



Brussels Labour Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday 4 September 2013

1. Apologies: Nicholas Elles

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising: Minutes adopted.

3. Reports from officers and correspondence:

a. Chair:

- It was agreed that Stephen Pearse would be invited to attend the October Executive Committee meeting and a discussion would be scheduled on campaigning activities ahead of the 2014 elections.

- Other points taken by Jo under later agenda items.

b. Secretary and membership:

- 11 new members since March 2013; so far 127 members have paid this year. Arrangements for following up with lapsed members were agreed.

c. Treasurer:

- Accounts in credit

- Income from 2013 subs so far is €2362.33 compared with a total for 2012 of €1689.

- Income from the 40th anniversary dinner exceeded the costs. The book will be on sale at the next branch meetings and also at the meeting at Conference.

4. EGM 2013:

• The EGM will take place on Wednesday 18 September 2013, at 20:00, prior to the Branch meeting. Deadline for nominations for ordinary member of the Executive Committee is Wednesday 18 September 2013 at 18:00. A reminder would be circulated to the Branch prior to the deadline.

5. Branch meetings and other events in 2013/2014:

• Lord (Jack) McConnell is confirmed as speaker for the Branch meeting on 18 September, on the theme of Scotland and the EU, in view of the Scottish referendum which will take place on Thursday 18 September 2014. The Branch meeting will take place immediately after the EGM, which starts at 20:00. Charlotte has booked FEPS as the venue and will organise refreshments.

• JF Lecture 2013 - 16 October: Martin Schulz is confirmed for Wednesday 16 October. Press Club has been booked and paid for and David has set up registration email account. Jo is liaising with the office of Martin Schulz as regards the arrangements for the event. Isobel to organise refreshments. Budget agreed at 75EUR.

• Pub Quiz: it was agreed that the pub quiz should take place the week of 25 November 2013. The exact date to be confirmed subject to the availability of the venue. It was decided that the pub quiz would be self-financing, with the costs covered from the team subscriptions and sale of raffle tickets. Any remaining funds would be donated to a charity to be decided in due course.

- 2014 JF Lecture: it was agreed to return to this item at a later meeting.

6. BL 40th anniversary:

- Matters arising from anniversary Dinner: the Committee recorded their thanks to Toni Cowan-Brown, photographer for the event. The photos were now available on the website.
- London reception: after investigating various possible dates and venue, it was concluded that it would not be practical or feasible to host a London reception in October/November.

7. LP Conference:

- Jo and Keir are liaising with LME as regards the arrangements for the BL/LME fringe meeting on the theme of "Winning in Europe", which will take place on Sunday 22 September at 12:15.

8. Communications and website:

- Martin would contact colleagues in due course to ask for contributions and set deadlines. Overall deadline will be 11 October to enable publication in time for JF Lecture on 16 October.

9. Sister parties/LI

- An election will be held for a new LICC Member to replace Georgina Carr. Arrangements to be confirmed by LICC in due course. It was decided that Charlotte Billingham would be the Brussels Labour nominee.
- Charlotte will check with the French PS about the meeting on 3 October

10. A.O.B

- None.

11. Next meeting: Wednesday 2 October 19:30 @ Keir's.