



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
ASSOCIATION**

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at Cambridge Professional Development Centre**

**Present:** Martin Fields (Chair) + 16 members

**1. Apologies:** Graham White, Tony Dutton, Richard Rose, Victoria Barnsley

**2. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting:**

The minutes of the last AGM was agreed as an accurate record. No matters arising.

**3. Correspondence**

No correspondence.

**4. Reports**

Health and Safety report from Brian Chadwick – emphasis on asbestos in schools – Sawtry and Ely colleges having been visited with an unsatisfactory access to the asbestos register. Teachers must be made aware where asbestos is in their school. Also, teachers need to be made aware of the dangers of looking directly into the light of a projector.

Secretary's report Jon Duveen – membership is healthy with slight increase. We have more trained reps than last year as well as more who have attended the advanced course. We need to increase our reps to 120 in the county. Not many of the small primary schools have staff who are willing to take on the role of reps. Most of the secondary schools and special schools have reps.

16th February is the meeting to agree the county budget – there is a People's Assembly who are planning a lobby of the Council. People's Assembly calling for a demonstration starting at midday in Market Square. As a result of the budget, there have been consultations with the SEND team and staff employed centrally. It appears the authority want to cut wherever they can. The CREDS service is being reviewed – we are waiting the council's response to our response to the proposed cuts. County want CREDS to be funded from schools, not from the council's budget. Post 16 Education – cuts all around the country including Cambridgeshire – a meeting is scheduled for November.

We have been able to get another person who can act as a caseworker for the county, who can serve as a first port of call for members.

Retired Members report submitted by Tony Dutton

**5. Statement of Accounts and Financial Resolutions**

Charlotte Rivington – Honoraria are issued from Hamilton House and not locally.

£10,990 surplus funds from last year and £36,000 currently in credit.

The honoraria is derived from the 2014 honoraria + 1.6%

All financial resolutions 1 – 10 were passed unanimously (see below).

Jon Duveen, Secretary,  
Cambridgeshire Association of the National Union of Teachers,  
Telephone 07773778062  
Email: duvjon27@gmail.com

11. Tom Woodcock – Campaign Teacher is no longer in print, therefore we divert the money to providing each named rep with a copy of Education for Liberation. 100 copies 3 times a year. Matt Kelly – affiliate to Stand Up to Racism to be added to affiliation list, nationally and locally. All points to point 11 were passed unanimously. £1000 donation to the NUT benevolent fund. This was passed.

## **2016 Financial Resolutions**

1. That the Local Association Subscription be set at 10% + £2 per member of the National Subscription.
2. That the travel allowance be set at 45p per mile + 5p per passenger mile for cars, 20p per mile for cycles. Where the total distance travelled is greater than 150 miles and a suitable service exists, the second-class rail fare only will be payable unless this is more expensive overall.
3. That honoraria for 2015 be set as follows:
  - a. Treasurer £811
  - b. Secretary £1,519
  - c. Assistant Secretary £760
  - d. Membership Secretary £760
  - e. Press Officer £303
  - f. Communications Officer £890
  - g. Equal Opportunities Officer £153
  - h. Health and Safety Officer £153
  - i. Special Needs Officer £153
  - j. Retired Section Secretary £456
  - k. Retired Section Treasurer\* £187
  - l. TSN Officer £76
  - m. Casework Officers £153

and that the Committee should have the discretion to offer small Honoraria to members who spend a significant amount of time on Union work outside of meetings.

*Note: these figures are derived from the 2014 honoraria + 1.2%*

Honoraria for posts unfilled during the previous year will be paid into the Association strike hardship fund.

4. That Tacconi Green and Co. of St Ives be appointed auditors for the 2015 accounts.
5. That the association pay childcare costs for members who attend association meetings.
6. That the hourly rate for casual administrative assistance be set at £11.30
7. That a grant be made each school term to the Huntingdon Retired Section of £300.
8. That the delegates to the 2016 National Conference be given a grant of £247 in addition to hotel and travel costs.
9. That the Association pay the cost of broadband connection for the Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Communications Officer, Treasurer, and Retired Members Secretary.
10. That any two of the following officers shall be signatories to the bank account: Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Officer.
11. That, for 2016, Cambridgeshire Association affiliate/subscribe to:
  1. Anti-Academies Alliance (£100)

