

Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the 106th Executive Committee  
of The Socialist Party of Great Britain, held at  
52 Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UN  
on the 7th November 2009  
(These minutes are not official until ratified by the EC.)

Present: Allen, Browne, Buick, Carter, Deutz, Thomas.  
Apologies for absence: M. Chesham, Johnson (illness), Miller (holiday),  
Wigley (work).

The meeting started at 13.10

It was agreed that Browne should chair the meeting and Buick take the minutes

1 Minutes of the previous meeting  
Adopted on motion of Thomas and Browne.

## 2 Matters Arising

- a) Parliament pamphlet: Agreed to remind Publications Dept that reply still awaited on whether or not it can be printed on the new photocopier at HO.
- b) Membership cards: Agreed that Comrade Buick contact Comrade McCullough.
- c) New African subscription: No reply from Comrade Suhuyini. Agreed to do nothing.
- d) Fire alarm testing: Comrade Thomas had been off sick but would do this the coming week.

## 3. Reports from Party Officers, Departments and Subcommittees

- a) Premises Committee submitted new estimate for shop front following council's insistence that the frame be timber.  
Buick and Carter moved "That the revised estimate of £10,527 + VAT be accepted". Carried 5-0, 1 abstention.
- b) Premises Committee reported that following the film night the previous Sunday the last to leave the building had left fires doors open.  
Thomas and Allen moved "That the organisers of all meetings at HO ensure that the premises are secure before the last person leaves." Agreed.
- c) Campaigns Dept reported that the debate with Eamonn Butler of the Adam Smith Institute had been rescheduled for Thursday 4 February in the Small Hall, Conway Hall at 7pm. Comrade Headicar would still represent the Party. Eamonn Butler's offer to share some of the costs would be taken up. Noted.

## 4. Accounts

Comrade Foster, of West Midlands branch, asked that a deposit of 20% to book Fircroft College for the 2010 Summer School be paid.  
Allen and Browne moved "that the deposit of £1000.40p be paid". Agreed.

## 5. Forms A

Membership Applications Dept submitted 3 Forms A with recommendation to accept.  
Kevin Charles (Ledbury)(Big Issue). Allen and Carter moved acceptance.

Agreed.

Claudia Hogg-Blake (Hull)(personal contact) and Johnny Mercer (Hull)(Hyde Park). Allen and Carter moved that the 2 Forms A be accepted. Agreed. Comrade Buick, Central Organiser, would contact the new members regarding which branch they wanted to be in.

#### 6. Correspondence

- a) Binay Sarkar, of Calcutta, asked for permission to use a lengthy passage from the Party's 1948 pamphlet *The Communist Manifesto* and the *Last Hundred Years* in a forthcoming book. It was agreed to give him permission to do so under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivs copyright.
- b) Comrade Buick reported that we were short of *The Impossibilists* by Peter Newell; it would cost £71.94 to buy a further 10 copies. Agreed to buy 10 copies.
- c) Comrade Allen wrote suggesting that in future the book *Socialism or Your Money Back* be sold only at the price of £1 and be advertised for sale in the *Socialist Standard* for £1 plus postage and packaging. Agreed.
- d) Comrade Allen wrote suggesting that the Party try to get at least one speaker at next year's Robert Tressell event in Hastings. Agreed to pass the suggestion to the Campaigns Dept for them to write to the organisers offering a Party speaker on some aspect of Tressell or his times.
- e) Comrade Shodeke wrote that she had intended submitting a draft general election manifesto to the EC meeting but was not well. It was agreed to remind all members, via these Minutes, that draft manifestos could be submitted at any time up over the next few months.

#### 7. Any Other Business

- a) Arising out of ADM, Comrade Browne raised the matter of this year's Conference resolution regarding employing someone which read: "That, especially in the light of recent events, the EC investigate the costs, procedures and duties incurred by the party establishing an employed post, and report thereon to ADM with a view to hiring an employee at the beginning of 2010". He had proposed putting this down as a Notice of Business for the December EC meeting. The EC decided to appoint him to help Comrade Thomas, of the Ad Hoc committee on the matter, to prepare a report for the next EC Meeting.
- b) Comrade Carter reported that the Book Sale on 31 October had resulted in sales of £25. There followed a discussion on Head Office being used as a general book store. All were agreed with the aims of getting people inside the building and of raising some money for the party, but opinions were divided on what books should be sold and at what price. Comrade Comber, who organised the Book Sale, contributed to the discussion. It was agreed to review the matter after the installation of the new shop front.

8. Chair for the next meeting: Comrade Carter

9. Date of next meeting: Saturday 5 December at 13.00

Adjourned 14.30

NOTICE: Members are reminded of the EC's call for them to submit draft manifestos for the General Election due before the end of May next year.

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