

Minutes of the Zoom Committee meeting of the Bradford Branch of NARPO held on Thursday 30th June 2022.

The following members were present : Michael Tyne, Bea Hopwood, Alan Pickles, Leslie Scaife, Peter and Hazel Jarvis ,David Drucquer, Margaret and Malcolm Gray, Jayne Slade, Roy Leach ,Geoff Shores and David Wright.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman Michael Tyne at 7.04pm.

Apologies had been received from Melvyn Hyde, Joe Broadley and Geraldine Tolan .

- **The minutes** of the previous meeting held on the 19th May 2022 had been circulated to everyone and were accepted as a true record on the proposition of David Drucquer which was seconded by Margaret Gray .
- **Matters arising** – The only matter was raised by the Secretary who referred back to the message last month regarding Gordon Ramsbottom. In fact Gordon rang him before he could ring him and just wanted a conversation. He was reasonably well and nothing apparent of the mild stroke. His speech sounded excitable but a bit intermittent but he was alert and conversed well. The Secretary will keep in touch with him.
- **Regional meeting Update** : The Charman said that he attended the meeting which was two days after our last meeting when we had discussed the two candidates up for Regional NEC election. John Birkenshaw the past Chairman and Secretary of the Leeds Branch was standing against the current incumbent Bob Watson who has represented the Region for about 10 years, having been repeatedly re elected because of the very good job that he does for us and the regular updates from him. The Chairman said that as a branch we voted for John Birkenshaw, but bob Watson, not surprisingly won the ballot quite easily.. John Birkenshaw will be the NEC reserve, from where he can air his views and get involved. Both were happy with the result. The Chairman said we were having difficulty recruiting a new Deputy CEO. The previous applicants were unsuitable and the position has been re advertised and has started over again. The members wanted to know more about the situation re the previous CEO Steve Edwards. Richard Critchley the President of NARPO said that a compensation payment had been made to him and an enquiry is underway regarding the allegations that he had made , believed to be bullying from NEC members. All NEC members have been advised by the lawyer to say no more as the enquiry is still ongoing. The compensation did not come from NARPO funds but was paid by means of an insurance policy.. All will be revealed in due time. The Chairman also remarked that the NARPO Financial Controller, Helen ????? had resigned to start her own business, but a new lady was in place having shadowed Helen for some time. . Bernard Seymour the NARPO Data Protection Officer had raised concerns that we were a non Corporated Organisation with funds. He felt that if there was a massive problem whereby there was a claim against NARPO, each and every member would become liable. He felt that the Organisation should become either Uncorporated, a Limited Fund or a Charity. This matter will be brought to Conference this year but for information but not with the intention of reaching a decision there and then.
- **Social Secretary Update – Bridlington Trip**: Jayne reported that the trip which was held last weekend, to Bridlington. The final numbers for the trip were 43, but at the last minute 6 dropped out due to illness. The coach supplied by Express of Baildon was excellent , and the fish and chip meal was first class. There had been a query on the day from someone who had not wanted fish and chips, if there was a refund of their payment. Jayne told them that it would be mentioned at the committee meeting. This was discussed at some length and it was

generally felt that if we did this that the role of the organiser could become almost untenable. The Chairman decided to put the matter to the vote and all 13 present voted against any refunds. The Chairman Michael thanked Jayne on behalf of everyone for organising a very enjoyable trip which had been enjoyed by everyone that he had spoken to.

- **Social Updates** The September social is booked for 22nd September at the Bradford and Bingley Rugby Club, and Jayne will be running a quiz that evening. The Secretary said that this would be advertised mid August, together with the Ladies Luncheon and the Christmas Dinner, in the August Newsletter. Melvyn is aware of this timeline re preparing the Xmas flyer for the dinner and in his reply the Secretary said he could not find his message but he thought that he had said that we had just over £7,000 in the bank. Re Geraldine's circulated message re the Ladies Luncheon Club meal in September, this was discussed and Hazel said that she felt that the cost of £20 per meal for 20 plus ladies would prove to be very expensive. This was discussed fully and it was felt that due to rising costs of meals that those who went should contribute something towards the meal. It was suggested that they should pay a non refundable deposit of £10 towards the meal. Hazel proposed this motion and Margaret seconded it. The Chairman put it to the vote and 12 were for the motion and one member abstained. The Chairman will speak with Geraldine. Leslie said that at a previous meeting Jayne and Geraldine had made enquiries about their respective socials and were seeking a decision in order to secure the bus quote they had been given or book respective rooms for socials, and it was decided to delay to the next meeting a decision on the matter, He felt that they should be able to speak with the Chairman and the Treasurer about their findings and if the Treasurer feels it can be funded alright, that they should have permission to go ahead and secure bookings etc instead of being delayed. This was agreed.
- **Web site Update** Peter said that Geoff Shores had got all of the quiz questions correct but as a committee member he could not claim the prize. Two other member got all answers correct and will share the [prize. He also enquired if anyone had seen the 'spoof' photograph on the website. We now have 159 members with access to the site.
- **Welfare Officers Report** Bea reported upon four members who she is in contact with re their health problems., including one she is assisting re an IOD Pension adjustment enquiry. The Secretary updated on the health of one of our committee members. The Chairman asked that the best wishes of himself and all of the committee be passed to him. and Margaret reported upon the health of two member who went on the Bridlington trip.
- **Any other business** The Secretary said that at our next meeting the suggestion of Jayne to mute all attendees who only unmuted when wanting to speak, would be tried in an effort to stop background interference which is making it difficult for the Secretary in particular to hear everyone clearly.
- The meeting was closed at 8.20pm
- The next zoom committee meeting will be on Thursday 4th August 2022 at 7.00pm.

David Wright

Secretary