

University of Bristol Labour Club
Ordinary General Meeting Minutes
6pm, 20th October 2008 at the Epi Lounge

1. Apologies

The following people were in attendance:

Min Ahmed
Jane Christie (Treasurer)
Emma Di Iorio (Vice-Chair)
Jack Edwards
Jo Guilder
Ellie Gellard
David Huntley
Isaac Kurira
Gareth Lloyd
Chrissie Mabbley
Arun Malik
George Middleton-Baker (Chair)
Ben Mosley
Alexander Otley
James Peckham
Ryan Thomas (Vice-Chair)
Alasdair Tudhope (Non-Portfolio Officer)

Apologies were received on behalf of James Bacon (Non-Portfolio Officer).

2. Political Weekend

George informed members about the political weekend run by Labour Students. The event will be held near Sheffield, will cost £30 and David Blunket would be speaking. Anyone going on the trip would need to travel early on Saturday morning.

3. Elections

George announced that there were vacant positions on the committee that needed to be filled. He advised members to think about running for a position and they would be welcome to prepare a manifesto. He then declared that elections would be held soon for the following positions:

Black and Ethnic Minorities (BME) Officer
Deputy Communications and Campaigns Officer
Disability Officer

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Officer
Social and Events Officer
Non-Portfolio Officer(s)

4. Events

The meeting was informed that the Club was invited on a tour of the House of Lord by the Rev. Lord Leslie Griffiths of Pembrey and Burry Port. Ellie told the meeting that Ken Livingstone was able to come and speak with the club during March or April. She was also seeking a firm date on which Kerry McCarthy would come and speak to the club. An absent member had informed the Chair that he was confident that Jon Cruddas would come and speak to the club.

5. Socials

Members suggested socials that they would like to see organised. Lazer Quest was a popular choice although other political parties would not be in favour after last years thrashing. Everybody then agreed that the Club should meet for a Pub Social at the White Bear on Thursday 30th October from 8pm. The meeting also discussed whether the Club could 'crash' the Politics and International Affairs Society American Elections Party.

6. Conference Expenses

All expenses has been costed and cheques needed to be collected from the Societies and Students Activities Sabbatical Officer. It was deemed important that the cheques be made payable to individual members.

7. Honorary President

The OGM was sanctioned to discuss and invite a new candidate to be the Club's Honorary President by the AGM. A vote was held in camera and it was decided that Kerry McCarthy MP would be invited by the Chair to become the Club's new Honorary President.

8. Sponsorship

Ryan told members that to successfully arrange the number of events that were planned for the coming academic year, the Club would need sponsorship. It was resolved to write to Bristol City Labour Councillors and TULO trade unions to ask for sponsorship.

9. National Council

George told the meeting that it was imperative that the Labour Club improve its links with Labour Students and other Labour Clubs by sending a large number of members to National Council which will occur at the end of the term. The Club can send up to 2 delegates and an unlimited amount of observers.

10. Bristol Young Labour

George told members that Darren Lewis was looking for volunteers to help set up a Bristol Young Labour Branch.

11. Next Meeting

The next Committee or Standard meeting will be arranged for a convenient time and date.

Meeting Ends - 18:41

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George Middleton-Baker
Chair, University of Bristol Labour Club

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Date