

NUT Minutes

10th November 2015 General meeting

Voodoo Cafe, Skinnergate, Darlington

In attendance - Chris Lapping (Chair) Graeme Cook, Hazel Commane, Paul Butt, Sam Pickering, Zoe Mather, Simon Nicholson, Luke Watkinson, Elaine Ward

1. Apologies - Julie Ashmore

2. Minutes - Matters arising

HC to sort tankard for Dave, Allocation for conference and regional council = 3 from Darlington. Early indications from learning needs survey suggests iPads in the classroom and career guidance as priorities, although more surveys still to come in. Deadline for the end of the month. **PB to put photos on website before AGM**

3. Update from Darlington and ongoing work

Casework quiet at the moment. Some worries that governors are already planning to link 1% increase in pay with performance. School budgets under pressure with national insurance contribution rise. In other schools, teachers have been asked to forgo 1% pay rise to avoid redundancies.

4. Election for national exec -

HC to put out a reminder to vote in mail shot to schools.

5. Voting in election

Same item as above.

6. Conference motions - do we want to submit any?

SN proposed a motion opposing cuts to 6th Form Colleges and closures. Despite 6th Forms Colleges being the most cost effective in sector, they have been subject to a national review which proposes cuts and closures. Schools with 6th Form Centres are less cost effective but have not been part of this review. Perhaps the fact that 6th Form colleges are out performing academies and free schools may explain why they are under threat. Agreed to fine tune wording in a working group and put forward motion for prioritisation. **Deadline 3rd Dec 2015.**

7. AGM - (incl prioritising motions?)

To be held Fri 22nd Jan 4:30 at Dolphin Centre. Meeting 5 - 7 followed by meal at Voodoo Cafe. **GC to post out prioritisation booklets before AGM to members attending**

8. Conference attendance/accommodation

Decision made to book an apartment with 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms (better value than hotel). Agreed GC and PB to attend, with third delegate to be decided at AGM

9. Regional Council feedback

Teaching schools should be targeted for new members, as there is less contact with trainees now that University training is being phased out.

10. Lobby MPs

Encourage members to lobby MPs - send out info in next mailshot to schools

11. Tees Valley Project - meeting on 18th Nov 4pm Talpor at Tees Barrage. Open to all. RO bid for organising support for Tees

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Valley as Ofsted is targeting the North East and Tees Valley in particular. Letter gone out to all in LA saying schools are "under performing". A "Super Academy" has been identified - Outwood Grange (do recognise union but ruthless). So cross boundary work being undertaken, led by Emma Hardy

11 . AOB

Next meeting - AGM - 22nd Jan 4:30pm Dolphin Centre

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