

1. Apologies: Tom Fillis

2. Minutes & action points of the last meeting and matters arising: Minutes agreed

3. Reports from officers and correspondence

a. Chair

- Jo welcomed everyone and updated everyone of the events of the summer. The points raised in her report would be dealt with during the different agenda points.

b. Secretary

- Hilary Benn had been contacted regarding the John Fitzmaurice lecture and email will be followed up after the Labour Party conference

c. Treasurer

- Accounts in credit
- 500 euro has been committed for the Conference fringe event with LI
- A re-reading of the rules regarding payments confirms that the Executive Committee is empowered to make grants/donations up to a limit of 500 EUR, and an EGM to endorse this decision is therefore not necessary. The decision to make five campaigning grants of 100 EUR up to a limit of 500 EUR is in keeping with the rules and this will be clarified in the minutes of the May meeting.
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d. Membership secretary.

- There was a noted reduction in the number of members renewing membership compared to last year, which may be due to changes in the membership or not being aware of the new bank account details. The Membership Secretary will contact those dues to renew their membership and contact will be made with new MEP assistants.

4. Branch Meetings and other events in 2017

- Thangam Debbonnaire MP invited to next meeting on 21st September (the date changed to accommodate her travel arrangements). This would be combined with an update on Conference preparations.
- Wednesday 18 October: It was suggested David Martin MEP be invited. If he is not available to contact the Young European Federalists and the Brussels GMB branch to hold a joint event on Brexit. It was also suggested to invite Richard Corbett MEP
- Wednesday 22nd November: pub quiz – Eleanor and Paul are making the arrangements. It was agreed that the proceeds would be donated to the Jo Cox Fund and a local Belgian charity Convival.

5. Labour Party Conference

- The theme of the joint event with LI will be on migration rights in Europe and beyond, as part of the LI campaign on the issue. It was suggested to approach the Italian, Greek or Maltese sister parties to get their perspective and experience.

6. Labour International

- Jos will participate in the LI meeting on 13th September. The importance of proper processes for future consultations with clear rules and appropriate deadlines should be highlighted, with ways to improve communication and accountability between LI and its members further discussed.

7. Sister Parties

- Paul updated Sister parties' recent activities including campaigning opportunities for the German elections, to be included in the next mailing.

8. Comms, website, mailings, germinal

- Comms team to update the website and facebook with details of the next meeting. Imogen to update Germinal.

9. AOB

- Following a request from Denis McShane to promote a new book, it was decided to include details of this in the next BL mailing

10. Next meeting Wednesday 4th October