2. Burston Strike School Fund (£50)
  3. C.A.S.E. (£20)
  4. Cambridge and District TUC (700 members at 20p = £140)
  5. Canon Collins Education Trust for Southern Africa (£50)
  6. Cuba Solidarity Campaign (£40)
  7. Education Review – 5 copies, twice a year (£50)
  8. Wisbech and District TUC (700 members at 12p = £84)
  9. Palestine Solidarity Campaign/Trades Union Friends of Palestine (£25)
  10. Post-16 Educator (£40)
  11. Schools Out (£50)
  12. The Library Campaign (£35)
  13. Trade Union Friends of Searchlight (£50)
  14. Justice For Columbia (£50)
  15. Education for Liberation (3 issues/100 copies per issue £600)
  16. Stop the War (£100)
  17. Keep Our NHS Public (£50)
  18. The People's Assembly – local and national (£150)
  19. National Stand Up To Racism
  20. Local Stand Up To Racism
- (the figures in brackets are approximate affiliation rates)

12. That Cambridgeshire Association donate to:

1. Family Holidays Association (£110)
2. Refugee Council (£110)
3. CASE (£220)
4. The Library Campaign (£55)
5. The Palestine Solidarity Campaign (£220)
6. Cuba Solidarity Campaign (£55)
7. Cambridge Stop the War Coalition (£220)
8. Cambridge Unite Against Fascism (£110)
9. Cambridge Cycling Campaign (£55)
10. Justice for Colombia (£110)
11. Anti-Academies Alliance (£100)
12. Cambridge Love Music Hate Racism (£50)
13. Cambridge Keep Our NHS Public (£50)
14. NUT Benevolent Fund (£1000)

## 6. Installation of new President

Matt Kelly was installed as the new president for the Cambridgeshire Division of the NUT.  
Thanks for given to the previous president, Martin Field.

## 7. Declaration of the results of the election of Officers and Committee

Secretary – Jon Duveen

Assistant Secretary – Lesley Jackson

Vice President – Fleur Patten

Health and Safety Officers – to be shared between Kristian Jones and Brian Chadwick.

Communications Officer – Philippe Harari

Treasurer –Charlotte Rivington

Membership Secretary – Jackie Francis

Young Teacher's Officer – Phil Yeeles

Press Officer – Kristian Jones

Committee Members – Paula Champion, Martin Field, Tom Woodcock

Conference Delegate members – Daphne Babouris (observer), Brian Chadwick, Paula Champion, Louise Crook, Jon Duveen, Rachel Evans, Philippe Harari, Lesley Jackson, Matt Kelly,

Fleur Patten, Richard Rose (observer), Tom Woodcock, Phil Yeeles

Delegates to Trades Council Cambridge – Tom Woodcock, Jon Duveen and Matt Kelly.

Nominated Tom as secretary. Matt Kelly as Vice Chair.

Wisbech and District – Martin Field and Brian Chadwick.

## **8. President's Address**

1. Solidarity – with other unions and professions. 98% vote from the junior doctors is a good example. Recognise all the damage to our terms and conditions to our profession and others.
2. Take centre place in Fight Against Racism and Islamophobia.
3. PREVENT strategy – encouraging Islamophobia. Whatever is the action, we need to be a part of it.
4. Attacks on funding and the testing regime.
5. Attacks on the sixth form teaching sector.

These are all areas that we need to focus on this year.

## **9. Motions on which proper notice has been given to the Secretary**

- a. Standing Up to Racism – Richard Rose – fascist parties emerging in mainland Europe and Islamophobia increasing. Luckily we do not have a significant fascist party in the UK but they have been kept in the fringes due to continued campaigning. The focus is now on refugees and Muslims and this must be the centre of the work to prevent racist ideas increasing.

Jon Duveen – We have to be careful about the definition of fascism – there is a difference between a far right party and a fascist party. Other organisations as well as Stand up to Racism and Fight Against Fascism have helped to keep these types of parties at bay.

Tom Woodcock – there is a difference between a racist and fascist and we need to recognise that. Fight against Fascism is the important factor, rather than the politics of the people who are standing against them.

The motion was passed.

Baseline Testing – Paula Champion – after half term, nationally, some associations are going to do a survey on Baseline Testing. We are also planning to do this as a Cambridgeshire association as well. This is to gauge reactions and the mood for a boycott of the tests. The motion was passed.

## **STAND UP TO RACISM MOTION**

### **This Association Notes**

1. The ongoing economic crisis coupled with Middle Eastern wars has led to recent successes across Europe for openly Fascist parties, particularly Le Front National in France but also Jobik in Hungary and Golden Dawn in Greece.
2. This has been mirrored in Britain by the growth of UKIP, who came second in the European elections with 28% of the vote.

