

Minutes – Socialist Societies Executive

Monday 17 September 2007, 6.30pm

Names on the door will be: Sally Mulready, Owais Rajput, Simon Wright, Jacky Peacock, Dianne Hayter, Neil Nerva, Marianne Hood, David Caplin, Jim Moher, Judith Bara, Huw Davies. If you intend to come and your name is not there, please email Simon urgently.

Agenda

1. **Introductions and apologies**

Martin Rathfelder (by phone), Emma Burnell, Dianne Hayter, Simon Wright, Sally Mulready, Neil Nerva, Nigel Spearing, Sheila Dore, Fred Grindrod, Jim Moher, Huw Davies.

Apologies from: Sunder Katwala, Gareth Davies, Nicholas Russell, Judith Blakeman, Katie Hanson, Bill Thomas, Carlie Newman, David Caplin, Jacky Peacock.

2. **Minutes of last meeting**

3. **Matters Arising**

4. **NEC Report**

Latest stage of the party reform proposals are that the 12 new members dropped, manifesto OMOV (for members only) stays is going ahead. Contemporary “resolutions” would be referred to Joint Policy Commission with proposal that evidence would be heard from all who spoke in the debate. Also a Socialist Societies seat on the Joint Policy Committee for the first time. The new form of “contemporary resolutions” could be an improvement in that the NPF must report back to conference. CAC would 5 CLP and 5 union reps.

Conference arrangements: Stephen Timms organising a faith groups event. Ian McCartney to go onto Socialist International. Dianne to represent Labour at a meeting of Party of European Socialists. Difficulty of few national parties are in government.

There will be a Spring Conference in 2008. Hayden Phillips inquiry has gone quiet but no agreement with the Tories.

Referendum on EU Constitution also being discussed by NEC and will be discussed at conference.

5. **Party Conference arrangements**

SEA cancelled its meeting as clashes. Stall is P73/4. **(Simon to circulate information about where to send materials and rota).**

6. **Manifesto meeting with Ed Miliband**

Still waiting for date before the end of the year from his office. All Societies would prepare short contributions.

7. **No.10 reception**

Dianne in touch but no date yet.

8. **Socialist Societies Seminar on Inequalities**

Martin's original proposal still floating around. Discussion about whether should be attached to Annual or Spring Conference. Maybe use Mosaic data to think differently about inequalities (Fabians doing an equality audit, also Richard Wilkinson at Nottingham). Maybe a pamphlet to launch at Spring Conference; this might need Fabian Society support. Also to consider seminar proposal. **(Simon, Martin and Emma to discuss and bring back to the next meeting).**

9. Party Democracy proposals

Already discussed.

10. National Policy Forum

11. MpUrls and Socialist Societies

Simon and Neil to try to contact MpUrls.

12. Any Other Business

Black Socialist Society have approached to take part in these meetings. Discussion about the fact that their NEC and NPF representation is different, but that we would all benefit from their participation in these meetings as some form of "non-voting member of the Exec". Agreed to make a decision at the next meeting.

13. Dates of future meetings

Monday 5 November 2007

Monday 28 January 2008

Tuesday 18 March 2008 (this was changed at this meeting)

Monday 19 May 2008

Monday 14 July 2008

Monday 22 September 2008.