking of reps. Solidarity to be sent.

9. Reports:

- a. Secretary: No other reports.
- b. Treasurer:
- c. Other:

10. AOB: there being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.00pm.