3. That the government has sought to appropriate the racism fanned by UKIP as a way of deflecting the anger caused by years of economic recession, cut backs and shortages. This racism has been particularly aimed at migrants and Muslims but extends to incorporate many forms of prejudice.
4. This racism works to divide workers and hide the real causes of recession and cut backs.
5. It has also led to a climate where some forms of racism, especially Islamophobia and scapegoating of refugees, becomes normalised. Attacks on Muslims have risen; this has been exacerbated by recent events in France. As teachers, we are being asked to be suspicious of Muslim students due to Prevent legislation.
6. We are also witnessing a rise in other forms of racism, including anti-Semitism.
7. This means that we risk seeing the resurrection or realignment of the Fascist right, such as the English Defence League, Britain First and the British National Party.
8. The wonderful solidarity shown by ordinary people in Britain towards refugees fleeing persecution and poverty, which stands in marked contrast to the indifference and hostility shown by the government.
9. The Stand Up to Racism convoys (such as that made up of Birmingham teachers) to refugee camps in Calais and beyond, taking much needed supplies and political solidarity to those in the camps.
10. The Stand Up to Racism march organised for United Nations Day on March 19<sup>th</sup> in London to combat all of the above, and supported by Diane Abbott MP, Billy Hayes (CWU), Ava Vidal (comedian), Owen Jones (writer), Farooq Murad (Muslim Council of Britain), Christine Blower (NUT) and many more

### **This Association believes**

1. That the reason the Fascist right is not currently strong in Britain is due to the ceaseless efforts of Unite Against Fascism and other anti-racist and anti-Fascist groups, who have mobilised hundreds of times against the EDL, and whose Griffin Must Go campaign helped to remove the BNP from the European parliament.
2. That while clearly not a Fascist party, UKIP's populist divisive racism risks giving new life to Islamophobic arguments used by Fascist groups such as the BNP, Britain First and the EDL. This means that UKIP's arguments must be opposed and exposed, rather than accommodated to; where this is done, as in South Thanet during the general election – UKIP can be stopped.
3. We are proud to live in a diverse, tolerant, multi-cultural country; all attempts to normalise any form of racism or bigotry (be it by political party, sports stars, entertainers or others) need to be vigorously opposed.
4. That the growth of Le Front National in France is at least partly down to the lack of effectively organised anti-racist opposition.
5. That the interest of Trade Unionists is in the unity of all workers, whatever their nationality or religion.
6. That where they are confronted, racist arguments can be defeated.
7. That raising funds and support for refugees is an act of solidarity.
8. That a huge, lively and diverse turnout at the demonstration on March 19<sup>th</sup> will help to marginalise the racists and put defending and celebrating multi-culturalism back at the centre of the political agenda.

### **This Association resolves**

1. To affiliate to Stand Up to Racism nationally and locally.
2. To donate £200 to the cost of local transport from Cambridge to the demonstration on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
3. To publicise the demonstration and encourage members to attend (one seat will be reserved for every £10 donated) and explain to them why scapegoating and racism are not the answers to their problems.
4. To publicise Stand Up to Racism convoys to refugee camps and encourage members to donate and/or participate.
5. To seek to become involved in local anti-racist initiatives such as those organised by Cambridge Stand Up to Racism, Cambridge Love Music Hate Racism, Show Racism the Red Card, Unite Against Fascism, Kick It Out, Stand Up to UKIP and similar campaigns.

### **MOTION ON BASELINE TESTING**

This association notes

- I. The continued positive response from parents to the Better without Baseline/4Too Young to Test campaign, with a growing number of parents expressing opposition to the amount of testing across the primary school.

2. The majority of teachers who took part in the NUT/ATL national survey feel the current Baseline test does not support them in their teaching nor the learning of young children. They also say that there is an increase in workload as a result of implementing the new assessment.
3. The validity of the current assessments has been challenged by many within the education sector and is of concern to the government themselves.
4. The National Union of Teachers remains committed in its opposition to the use of Baseline Assessment as part of the governments school accountability agenda.

This association supports the strategy of the National NUT activists group for the term leading up to NUT conference which involves

- i. Continued campaigning on the streets and with parents using press releases and the forthcoming launch of the NUT/CATL survey results to its raise profile
- ii. Taking the campaign into schools by carrying out a Survey Monkey of all Primary members in the Association that will enable us to;
  - A. build the campaign in schools
  - B. build support for a possible boycott of the Baseline beyond our reception/foundation stage members
  - C. begin to address and link the anti- test sentiment across the Primary school with the baseline campaign.

This Association agrees to make available £300 to enable;

1. Administration of the Survey Monkey
2. Telephoning Primary Reps and members where needed by a member of the committee or other designated NUT member
3. Sending newsletters to reps and members
4. Expenses of committee members going into schools to lead members meetings on the campaign.

#### **10. Discussion of matter declared urgent by the Meeting including:**

- a. Prioritisation of motions for Conference 2016

The following motions were voted on for the 2016 Conference:

- i. 31 – Baseline Testing
- ii. 3 – Workload
- iii. 42 – 6<sup>th</sup> Form Funding
- iv. 56 – Racism
- v. 8 – Bullying
- vi. 34 – PREVENT strategy