

**COMMUNICATION WORKERS UNION**

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(For the consideration of the  
National Executive Council  
at their meeting on 25 May 2017)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE  
HELD ON FRIDAY, 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017  
CWU HEAD OFFICE, WIMBLEDON**

**Present:**

Jimi Brown (Vice Chair)	Joel McCluskey
Scott Hartles	Rebecca Watt
Adam Gibbins	Steve Jones (NEC)
Becca Hufton	Jo Thair (PA & Minutes)
Dan Coles	
Fiona Curtis	
Jamie George	
Laura Snell	
Michael Goozee	

**Observers**


**Apologies:**

Chris Gadeke – Bereavement	Colm McCauley – No Release
Jake Fear (Chair) - Illness	
Tracey Fussey - OUB	
Elli Long - OUB	

## **SECTION 1: ITEMS REQUIRING A NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DECISION**

None

## **SECTION 2: ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DECISION**

### **1. Welcome/Apologies**

In the absence of the Chair Jimi Brown agreed to Chair the meeting.

The Vice Chair opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

### **2. Finance / Budget from last Meeting**

The PA gave a verbal update on the budget and advised the committee the budget was currently underspent but recent expenditure not reported on the budget statement would mean the committee was currently on-budget.

Concern was raised about the abilities of the committee to stay within budget due to the recent rule change that doubled the size of the committee and the budget not being reflected in this.

The PA explained that all departments had been asked to reduce their budgets and that if the committee continued to look at ways in which they carried out their business, e.g. meeting locations and use of technology such as video conferencing this demonstrated their willingness and ability to use the budget they have been allocated wisely and efficiently.

### **3. Action Points from Last Meeting**

Youth Committee Doc No: 027-17 was submitted.

The PA gave a verbal supplementary update.

The document and verbal update were NOTED.

### **4. CWU Young Workers – A Way Forward**

Youth Committee Doc No: 029-17 was submitted.

The committee were tasked to break into two groups to go through this document. They brainstormed the content and added their own thoughts, ideas and amendments.

Following report backs from the two groups the PA AGREED to update the document and circulate to the committee for final sign off.

### **5. Mental Health First Aid Course**

The PA gave a verbal update on number of registrations received to date.

Steve Jones also gave a verbal update on the work he had been doing to increase registration numbers.

It was NOTED that 19 places of the 20 available had been filled so far.

Jamie George, Becca Hufton, Scott Hartles and Fiona Curtis AGREED to confirm their attendance.

The verbal reports were NOTED.

## **6. Annual Conference 2017**

Youth Committee Doc No: 026-17 was submitted.

The committee AGREED to set up a WhatsApp group to enable those at conference to liaise of a timetable to cover the stall during conference week.

The PA AGREED to set up the stall on the Saturday and to open and close the stall during conference week.

It was AGREED to host a social get together on the Sunday evening of General Conference.

PA AGREED to explore the possibility of reserving space at the 10 Million Postcards pub in Bournemouth.

It was AGREED to run Wii Competition.

Jimi Brown and Scott Hartles AGREED to draft up a potential emergency motion on retirement age to circulate to the committee for the purpose of asking their branches to submit on their behalf.

The document was NOTED.

## **7. Branch Youth Officers Forum**

It was AGREED that the committee would meet the afternoon before for a scheduled committee meeting.

PA reported that a venue was still being sought after approaching UNITE, Unison and the University of Cardiff – all not having availability on 7<sup>th</sup> June or not sufficient space.

It was therefore AGREED that the PA would further investigate hotels in central Cardiff.

Adam Gibbins AGREED to make enquiries with TUCWales about possible venues.

The committee AGREED to supply ideas for the agenda.

## **8. Youth Conference 2017 – Motions Update**

Youth Committee Doc No: 030-17 was submitted and NOTED.

Andrew Towers from the General Secretary's department joined the meeting to discuss Motions 5 and 11 that were passed and were the responsibility of that department.

Andrew gave a verbal update on the status of the political agenda of the union and how the youth structure could play its part. This included:

- How political & industrial agendas should be joined up and are intrinsically linked;
- How to engage people in the political agenda
- New Deal for Workers campaign
- Peter Hain's debate "Future of Royal Mail" that would be taking place in Parliament
- The proposed CWU Politics Page that would be introduced in Voice and a dedicated page on the website

Andrew advised that it was intended to organised more TULO events and anyone interested should get in touch with his office.

