



Brussels Labour Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday 10 April 2013

1. Apologies: Keir Fitch

2. Discussion with EPLP General Secretary, Stephen Pearse: the discussion focussed on cooperation at Labour Party Conference (including possible topics for the BL/LME event scheduled for the Sunday), potential BL involvement ahead of 2014 European elections, and engaging assistants in BL activities. Jo also thanked Stephen for the EPLP (and in particular Glenis Willmott's) assistance in securing Martin Schulz for the 2013 John Fitzmaurice Lecture and speakers for the BL anniversary dinner. It was agreed that Stephen should be invited to attend Exec meetings on a quarterly basis.

3. Minutes & action points of the last meeting and matters arising: Minutes agreed in principle (any **editorial** corrections to be sent to Paul by Sunday 14 April).

4. Reports from officers and correspondence

a. Chair: specific points dealt with by Jo under later agenda items.

b. Secretary and membership:

- All files had been transferred from Emma to Paul.
- Reminder that the Exec mailing list is open but Branch mailings should always be closed (bcc).

c. Treasurer

- Accounts in credit
- 61 members have already paid their subs compared with 71 members paid up last year. Agreed that subs income to be an item for discussion at next Exec meeting, including communication with members who have lapsed and possible ordering of BL business cards containing BL a/c details.
- Main item of expenditure has been deposit for BL anniversary dinner (discussed under item 6).

5. Executive Committee Members: allocation of roles and responsibilities 2013

- Roles & responsibilities 2013:

Name	Role/responsibility
Jo Wood	Chair; EPLP Liaison (with David);
David O'Leary	Vice Chair/ Communications and website (with Georgina and Charlotte);
Paul Hagan	Secretary/ Membership (with Georgina and Martin)/ relations with EP assistants
Belinda Pyke	Treasurer/ BL 40 th anniversary (with David, Charlotte and Isobel)
Charlotte Billingham	Sister Parties (with Jo)
Georgina Carr	Germinal Editor (with David)/ LI
Martin Dawson	Campaigns
Nicholas Elles	Room bookings (with Charlotte)
Isobel Findlay	Minutes and Social Events
Keir Fitch	National Policy Forum/ policy development (with Jo and Martin)

6. Branch meetings and other events in 2013

- Wednesday 24 April – Glenis Willmott confirmed, on the topic "Preparing for 2014" (venue - FEPS). Charlotte to greet, Jo to check that Mark Major can take photos. Charlotte and Belinda to organise refreshments - budget agreed at 40EUR with donations to cover the costs. Paul to do mailing to announce this and forthcoming events.
- Wednesday 29 May – Jo to follow up with potential speakers; venue to be confirmed.
- Wednesday 19 June – BL Anniversary dinner. L'Atelier booked (capacity: 80 people). The following pricing structure for the tickets was agreed: 60 EUR for non-members; 40 EUR for members; 15 EUR for reduced rate members (maximum 10 tickets). In terms of fundraising, it was also agreed that the sale of the book should take priority over the organisation of a raffle. Neil Kinnock and Emma Reynolds are confirmed as speakers. Jo to follow up with regard to potential third speaker. Paul to send separate "save the date" mailing for the dinner. Belinda to organise separate meeting with David, Charlotte and Isobel to discuss more detailed arrangements.
- Wednesday 10 July – Maggie Coulthard and Peter Wragg have confirmed that they can host the summer social.
- JF Lecture 2013 - Martin Schulz is confirmed for Wednesday 16 October; venue - Press Club.

7. Post AGM - Wednesday 20 March: corrections to Paul by Sunday 14 April. Minutes to be formally adopted at 2014 AGM. Proposal regarding subscriptions/one-off donations to be discussed at next Exec.

8. Plans for BL 40th Anniversary

- Anniversary dinner: discussed under item 6 (branch meetings).
- Book: David confirmed that per copy the book will cost 23EUR to publish with proposed sale price of 20 EUR.
- Application to LI for financial support: Belinda's proposal to make an application to LI for financial support of 250EUR for BL @ 40 events was approved.
- London reception: Keir to report on progress at next meeting.

9. LP Conference

- Potential candidates meeting: discussed with Stephen under item 2. The ballot result is expected around end July.
- LI: Georgina advised that LI will send one female paid delegate, and can also send (unpaid) one other female ordinary delegate, two other ordinary delegates and one youth delegate.

10. Communications and website : Next edition of Germinal is planned for Wednesday 19 June (BL Anniversary dinner). Georgina will send information on content/deadlines in advance.

11. Sister parties and LI

- The first meeting of the new LICC will take place on Thursday 18 April. Georgina Carr and Frazer Clarke from Brussels Labour had been elected to the new Committee.
- Jo advised that she was still awaiting requests from sister parties for receipts for their contributions following the Sister Parties reception which took place in March.

12. AOB: none

13. Next meeting: Wednesday 15 May, 19:30 @ Jo's