



National Education Union  
The NEU Office  
Chatsworth Hall  
Chesterfield Road  
Matlock  
DE4 3FW

SOUTHERN DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT

## General Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023

The Dragon, Willington – DE65 6BP

Secretary–Chris Baldwin|07498 446 108| [christopher.baldwin@neu.org.uk](mailto:christopher.baldwin@neu.org.uk)

Treasurer–Daniel Bracken-Neale | 07498 446 146| [daniel.bracken-neale@neu.org.uk](mailto:daniel.bracken-neale@neu.org.uk)

[www.neuderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.neuderbyshire.org.uk)

@NEUDerbyshire

### Committee Agenda

- 1) **Present** – Chris Baldwin, Daniel Bracken-Neale, Robin Pardo-Roques, Rob Bannister, Philippa Saddington, Clare Kenway, Ali Fletcher, Amanda Turner, Pete Turner, Kerry Lowes, Emma Leafe, Katja (surname to be added), Nathan Baldwin, Beth Angris, Noelia Garcia Otero, Ruth Hayter, Paula Brassington, Anna Bentley. Julie Nall (Online)

**Apologies** – Dean Baxter, Lee Bateman, Monica White, Megan Crummey

- 2) **Previous Meeting Minutes** – RPR Proposed, GW. 13 (majority) in favour

#### 3) **Secretary's Report**

CB delivered a verbal report highlighting the following issues. A discussion was held as a part of the conversation.

The National picture – Industrial Action, encouraging pickets, attending rallies, and visibility, keeping public opinion of union activity positive.

The Regional picture – Workplace Rep Density and Building Union Structures in Settings, particularly focussing on primary settings.

The Local picture – Casework, Building local confidence, encouraging attendance, social events, facilities time and the growth of MATs, retention.

CB also recommended the new Education Support Partnership report, teaching – the new reality.

@neuderbyshire

[www.neuderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.neuderbyshire.org.uk)

#### **4) Treasurer's Report**

DBN delivered his written report and discussed hardship payments. DBN requested additional signatories volunteer to authorise payments. RB and PS volunteered to help with this.

DBN proposed an increase by 20% by £18k, GW seconded. All in favour. DBN proposed to cancel the ordered NEU beanies and to order new stock from Pellacraft. RB suggested a hoodie based on the experience at conference, and a loyalty card system mentioned. DBN proposed that we spend up to £5000 on new merchandise. RPR seconded. All in favour. Classroom thermometers was also discussed.

#### **5) Equalities Officer Introduction & Report**

AT introduced herself and spoke to the group about looking forward to attending the Equalities Conference and will report back on return. She then gave a short talk about her experiences and how these have informed her role. AT also offered to be a central point of conversation around equalities for the district and for members to connect and gain support and guidance. CB to investigate whether NEU email addresses are available for district officer roles other than rep and treasurer.

### **General Meeting Agenda**

- 1) **Present & Apologies** – as above
- 2) **Conference Discussion** – RPR led a talk about the purpose of conference. Some of the delegates shared their anecdotal experiences of the 2023 conference, and encouraged anyone who hasn't yet been to go.
- 3) **International Solidarity** – RPR introduced internationalism. SW talked about her wanting to be as part of the NEU Cuba Delegation, with a particular focus on inclusion. RPP spoke about the Cuba Solidarity Campaign. SW proposed. RB seconded and all voted in favour of supporting SW.
- 4) **Industrial Action update** – RPR stated the NEU ballot will open 15<sup>th</sup> May. NASUWT ballot 5<sup>th</sup> June to 10<sup>th</sup> July. Leadership support the idea of strike action but this may not be translating to sister union ballots. A discussion was held around attitudes and opinions towards the strike action from different places in the profession. The group also discussed the hardship fund and summer action.
- 5) **Issues in Schools** – Behaviour is a huge issue across schools. Stress around behaviour and antisocial behaviour. DBN suggested asking schools what will be done with the money saved by colleagues taking strike action. GW spoke about claiming back bank holiday time in lieu.
- 6) **Future Meetings**

Wednesday 5th July – The Bulls Head Belper, DE56 2DL - CB to create a calendar link

[@neuderbyshire](#)

[www.neuderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.neuderbyshire.org.uk)

7) AOB

DBN spoke about Lighthouse Financial Advice for members to be able to get a free consultation. Reps can organise school talks and Southern Derbyshire NEU can fund refreshments if necessary.

[@neuderbyshire](#)

[www.neuderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.neuderbyshire.org.uk)