

Minutes of the 8th meeting of the 106th EC of the Socialist Party of Great Britain held on 1st August 2009

(These minutes are not official until ratified by the EC.)

Present : Wigley, Buick (Chair), Carter, Deutz P, Thomas, Browne, Chesham M

Apologies : Johnson, Miller, Allen

1) Minutes of last meeting

2) Matters arising

a) Shop front update (EC canvassed by email)

Chesham D. gave verbal report. The council had rejected our plans, he (DC) had canvassed the EC for support, then consulted a surveyor, who drew up plans and submitted them. The cost was £750 + VAT.

Browne + Wigley: "That the expenditure of £750 + VAT for surveyors fees be endorsed". Carried 7-0.

b) Letter to trade unionists

Wigley and Deutz P. "That the text be approved". Agreed

Thomas and Carter "That, in addition to carrying out the conference resolution, copies be sent out as a 'letter to the editor' to all Trade Union journals that can be identified; and the Internet dept. be asked to compile the list of recipients". Carried 7-0.

c) Cde Stair's and cde Miller's examination as Speakers

"That the two members names be added to the Speakers list and circulated to the Campaigns dept" Agreed. (This will need to be checked at the next meeting for participants and precise wording).

3) Reports from Party Officers, Departments and Subcommittees

a) Asst Sec - Socialist Standard digitisation

It was noted that the digitisation of the Socialist Standard is complete.

b) AV Dept HO monitor/projector

Wigley and Chesham M. "That the plan to obtain a Digital Light Projector for film showings with a budget of £750 be approved; some £600 of this coming from the insurance claim on the old monitor". Carried 7-0.

c) Campaigns dept debate with Adam Smith Institute

Browne and Chesham M. "That the arrangements for the debate 'Capitalism or Socialism', speaker R. Headicar, be approved". Carried 5-1-1

For: Wigley, Chesham M, Buick, Browne, Thomas.

Against: Carter. Abstain: Deutz P.

Browne and Wigley "The EC recommends to the Campaigns and Advertising depts. that the meeting be advertised widely". Carried 7-0.

d) Nominations

i) Howard Comber for Premises dept. It was noted that this committee is "at least two". Howard Comber written acceptance

Wigley and Thomas "Move appointment". Agreed

ii) Gwynn Thomas for Ad Hoc cttee on Party employing someone.
Browne and Wigley "Move appointment". Agreed
Browne and Wigley "That an urgent call for further nominations be made". Agreed

e) SSD request for software
Wigley and Thomas "That the Socialist Standard layout be allocated a budget of up to £100 to purchase appropriate software". Carried 7-0.

f) Ad hoc cttee for Party job :checklist for circulation to EC
Browne and Wigley "Refer the checklist to the ad-hoc committee"

g) SSPC re mentoring of new writers for Socialist Standard
Browne and Wigley "That the notice on mentoring be advertised at the end of the EC minutes for the rest of 2009 : and also advertised on spintcom". Agreed

4) Accounts

Accounts Jan-Jun 2009 were made available.

Browne and Buick "That this EC : thanks the Treasurer for his report, notes it, and asks that it be sent to Branches. It also issues an urgent call for an Assistant Treasurer, and a reminder that the Treasurer will not be standing again next year." Agreed

5) Forms A and F

a) Stuart Schofield (West London).
Browne and Deutz P. "Move acceptance" Agreed.

6) Correspondence

a) South London re Library cttee

At their Branch Meeting of 7th July 2009 South London Branch carried the following resolution:
Resolution: J. Helps and J. Shodeke: "South London Branch has noted the total lack of activity by the Library Committee (e.g. the growing pile of returned books, new books un-catalogued) we therefore call on the EC. to appoint a new Committee." Carried 6 -0. 6 members present.

Browne and Deutz "That the Branch resolution be passed to the Library Committee for their comments". Carried 7-0.

Break 14:41 : resumed 15: 05.

7) AOB

a) Parliament pamphlet. (email from Stair listing corrections and amendments).

Browne and Buick " "That the hard copy of the revised Parliament pamphlet be dispatched to EC members when available, for consideration at the Sep EC mtg".
Agreed

b) Browne asked for permission to stay at HO.

Wigley and Deutz "That permission for Browne to stay at HO be granted for the 1/8, 4-7/9, 2-5/10, 6-9/11 and 5-7/12 of 2009". Agreed.

c) Fire alarm.

It was noted that the fire alarm had been paid off, we had received the equipment manual, and snagging had been done.

d) Notice of businesses
Deutz "Membership cards"

Next meeting 5th September 2009 at 1pm.
Wigley and Thomas "That Thomas be chair". Agreed.

Adjourned 15:20

Dear Comrades,

This is a further, urgent call for a comrade to come forward and fill the post of Assistant Treasurer, with a view to taking over next year when cde. Thomas retires. The matter is becoming extremely pressing.

Also, there is a further call for nominations to the Socialist Standard layout team. The existing team are offering full training, and would like to train up as many members as possible on the principle that many hands make light work. Or something.

There is also more support for writers from the Socialist Standard Editorial Committee. Cde Perrin has agreed to supervise this. The SSPC is always looking to encourage new writers and welcomes contributions.
