

Minutes of 7th Meeting of the 106th Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Great Britain held at 52 Clapham High Street on 4th July 2009.

Called to order 13:00  
(These minutes are not official till ratified by the EC)

Present: Browne, Carter, Deutz, Chesham M, Wigley, Miller (late)

Apologies: Thomas (Party business), Allen (Party business), Buick (holiday), Johnson (holiday)

#### 1) Minutes and amendments

a) 4b Addendum. Deutz and Wigley "The planning permission cost is £170, and the application fee to change the sign would be £95". Agreed

b) 4b Addendum. Deutz and Carter "The proposed shopfront will consist of an aluminium box section shopfront comprising three windows and three infill panels above. A new wider door and infill panel above will be in the same material. It will be finished in RAL 9007 metallic semi-gloss polyester-based thermosetting powder coating. The signage will remain unchanged". Agreed.

c) re 6b. Deutz and Browne "The form 'F' for Terry Lawlor was processed in January" Agreed.

d) re. 4d. Chesham and Miller "Change 'moved' to 'removed'". Agreed.

e) re. 4c. Miller and Chesham "The amount of the cash settlement was approx. £520". Agreed.

#### 2) Matters arising

##### a) Stair's Speakers test

Deutz and Browne "That cde Miller be the third member of the panel to examine cde Stair for the Speakers' test". Agreed

b) Martin reports inability to implement 3j, namely drafting a letter in fulfilment of Conference resolution.

Miller and Chesham M. "That cde Buick draft the letter". Carried 5-0-1

c) Call for nominations for an EC subcommittee to investigate the costs, procedures and duties incurred by the Party of establishing an employed post : none received.

Deutz and Browne "That a further call be made". 5-0-1

#### 3) Reports of Party Officers, Departments and Subcommittees

a) SSD : 100 extra standards produced for June 2009

Noted.

b) Election dept: preliminary report from Euro elections.

Wigley and Miller "That all members and sympathisers taking part be thanked for their work". Agreed

c) A/V dept re digitisation of master tapes.

i) Miller and Wigley "That the request for two soundcards at a total cost of up to £150 be granted". Agreed

ii) Wigley and Miller "That the AV committee be responsible for the storage and movement of master audio tapes". Agreed.

d) Parliament pamphlet.

Wigley and Carter "That the Publications Dept. be asked to submit a final draft of the parliament pamphlet to the August EC for approval, having taken into consideration any recommendations made to them for alterations". Carried 6-0.

e) Library committee : requesting £300 budget: list of books for library currently missing.

Carter and Browne "That the £300 library budget be approved". Carried 6-0

f) Nominations:

i) CLB nominate Howard Comber to Premises Committee.

Deutz and Miller "That cde Comber be appointed". Agreed.

ii) Confirmation from WLB of ALB's nomination to AHC on Party dues.

Wigley and Deutz "That cde Buick's nomination be confirmed". Agreed

iii) Offer from Layout dept (SSD) to train a group of comrades in layout in session(s) at Lancaster.

Deutz and Wigley "That the matter be referred to the SSPC". Agreed.

iv) Other calls to be made include Asst. Treasurer.

A) Wigley and Browne "That an urgent further call be made for an Asst. Treasurer, and for new layout members to the SSD". Agreed.

B) Wigley and Deutz "That a call be made for members to the PFU committee". Agreed.

g) Photocopier.

Deutz and Wigley "That Stair be contacted and asked if he will contact the photocopier firm to clear up the matter of delivery". Agreed.

#### 4) Accounts

None to hand.

#### 5) Forms A and F.

Form F for:

a) Steve Pantlin (lack of interest)

b) Arnold Gibson (claimed as lapsed by previous CB Sec, no response to mail)

c) Ken Partington (resigned in 2007, no response to mail)

Deutz and Wigley "That the forms 'F' for Steve Pantlin, Arnold Gibson, and Ken Partington be accepted". Agreed.

Broke at 14:45 ; resumed 15: 06

#### 6) Correspondence:

a) WSG (India) minutes : request copy of 'Poles apart?' DVD.

Miller and Browne "That the WSG(I) be sent a copy of the DVD 'Poles apart'". Agreed.

b) CLB re expanding Ballot Committee.

"Be it resolved that in view of the fact that the 2009 Party Officer/Executive Committee ballot was, contrary to accepted practices, counted by only a single member of the Ballot Committee, and that we understand a nominee to this Committee was earlier this year passed over by the Executive Committee partly because the Committee was supposedly fully staffed, Central London Branch asks the Executive Committee to consider expanding the Ballot Committee complement to four members and appointing the aforementioned nominee". (Carried 4-0-1)

i) Miller and Chesham "That Lorna Stevens be appointed to the Ballot Committee". This was ruled out of order by the chair. The committee is full with three members, and her nomination had already been before the EC and been unsuccessful.

ii) Deutz and Carter "That the Ballot Committee was not understaffed : two members of the committee were standing for election and thus could not take part, as outlined in the Ballot Committee report to the May 2009 EC". Carried 4-2. For: Deutz, Carter, Wigley, Browne. Against : Miller, Chesham M.

iii) Wigley and Carter "Where necessary, the committee co-opts tellers for the purpose of counting ballots, as was done in this case". Carried 4-2. For: Deutz, Carter, Wigley, Browne. Against : Miller, Chesham M.

c) Praja Bharath Party (Dalits in India, claim socialist leanings, want money).

Miller and Browne "That the Assistant Secretary reply in accordance with the facts". Agreed.

d) Kephias Mulenga : encloses an article on Zambian politics, and "wants to know why there are no blacks and Indians in the SPGB". Also encloses letter to Paddy Shannon re his poems, and request for money.

Wigley and Deutz "That cde Mulenga be informed: 1) The Party does not recognise his use of the phrase 'blacks and Indians'. We set out to liberate the working class regardless of race or sex. 2) The Party, as noted above, takes members from the whole working class, and includes members from Africa and India as well as many other parts of the world". Carried 5-1.

e) Digitalisation of the Socialist Standard

Deutz and Wigley "That the matter be referred to cde. Miller for a definitive reply to the August EC". Agreed.

7) Any other business

a) M. Chesham raised display arrangements for the new window.

b) Deutz raised membership cards. Miller reported the cde McCullough's email address was no longer working, but he now had a phone number and would continue to try to make contact.

c) Browne asked for a call for reports from Departments and Subcommittees.

Deutz and Wigley "That the call be made for reports to ADM from Officers, Departments and Subcommittees, to be submitted at latest to the September EC meeting (5th September 2009)". Agreed

8) Next meeting.

a) Date and time: 1st August at 1pm.

b) Chair

Wigley and Browne "That Buick be Chair". Agreed.

Meeting adjourned 15:57.