

London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

12th June 2008 1030hrs – Conference Room LAS HQ

Present:

- Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary
- Eddie Brand – Chair
- Phil Thompson – Regional Organiser
- George Achilles -Treasurer
- Andrea Gibbs – Welfare Officer
- Ian Lee – Health & Safety Officer
- Paul O’Neill – Minute Secretary
- Mark Belkin – Education Officer
- Peter Hannell – Equalities/Pensions Officer
- Fred Philips – Assistant Membership Officer
- Richard Chow – EOC/UOC
- Claudette McNaughton – EOC
- John A Whiting – North East Sector
- Mark Lione – East Central Sector
- Tim Stephens – Central Sector
- Nadine Poonawala – North West Sector
- Dave Lamey – South West Sector
- Gary Edwards – West Sector

Apologies:

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| Karen Walling | Michael Apps |
| Dave Smith | Rob Sydney |
| Harry Day | Clive Tombs |
| Julie Shirt | Rob Matthews |
| Sarah Hardy | |

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| Introductions and Welcome | Action |
| Previous Minutes - Minutes from 20 th May 2008 <u>agreed</u> as a true record. | Agreed |
| Matters arising - IL – Progress on issues with ATOS Healthcare – ER dealing will update committee. | ER/EB |

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| <p>Branch Secretary's report (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation totalling £8,247.11p has been awarded to LAS Unison branch members since March 2008. £1,302,720.014p of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since 1999. - NHS Pay – Facts about the proposed agreement. - Sponsorship request received from Jane Worthington for a Charity Sahara Trek in 2009. It being undertaken to raise funds for The British Heart Foundation and Marie Curie by seven Unison members who work at the Chase Farm & Edmonton complexes. £250 proposed for each charity with cheques to made payable to each charity. - Retirement requests received for Amanda Cahill from EOC and Jo Spooner from EBS. - Death benefit following the tragic death of Ron Pile from Romford. <p>Constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new constitution will mirror the current LAS management and sector structure. Draft constitution distributed. An extra seat will be gained on the staff council. - A letter from the GMB Branch Secretary to the Unison Full Time Official was discussed and numerous misinterpretations were noted. - A letter sent to Tony Crabtree and copied to ER and EB was also discussed. | <p>Agreed/GA Agreed/GA Agreed/GA</p> |
| <p>Agenda for Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No update <p>Partnership Forum (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No update | |
| <p>Branch Officer Reports:-</p> <p>Communication (RS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. | |
| <p>Retired Members (MA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. | |
| <p>Health and Safety (IL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 120 LDV's will be replaced, with the first overdue replacements hopefully arriving in the early 2009. - Current 260 Mercedes vehicles to be replaced over the next five years. - Powered Stryker Trolley bed trial has stalled due to training issues. - Trial of 12 Lead ECG monitors to go ahead. The Lifepak 15 will probably be pursued due to the similarity of it to the Lifepak 12 and therefore minimal retraining/familiarisation is required. - IL and ML attended a presentation regarding the Airwave radio project. They are concerned with management's insistence that ambient listening will be activated in a way that staff will not be confident with. Ongoing talks. ER stated that Scotland are in process of agreeing a policy and will try and access a copy from the Unison branch. | |
| <p>Membership (DS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New members list distributed. New members accepted in to the branch - Potential new members from new recruits for Student Paramedic role. New training venue at Elephant & Castle. - RMS course now completed by ER and ML. Waiting for IM&T to agree to RMS software being installed on an LAS PC. - ER and the Committee thanked Fred Philips for all his hard work pre the days of the RMS system and his continued assistance. | <p>Agreed</p> |
| <p>Treasurer (GA)</p> | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conference expenses claims to be sent directly to GA at Edmonton Station or bring forms to next committee meeting | |
| PTS (GE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently undergoing a management restructure. - The contract for the St Bartholomew's renal service has been won by the LAS. | |
| Welfare (AG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awaiting new promotional material | |
| EOC (RC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some incidents of rest break's being interrupted incorrectly. | |
| Diversity/Equalities (DS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Equality Bill – All the current discrimination acts being brought together. - Procurement groups. - The Republic of Ireland is voting on the EU constitution today. - TS highlighted an issue regarding the step down agreement. | |
| Education (MB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grievance and Disciplinary course on the 14/15th July. MB is keen for a senior representative to attend the last day for a question and answer session. EB stated that this would be done. | ER/EB |
| Labour Link (JG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. | |
| Pensions (PH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If any member of staff emails Martina Govindraj she is willing to discuss pensions privately after her planned station visits where she will give a pensions presentation. | |
| Regional Organiser (PT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be either a Staff council or Trade Union Staff side meeting following the July committee meeting. PT/ER will inform those who will need to attend | |
| Staff Council (EB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes will be available for next branch meeting. | |
| AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pay Ballot. - Active Area Cover recent documents distributed. The proposal is now very different from what was originally put forward thanks to the effort put in from reps; there is however points that still need to be addressed. These issues will need to be ironed out before the 23rd June. The branch committee raised the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A time limit on hours of operation. - A maximum time on AAC. - Staff should have ability to return to station at some points during the shift if no calls. - Rest breaks should be granted more and monitored more thoroughly. - The committee agreed the whole agreement could not be unpicked at this stage but gave ER/EB authority to meet management to improve original AAC policy re M.Flaherty letter. - The committee agreed to register a dispute. ER to take concerns to Martin Flaherty. | EB/ER |
| Date of Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8th June 2008 1030hrs Conference Room LAS HQ. | |