It was AGREED to investigate a possible tour of parliament.

### **Motion 11**

Andrew discussed the New Deal for Workers campaign which would encapsulate a lot of the sentiments of Motion 11.

It was AGREED to write to the General Secretary giving the committee's support and offering their assistance in the campaign.

### **Motion 5**

Andrew explored with the committee the possibilities of meeting the terms of this motion which included:

- Supporting local candidates during by-elections, for example the 4<sup>th</sup> May by-election in Manchester
- Leafleting for local councils/mayoral elections
- Get involved in Labour Party projects such as Workplace 2020

It was AGREED that the committee, at its next meeting would discuss this further and to write to the General Secretary's department offering potential support for Labour Party activities.

## **9. Youth Committee Strategy Weekend, 30 June – 1 July, Alvescot**

The PA gave a verbal update on arrangements for the weekend.

The committee AGREED to discuss the timetable at its next meeting.

## **10. National Youth Education Event 2017**

Youth Committee Doc No: 22-17 was submitted.

The committee AGREED the following workshops:

- Cuba Solidarity Campaign
- Papyrus
- A political workshop
- A motions workshop

Laura Snell AGREED to speak to her contact who is a Gold Medalist for Paralympics about being a guest speaker.

It was AGREED to approach Justice for the 96 Campaign about a guest speaker slot.

It was AGREED to discuss the timetable further at its next meeting.

## **11. Regional Committee Reports**

### **Scotland**

Scott Hartles gave a verbal update which included:

- Attempts to restart the Regional Youth Committee;
- Scott to visit Highland Amal to assist with finding a branch youth officer

### **South West**

Michael Goozee and Adam Gibbins gave a verbal update. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the committee would be held the following week. Their next meeting after that would be in September and would be held in Guernsey.

An invitation to the PA was extended to attend the September meeting.

### **Northern Ireland**

Fiona Curtis gave a verbal update which included:

- The potential to hold an awareness day
- Following the retirement of the incumbent Regional Secretary it was intended to approach the new Regional Secretary once they are in situ to discuss the youth committee going forward.

### **Eastern**

Dan Coles & Jamie George gave a verbal update and advised that the next meeting of the Regional Youth Committee was going to be on 4 April 2017.

It was NOTED that the PA would be attending that meeting.

### **Midlands**

Jimi Brown gave a verbal update and advised that a Regional Youth Committee meeting was going to be arranged for some time in June.

The remaining regions had not further reports or members for that region were not in attendance.

## **12. Report Backs**

### **TUC**

Youth Committee Doc Nos: 021-17 and 023-17 were submitted. Both were NOTED.

The committee was advised that the TUC Young Workers Conference was taking place that weekend and that the four delegates representing the CWU were Jamie George, Becca Hufton, Laura Snell and Dan Coles.

Jamie George was going to be moving the CWU motion on Disability Cuts.

Becca Hufton AGREED to Tweet on behalf of the committee during the conference weekend as part of the newly agreed "takeover" sessions.

## **UNI**

Youth Committee Doc No: 024-17 was submitted and NOTED.

Becca Hufton gave a verbal update and she supplied forthcoming dates of events which included:

- UNI Summer School – 12 June in Cyprus
- Europa Conference – 24-26 September

It was NOTED that Becca Hufton was intending to put herself forward for the position of President of UNI Europa Youth – she would be seeking the nomination from the region.

The PA AGREED to write to the General Secretary's department with regards to attendees to UNI events.

## **STUC**

Youth Committee Doc No: 028-17 was submitted.

- It was AGREED to submit the motion (as amended by the General Secretary's office)
- It was AGREED that the committee would support Scott Hartles nomination for the Trade Union seat on the STUC Youth Committee
- It was NOTED that Scott Hartles will be attending the STUC Youth Conference

## **TULO**

Michael Goozee gave a verbal report of the event and AGREED to submit a written report in time for the next meeting of the committee (6 June 2017).

## **NEC/PEC/T&FSE**

Jimi Brown gave a verbal update on recent meetings of the NEC and the PEC that he had attended.

## **Young Labour Political School**

Jimi Brown gave a verbal report on this recent event he had attended.

## **13. Any Other Business**

## **CWU Youth Workers Charity Promise**

It was AGREED that the committee would think of charity events/campaigns that the committee could support and to discuss at the next meeting.

### **14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 6 June 2017 in Cardiff – venue to be advised.

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