



London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

13th January 2005 15.00 – 17.00 Partnership House

Present:

- Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary**
- Eddie Brand - Chair**
- Clive Tombs –South East sector**
- David Lamey –South West sector**
- Phil Thompson - Regional Officer**
- Fred Phillips – Asst. Membership Officer**
- George Achilles – North East sector**
- Julie Shirt – North East sector**
- Joe Easterbrook - CAC**
- Paul Leggatt - CAC**
- John Gough - Unison Labour Link**
- Peter Hannell – North West sector**
- Jim Underdown - Membership Officer**
- Micheal Apps - Retired Members Officer**
- Rob Sydney - Communications Officer**
- Mark Belkin -Education Officer**
- Claudette McNaughton - CAC**
- Sarah Hardy –South West sector**
- Ian Lee – Health and Safety Officer**
- Dave Smith – Equal Opportunities Officer**

Apologies:

- Karen Macdonald**
- Paul O’Neill**
- Gary Edwards**
- Kevin Tarsnane**
- Harry Day**

Introductions

There were no new introductions.

Previous Minutes

Minutes from 14th December **agreed** as a true record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Branch Secretary's Report (ER)

- Nomination form for NEC elections received. **EB** proposed the committee to nominate Eric for the Health General seat – *agreed by committee*
- Also up for nomination, Sofi Taylor for the female seat and Mike Folliard for the male seat – *agreed by committee* (late nomination papers to be reviewed by Chair & Secretary)
- **SH** to stand as representative on the child and adult protection working group. – *agreed by committee*
- Retirement function request received on behalf of Dennis Macauley from Hanwell Ambulance Station, (15 years service). - *agreed by committee.*
- Disciplinary policy and procedure will be formally agreed at the next Staff Council meeting.
- £750 requested by Mark Scott (Homerton) to purchase a bike for a charity ride on agreement that the bike is raffled afterwards with the proceeds going to welfare -*agreed by committee*
- £150 requested by Jonathon Edwards (Camden) to buy two training bike stands for a charitable event to raise money for AFASIC - *agreed by committee.*
- Request for a donation received from Micheal Walker (Regional Officer) to support Penny Bart during a six month period in Ethiopia supporting Ethiopian midwives and introducing good maternity practise to rural areas.£250- *agreed by committee*
- Public sector pensions campaign date 18/02/05
- Unison recruitment TV advert to be re-run starting from 10th January.
- Dave Prentis up for re-election as General Secretary, require a good turnout.
- Unison needs to influence political decisions, please vote yes to the political fund ballot.
- **PH** to attend a meeting to launch Trade Unionists against the EU Constitution. **ER** to attend if possible.- *agreed by committee*

Agenda for change Update (ER)

- **ER** gave the committee a verbal report outlining where the negotiations regarding AfC where at. He report included that:
 1. There was no information at present regarding the banding for EMTs. The 3 job profiles were still out for consultation.
 2. Guidance regarding meal breaks was expected from the national joint secretaries.
 3. No decision had been taken yet concerning accrued annual leave, frozen leave, 37.5 hour week, London allowance and the status of CAC.
 4. Staff side had raised concerns about the apparent slowness of progress.
 5. Staff side had raised their serious concern at a lack of management involvement at both project board and terms & condition meetings.
 6. That a joint secretary meeting was being planned to deal with local problems.
 7. Management need to train more managers for evaluation and matching panels.

8. The Service has the money to cover the introduction of AfC.

Communications RS

- There was no report.

Retired Members (MA)

- AGM details have been sent out.
- Retired members have invited active members to a game of golf.

Membership (JU)

- **JU** offered his thanks to everyone around the table for helping to update membership details and a special thanks to **RS** for his suggestion of identifying members through the pulse.
- **JU** reported the sudden, sad and tragic death of Martin Lovejoy aged 43 an EMT from Park Royal, also a H+S rep and vehicle and equipment working party rep. He has left behind him a wife and three young children. He carried an organ donation card and as a result gave eight people a chance at a better quality of life. Martin's funeral will take place on 21/01/05 at 1pm at Our Lady of the Visitation Church and afterwards at Greenford Park Cemetery at 2.30pm. **JU** and **ER** to attend on behalf of Branch.
- **ER** expressed his deepest sympathy for Martin's family and gave his thanks to **JU** and **PH** for their help in what has been a sad and emotional time for staff in the area. He requested that they inform him if Martins family require any assistance.

Labour Link (JG)

- Unison will hold a political fund ballot on 09/02/05; **JG** asked that members urge all staff to vote. All unions are required to take this vote every ten years.
- **RS** advised the committee of two related links on www.lasunison.com

Education (MB)

- No further information available yet on the course on pensions but will circulate date, time and venue as soon as possible.

Welfare (AS)

- The cheque agreed at the last branch meeting was presented to the member. She and her family were very grateful and wished to express their thanks.
- **AS** has planned to do more fund raising this year.
- **AS** offered her assistance if needed to **JU** for Martin Lovejoy's family.

PTS (EB)

- The PTS seat on the Branch has now been filled by Kevin Tarsnane (**KT**) from New Malden. This may also lead to PTS being represented on the Staff Council.

CAC (JE)

- Still have issues with AFC and the new dress code. **JE** stated that the new dress code was never accepted by CAC staff.
- **ER** and **EB** replied that the dress code had been agreed at staff council. **JE** argued that he has consistently disagreed with the dress code that was being used in CAC.
- **ER** suggested that as one variation had already been agreed management and CAC could sit down to discuss a further variation to the dress code.
- Both **JE** & **PL** agreed to take this forward.

Regional Officers Report (PT)

- AGM will take place on 22nd March
- Nominations for Branch officers need to be in by 7th February

Staff Council (EB)

- Minutes have been sent out
- **EB** asked for feedback on the registration of professional clinical staff.

Health and Safety (IL)

- There have been nine failures of the new Spencer scoop stretchers, (bent in use) that were purchased with the new Mercedes, the instructions on use are only now in the process of being translated from Italian into English. The Ferno orthopaedic stretchers are able to take 130kgs compared to only 80kgs with the Spencer stretcher. **IL** to investigate whether or not H+S risk assessment done on them and who authorised their purchase.

AOB

- **JU** informed the committee that Branch members and Senior Sector reps were invited to attend Champions workshop re. PDP and PDR to provide training for reps, S.Sale taking the lead.
- **EB** asked the branch to check the new members list. *The list was accepted by the committee.*

Date of next meeting

- 15th February 2005 10.30am