

London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

23rd March 2011 1500hrs – Gascoigne Room, Union Jack Club SE1

Present:

- Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary
- Eddie Brand – Chair
- Sarah Hardy – Vice Chair
- George Achilles – Treasurer
- Andrea Gibbs – Welfare
- Mark Lione – Membership Officer
- Bill Leaning – Health and Safety
- Michael Apps – Retired Members Officer
- Paul O'Neill – Minute Secretary
- Dave Smith – North East Sector
- Brian Robinson – East Central Sector
- Rob Matthews – North West Sector
- Hannah Curror – West Sector
- Gary Edwards – West Sector
- Dave Lamey – South West Sector
- Tim Stephens – Central Sector
- Claudette McNaughton - EOC
- Richard Chow - EOC

Apologies:

Julie Shirt	Mark Belkin
Rob Sydney	Ian Lee
Pete Hannell	Clare Hodgson

Introductions and Welcome	Action
<p>Previous Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Correction to previous minutes on Page 2 Retired Members, paragraph 1 – John McHattie: Apologies for any confusion or distress that may have been caused. - Minutes from Committee Meeting held on 15th February 2011 <u>agreed</u> as a true record. 	
<p>Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None. 	
<p>Branch Secretary's report (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation totalling £200,764.75p has been awarded to LAS Unison branch members since the last meeting. Running total of compensation from March 2010 is £272,703.20p. <u>£1,830,831.81p</u> of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since 1999. Thirteen legal forms have been processed since the last meeting. - Letter of thanks received from Theresa Griffin Unison Regional Organiser for Manchester. This is for the help and support given by ER, EB and RS during their attendance at the NWAS Unison AGM. - Branch rules and Election rules distributed. - National Branch rules distributed, key changes: a shortened branch name London Ambulance Unison Branch, two new branch officer roles and new rule regarding honoraria. This will bring us in line at the request of the NEC. Agreed by committee ER to take to AGM. 	Agreed/ER

<p>Branch Secretary's report continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Correspondence from James Smith regarding the Branches renewal of the Unison Discount card scheme provided by Lealta benefits. It is due to be renewed by July/August 2011 at a cost of £15,000 and would run for 2 years. The committee agreed to defer making a decision until the next branch meeting in May. - Branch Assessment part 2 completed. - ML - PTS Recruitment - RS - Newsletter and blog - AG – Welfare letter - ER - Looking at changes to the AGM - Renewal of the branches affiliation to Trade Union Friends of Searchlight at a cost of £50. - Unison supporting the Census 2011. - Retirement grant received on behalf of Joe Chadwick from Edmonton. He has been a Unison member for 33 years and taking early retirement after completing 33 years service. 	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed Agreed Agreed</p> <p>Agreed/GA</p> <p>Agreed/GA</p>
<p>Partnership Forum/Constitution (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No update. <p>Foundation Trust Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No meetings have taken place recently therefore no further update. - SECamb alongside South Western Ambulance Service have become the first Ambulance Services to gain NHS Foundation Trust status. 	
<p>Branch Officer Reports:-</p> <p>Communication (RS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No verbal report, written AGM report distributed. 	
<p>Retired Members (MA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Health and Safety (WL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IL is doing well and currently phasing back to work. - WL queried that the H&S OPF is being held up by other unions. ER stated that they cannot hold it up. 	
<p>Membership (ML)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New members applied to join the Branch – <u>Agreed</u> by committee. 	
<p>Treasurer (GA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of year accounts for 2010 have been submitted and have been agreed. These were distributed to the committee it was agreed that they go to the AGM. - GA will be looking to invest some of the branch funds in a high interest account authorised by UNISON. Options to be discussed at a later date. 	
<p>PTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Welfare (AG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently working on four cases. AG has seen an increase in welfare assistance applications to the branch and there have been an overall increase within the Unison Greater London region. - AG attended the Unison Welfare AGM in March also to attend the annual Welfare conference in July. - Addressed the Corporation of London AGM on the work of Unison Welfare. 	

<p>EOC (RC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised dispatch model has been consulted on. RC will update at the next meeting. 	
<p>Equalities (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No verbal report, written AGM report distributed. 	
<p>Education (MB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health and Safety courses for reps planned. They will 5 days in duration held in a 3 and 2 day block. The dates are 9th 10th 11th May and 23rd & 24th May. - TUC reps course part II to be planned. 	
<p>Labour Link</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Pensions (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No verbal report, written AGM report distributed. 	
<p>Regional Organiser (PT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Staff Council (EB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Senior Sector/Area Representatives Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North East – 1 Suspensions 0 Disciplinary 0 Capability. Issues with ex-PTS staff who went over to A&E Support now finding themselves having to work nights. Issues with the ‘Hospital Turnaround Taskforce’ and staff concerns over IPM letters received to staff at H3 Complex. - East Central – 0 Suspensions 2 Disciplinary (One re Morphine and the other EOC staff) 1 Appeal hearing. Issues with IPM. ML believes that the ‘Hospital Turnaround Taskforce’ has been disbanded. - West – 5 Suspensions 3 Disciplinary 0 Capability. Issues at Hanwell. - Central – 1 Suspension 1 Capability 1 Disciplinary. IPM issues but has been assured by Area management and ADO that it will not be used as a disciplinary tool, this is contrary to what AOM’s have been saying to staff. - North West – 1 Suspensions 1 Capability. Issues around IPM at Friern Barnet and Brent. ACP targets are disproportionate and appear unfair if staff work permanent nights. - South West – 0 Suspensions. Issues around IPM. - The CRM trial has been put back again until August 2011. 	
<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ER - The bank holiday on the 29th May will attract normal bank holiday rates of pay. Awaiting official release of this. 	
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April’s meeting is for branch officers only date and time TBA. 	