



Newark Constituency Labour Party

Minutes of meeting held at the Rutland Arms, Barnbygate, Newark on Wednesday 21st May at 7.30PM

1. **Present:** Ian Campbell, Kevin Cocker (Regional Office), Dick Fincham, Laurence Goff (Chair), Brian Howes, Ivan Jarunek, Clive Wetton (Secretary)

Apologies: Vic Hall

2. **Minutes** of the previous meeting were not distributed therefore there were no **Matters Arising**.

3. **Correspondence:**

- a. East Midlands Regional Conference – 6th and 7th July. We are entitled to send two delegates. It was agreed that Ian Campbell and Ivan Jarunek be appointed as delegates.
- b. Mark McDonald sent an e-mail requesting support for his candidacy as party treasurer. A proposal that Newark CLP officially support Mark McDonald's candidacy was carried by a majority vote.

4. **Officer Reports:**

- a. Treasurer – Brian Howes provided updated balances and information on recent and upcoming expenditure.
- b. Secretary – Clive Wetton informed members that several responses had already been received from the recent newsletter. In addition we had finally purchased a Contact Creator subscription for 2008. However there is a problem as only three wards have been supplied, all from former Bassetlaw. Clive to call Jim Harvey about this.
- c. Chair – Laurence Goff informed the meeting that he has put himself forward for selection as the candidate for the Beacon Ward by-election on Newark Town Council. Nominations close on Friday 23rd after which a formal selection process will take place.

5. **Branch Reports:**

- a. Bingham – Last meeting was in April. One new member this year. Looking forward to County Council elections next year.
- b. Newark – Kathy Salt (European Election Candidate) will be a guest speaker at the next branch meeting on Monday 23rd June.

6. **Policy Issues:** Many good announcements in the Queen's speech e.g. buy back of houses for social housing. However we are having real problems getting the good news reported by the media.

7. **Any other business:**

- a. Members were reminded to take extreme care when communicating both within and outside the party. All personal opinion should carry the "not an official Labour Party view" disclaimer.
- b. Beacon ward by-election – Kevin Cocker may be able to help with reduced cost telephone canvassing which is being trialled in Edwinstowe. Only one potential candidate to date. No canvassing until our candidate is officially selected.
- c. Magnus District Council by-election – This has not been called by the Tories and we will not be calling it ourselves. Therefore the seat is likely to remain vacant until the next round of DC elections in 2011.
- d. Next CLP meeting will be on Tuesday 15th July at the Rutland Arms.

Meeting closed at 8:45PM.