



# Brussels Labour Executive Committee

## Minutes

Wednesday 5 June 2013

### 1. Apologies: Charlotte Billingham

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising: Minutes agreed subject to two editorial corrections in points 3 and 5.

### 3. Reports from officers and correspondence:

#### a. Chair:

- Jo announced that sadly Georgina would be leaving Brussels at the end of June and returning to the UK to take up a new job. The Executive Committee thanked Georgina for all her work on the Committee, particularly in relation to LI and the editing of Germinal. The chair would present a proposal to the next executive on how to fill the vacancy on the Committee.
- Other points were dealt with by Jo under later agenda items.

#### b. Secretary and membership:

- Paul is liaising with Jo and Martin to follow up with potential new members, and work is ongoing as regards ensuring that LI members in Belgium become members of Brussels Labour.

#### c. Treasurer

- Accounts in credit
- Donations for refreshments at 29 May branch meeting totalled €44.50 with €36.42 expenditure. Cost for venue hire expected to be €50.

### 4. Branch meetings and other events in 2013:

- Wednesday 19 June - Anniversary Dinner: 76 people have reserved (capacity +/- 80). Tickets to be paid for by 12 June. It was agreed to cover the cost of dinner of the three speakers plus one spouse. Jo outlined the format for the evening and indicated that the speakers had been informed and had been invited to arrive at 19:30 for the aperitif which would also provide the opportunity for them to sign copies of the book before dinner at 20.15. Charlotte has confirmed menu and other arrangements with l'Atelier. It was agreed that Exec members responsible for setting up the room would aim to arrive by 19:00.
- Wednesday 10 July - Summer social: it was agreed that date and venue should be announced in a Branch mailing to be circulated as soon as possible. Isobel will liaise with Maggie as regards delivery of refreshments and other arrangements.
- Wednesday 18 September: It was agreed that Isobel would investigate potential speakers for a meeting on the theme of Scotland and the EU, in view of the 2014 Scottish referendum.
- JF Lecture 2013 - 16 October: Martin Schulz is confirmed for Wednesday 16 October; venue - Press Club. To be announced in the next mailing.
- Pub Quiz: the date of Wednesday 13 November was agreed. David E to be asked to be MC. Nick, David and Keir agreed to take responsibility for the organisation (Isobel absent during this period in November). More detailed arrangements to be discussed again at next meeting.

### 5. Plans for BL 40th Anniversary:

- Anniversary dinner: discussed under item 4 (Branch meetings and other events in 2013).
- Book: 100 copies had been ordered and should arrive by 14 June, in time to be sold at the dinner. 24 reservations have already been made via the separate mailing account. The first 100 books will be sold at €20 with a production cost of €27 per copy. After that, anyone who wants a copy can order from the publisher at the cost price.
- London reception: Jo and Keir following up with LME.

#### **6. LP Conference:**

- Potential candidates meeting and LME/BL/EPLP meeting: Jo and Keir progressing.

#### **7. Communications and website:**

- Next edition of Germinal: planned for Wednesday 19 June (BL Anniversary dinner). Deadline for contributions agreed at 9 June. Georgina has circulated information on content/tasks for individual Exec members.
- Internet publicity for BL@40. The Exec thanked David for all his publicity work on the book ahead of the dinner. Exec members to continue to try to share posts etc.
- BL business cards: David had ordered the business cards and they would be available in time for the dinner on 19 June.

#### **8. Sister parties and LI:**

- There had been no LICC meeting since the last Exec. The next meeting would take place on Thursday 6 June. Keir had been invited in his capacity as NPF rep, ahead of the Policy Forum meeting on 23 June. Georgina has in the meantime informed the rest of the Committee of her departure, and is discussing with them the arrangements. She also mentioned that the last of the 10 policy papers would be posted to the LI Facebook page on Thursday 6 June and encouraged Exec members to get involved in the discussion.
- As regards sister parties, Jo and Charlotte are following up contacts with the Austrian Social Democrats.

#### **9. AOB: none**

#### **10. Next meeting: Wednesday 17 July 19:30 @ Martin's or restaurant.**