

**Minutes 7th February 2015 AGM**

**Blackwell Grange Hotel, Darlington**

Present: Graeme Cooke, Hazel Commane, Paul Butt, Dominic McArdle, Julie Ashmore, Chris Lapping, Zoe Mather, Gloriana Morehead, Bill Morehead

1. Prioritising Motions for conference. Discussion followed suggestions and voting. 6 motions prioritised. One equalities motion prioritised. **GC to submit to HQ**

2. Reports

- Annual Report. GC discussed the local stress survey released in February, the growing number of free schools in Darlington, and large volume of casework dealt with by the secretary. Capability was raised as an issue and discussion about 'targets'. Agreed to look at ways of educating teachers about performance management objectives and not to agree to unsuitable ones. **HC to send an email with guidance on setting objectives - timing of this to be discussed with committee - when are objectives set in different schools?**
- Statement of accounts. **GC is going to ensure these are in order up to the end of December and hand these to PB to take over officially from 1 January. Accounts to be presented in next general meeting. It was also noted that DK has been unwell and thanks were noted for his many years of service in role of treasurer. Decision was agreed to arrange a gift for him, GM to approach Liz to ask for appropriate suggestion.**
- Communications Report (HC) Website domain has been renewed until March 2020, **HC to send details of domain host to all at meeting as requested**, it was noted that Monday is a good day to send emails, Voodoo cafe and Dolphin centre suggestion for future meetings, other ways to build up strong network discussed. **HC to arrange one day training/briefing for reps in the summer, with focus to be around performance management objectives and how these should be worded.**

3. Nominations and votes for vacant roles in Darlington. Conference reps.

GC, CL & JA were elected as conference reps. PB to be sent as an observer. **GC to check our allocation of reps as membership has increased.**

The following people were elected to office:

- Secretary - Graeme Cooke
- Assistant Secretary - Hazel Commane
- Treasurer - Paul Butt
- President - Julie Ashmore
- Vice President - Chris Lapping
- Caseworker - Julie Ashmore
- Health and Safety Adviser- Laura Thurman (not present) was nominated - will discuss whether she accepts role
- Learning Rep - Zoe Mather
- Young Teachers' Officer - Chris Lapping
- Press Secretary & Caseworker - Dominic McArdle

A discussion followed about how Darlington is out of step compared to other associations for honoraria. The formula used by York association was examined and the meeting decided it was a good model to use, although scaled down to reflect the appropriate membership. The decision was take to pay;

The formula is based on the (national + local subs) x factor, with factor for roles being:

Secretary - 6

Assistant secretary - 6

Treasurer - 2.5

In light of this, and as subs have not been raised for a long time, local subs were raised by £5 per year.

**Decision to review next year at AGM**

4. Workload survey - HC fed back on the Government's response to the 'Workload Challenge'. The clear sense in which teachers are stretched to the limit came through in the research and the Government's response failed to

address the issues in any meaningful way, in fact bordered on the insulting. Huge disappointment, which will be tackled in lead up to election with some local action.

5. Election - A hustings with NASUWT has been discussed but NAS have not yet responded. Alternative suggestion to arrange a lobby at MP's surgery and take NUT's manifesto. **HC to arrange and publicise. DM to arrange press release around workload survey, lobby and manifesto. BM suggested similar approach to local labour party meeting. HC to also take manifesto to Green Party meeting.**

6. Meeting dates for year

Tuesday 10th March, 5:30pm

Tuesday June 30th, 5:30pm

Tuesday 10th November, 5:30pm

AGM Sat 30th Jan 2016 (tbc)

7. AOB . GM pointed out there should not be AOB at an AGM.

Meeting finished 12:45