



SECamb Branch 20111

MINUTES OF SECAMB UNISON BRANCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held on 27 February 2017
at the East Court Mansion, East Grinstead

Present: Kirsty Booth, Hazel Brown, Clive Goddard, Kevin Hedges, Bryan Hopperton, Roger Laxton, Kevin Long (Treasurer) Neil Martin, Peter Steventon (Branch Secretary), Nigel Sweet, Gary Turley, Jenny Young and Dave Wallace (Branch Chair) and Ann Sephton (Minute Taker) Roger New (Branch Auditor)

Apologies: Bea Adi (Assistant National Officer), James Apps, Andy Brereton, Stephanie Cesana (Strategic Officer), Jon Griffiths, Peter Hammond, Alan Lofthouse (National Officer), and Amanda Sands

DAVE WALLACE IN THE CHAIR

ITEM	AGENDA
1/17	Welcome & Apologies The Chair welcomed everyone present and thanked them for attending. Apologies as above.
2/17	Ratification of Officer Posts and Stewards Branch Chair – Dave Wallace was standing down and he was heartedly thanked for his hard work in this position. Clive Goddard was proposed by Bryan Hopperton and Seconded by Kelli Sullivan as the new Chair which was unanimously accepted. Clive took over the Chair. Branch Secretary – Peter Steventon agreed to stand again and was proposed by Joe Emery and seconded by Hazel Brown. The agreement was unanimous. Branch Treasurer - Kevin Long agreed to stand again and was proposed by Bryan Hopperton and seconded by Dave Wallace. The agreement was unanimous. Senior Rep East - Bryan Hopperton agreed to stand and was proposed by Gary Turley and seconded by Clive Goddard. The agreement was unanimous. Senior Rep 111 – Clive Goddard was proposed by Bryan Hopperton and

	seconded by Kelli Sullivan. The agreement was unanimous.
ITEM	AGENDA
2/17 CONT	<p>Welfare Officers West and East - Jenny Young agreed to stand again for the West and James Apps agreed to stand again for the East. Jenny was proposed by John Waghorn and seconded by Mark Young. James was proposed by Bryan Hopperton and seconded by Clive Goddard. They were both unanimously accepted.</p> <p>Infection Control Officer – Gary Turley was re-nominated unopposed.</p> <p>Senior Rep West and Communications Officer – Nigel Sweet was accepted unopposed.</p> <p>Stewards - were accepted as no one has reported they are standing down.</p>
3/17	<p>Officers' Reports</p> <p>Finance – Kevin Long tabled a very comprehensive report and said although there was a deficit it had not brought us to the threshold of what has to be maintained for UNISON HQ. There is a need to keep our gross membership and income which is based on £16 per member. Signs are if we keep our membership at the same level we should be able to maintain the services we offer at the moment. We have been losing members from the upper pay bracket and those coming in are from the lower pay bracket.</p> <p>A question was raised as to the breakdown on the amount from Nursing Homes as against SECamb. The Report highlighted there was no crossover of funding of SECamb members subsidising non SECamb members.</p> <p>Roger New (Branch Auditor) concurred with the report presented. Kevin and Roger were thanked for their important and comprehensive report.</p> <p>Branch Secretary's Report – Peter Steventon Pete read his report and was thanked.</p> <p>Branch Chair's Report – Dave Wallace Dave read his report and was thanked.</p> <p>Senior Rep East and 111 – Bryan Hopperton Bryan read his report and was thanked and for the General one also.</p> <p>Senior Rep West – Nigel Sweet Nigel gave a verbal report and said Pete under plays himself for he obtained a very good Appeal a few weeks ago and based on this Appeal it will give a lot of protection to our members. He reported that the workload has increased and so has Appeals. I have been raising our branch profile in the media and it is difficult to say what has been done for it is a general gnawing away and answering promptly. We would not want to see any of our staff take punishment for what happened at Board level. There are lots of tweets and the message is being spread out. We have been successful in both radio and television coverage. Our profile has gone up in this area. We hope it will bring in membership over a period and has a wider impact to raise the UNISON profile. Nigel was thanked very much for raising the profile and giving a balanced view. He was thanked for a fine job done.</p>

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	<p>A question was raised about Tribunals and the Branch Secretary replied. The Tribunal level has gone down as the Thompson's rules have changed and the person has to go to ACAS for mediation before it goes to Thompson's and we are governed by these restrictions. We are though, winning more Appeals by doing our homework first. We also get legal opinions quickly.</p> <p>Welfare Report - Jenny Young</p> <p>Jenny read the Welfare Report which was also similar for Welfare East. Jenny was thanked for all the work she puts in on Welfare's behalf and this also applies to James Apps. Jenny thanked Neil Martin and Pete Steventon for their personal help.</p> <p>It was reported that Neil McGregor who dealt with TUPE has passed away.</p>
4/17	<p>Minutes of 2016 AGM</p> <p>The action at 6/16 to arrange a Trophy in memory of Pete Croxford was undertaken.</p> <p>There were no questions and the Minutes were accepted.</p>
5/17	<p>Ratification of Branch Accounts</p> <p>Kevin Long reported that he would like to propose that the accounts will be presented fully audited to the Branch Executive Committee on Wednesday, 5 April. This was accepted unanimously.</p>
7/17	<p>Recruit a Friend</p> <p>If any member recruits another one they are entitled to a £10 voucher once the person has paid their first subscription. The Branch Secretary sends out generic information on 5 ways to join UNISON. The Branch Administrator puts a form in each new member's packs. So far there has been no take up from members.</p>
8/17	<p>Guest Speaker unfortunately Alan Lofthouse was unable to attend and arranged for Bea to attend in his place but she was indisposed on the day.</p>
9/17	<p>Questions and Answers</p> <p>Pete reported on the move for Paramedics from Band 5 to 6 and how we got to that level. It was a fantastic result to have got Band 6 and the Preceptorship is for 2 years before becoming Band 6.</p> <p>Band 6 Paramedics will have to be very different from Band 5 with Preceptorship. We are the 5th Trust to evaluate Band 6. Newly qualified Paramedics will do 200 hours with a CTL or Paramedic but cannot be put on a car. Paramedic role could be back to basics and more Technicians could be recruited. The Technician role should be evaluated and recruitment would increase. Discussion followed around Band 5 and Band 6. We are doing job evaluation correctly. The Trust has to consider recruitment and retention premiums for specialist roles like CCP / PP or staff will be off and out to the wider NHS.</p>

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	<p>Pete also reported on move to HQ at Crawley. There are people who are happy and others who are unhappy. The Trust is saying no redundancies but UNISON ran a Legal Surgery and it is individual circumstances and how does it affect them? There was a communication sent out from SECAMB and Question 1 read, "there is to be no redundancies".</p> <p>Legal information is that redundancy is an option on an individual basis. The Branch needs to put out a communication on this and we need to tell people to raise individual grievances. Branch Secretary to write some guidance notes.</p>
10/17	The Meeting closed at 8.03 pm.