



PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

PROSPECT NORTH EAST ENGLAND AREA RETIRED MEMBERS GROUP – D314

Minutes of the Area Annual General Meeting being held at North Biddick Social Club, Bonemill Lane, Fatfield, Washington, NE38 8AN on Thursday 21 November 2019

9/19 The Chairman welcomed everyone; there were 19 members present.

10/19 Apologies for Absence: Helen Nagaji, Derek Dodwell, Chris Butterworth, George Stallard, Bob Chambers, Jimmy Green, Alan Flowers, Rod Richards, Keith Blundell, Roy Lemberger, Peter Wild, Peter Gilroy.

11/19 Minutes of the Area General Meeting held at Husqvarna UK Ltd. on Thursday 4th April 2019: the minutes were agreed.

12/19 Matters Arising: As promised a full report was given of the National ADC and the various motions discussed, remitted, passed or rejected - accessible at <https://library.prospect.org.uk/download/2019/01031>.
Nomination to the Northern TUC Pensions advisory group; 2 people had applied and it was agreed that the first to apply, Tony Redman, should be appointed and that Mike Mason could be a Deputy. No report has been received from them.

13/19 Guest Speaker – Mr Andy Bye, Negotiations Officer.

Mr Bye had to withdraw because of a family bereavement. The Committee expressed disappointment that no replacement could be found to update members.

14/19 Chairman's Report: Reported that the visit to Husqvarna was successful.

15/19 Secretary's Report: Reported that it had been difficult to arrange meetings and visits as English Heritage had taken an excessive amount of time to respond. Future visits were being arranged - see below.

- 16/19** Correspondence: Most correspondence came direct electronically to members; Andrea at Wakefield office could circulate hard copy if necessary to those without email.
- 17/19** Election of Committee Members
Chairman: R Reed. (Stating he would be not standing next year)
Deputy Chairman: John Shiell
Secretary: Mike Dixon
Additional members: John Atkinson; M Nicholson; A McConachie; J. Atkinson
- 18/19** Election of the National Committee Member & Deputy:
Member: John Atkinson
Deputy: Mike Dixon
- 19/19** Election of Delegates to the RMG Annual Delegate Conference to be held 30 January 2020, at New Prospect House
Delegate: Mike Dixon
Delegate: Mike Brown
Deputy Delegate: John Shiell
- 20/19** Motions to the ADC to be held 30 January 2020, at New Prospect House:
No motions were forthcoming.
Ian Hodges was proposed for the SOC Committee.
- 21/19** Nominations for President & Vice President of the RMG National Committee:
President: David Harding
Vice President: Ray Arrowsmith
- 22/19** Visits: The secretary reported on future visits. The next meeting would take place at Netpark, Sedgefield on 19th March 2020.
Oct 1st 2020 – Horsley Treatment works -Northumbria Water as that was the earliest date that the refurbishment would be completed.
Another meeting and visit would take place between March and Oct.
Other suggested places to meet were – Egga, Hexham, Greggs, Nissan, Windfarm Blyth. Home Office Emergency Planning College, Easingwold.
- 23/19** Reports:
Northern TUC Pensions Advisory Group: No report was available.
- National Committee: John Atkinson gave a full report. He updated on the motions which were remitted at ADC.
(<https://library.prospect.org.uk/download/2019/01031>.)
Concern was expressed about the informing of members deaths and leavers; and could Branch secretaries be better informed.

RMG consisted of 22500, of which 92% were male. A discussion was held about recruitment of new members.

TV licenses for the over 75's. It was pointed out the difficulty within the Union, as there were members in the BBC and protests should be against the Government rather than members of BBC.

A discussion was held as to whether we should continue to support the motion for a Biennial conference. It was agreed to support the motion in favour of an Annual Conference if required as this appears to be the wish of a majority of other RMG areas.

- 24/19** Any Other Business: thanks were expressed for the long service of Peter Gilroy and Peter Wild. A letter of thanks should be forthcoming from the Union. (Action Andrea Sanderson)
- 25/19** Date and Time of Next Meeting
19th March 2020 at NETPark
- 26/19** Closure: the meeting closed at 1500hrs.

Attendee List:

John Atkinson

Mike Kain

Alex McConachie

Neil Page

Stuart Porthouse

Paul Robinson

Norman Ramshaw

Mike Dixon

Trevor Evans

Peter Wild

Keith Miller

Colin Clark

David Bell

Bob Graham

Andy Bye

G K Wilson

Mike Brown