

Barnsley Division NUT: Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 25th January 2018 at The Tandoori Hut, Wakefield Rd, Barnsley

Guest speaker	Jon Berry from the University of Hertfordshire addressed the meeting. He described recent research he has carried out looking at how teachers and schools can subvert the current emphasis on tests, league tables and OFSTED in order to keep the vision of what they believe teaching should be like. His central argument is that we need to assess pupils but this should not be the centrepiece of everything. A good discussion followed his presentation. The meeting agreed to purchase copies of his most recent book "Putting the Test in its Place" and encourage members to read and discuss its ideas.
Suspension of standing orders	The meeting agreed to suspend standing orders to allow Roy Bowser to describe events at St Helens Primary school where one of our members has been suspended. The meeting gave its full support to her and all members at the school.
1. Minutes of 2017 AGM	Agreed as correct record
2. Matters arising	None
3. Installation of new President & President's address	Alex Simon was installed as President for 2018. Alex addressed the meeting on how the current crisis in education, as shown by issues with academies and the failure of Carillion, demonstrates the need for the union to resist.
4. Election results	The following people were nominated unopposed: Secretary: Nicola Fitzpatrick Treasurer: Roy Bowser Assistant Secretary: Fran Postlethwaite Membership Secretary: Pete Bevis Recruitment Officer: Pam Grainger Equal Opportunities Officer: Ayesha Bagley Blog/ Media editor: Kelly Beeley Trades Council Co-ordinator: George Arthur Young Teachers Officer: Emma Dodd Health & Safety officer: Ayesha Bagley The post of Vice President is vacant. Delegates to Conference 2018 will be: Nicola Fitzpatrick (ex officio), Alex Simon, Kelly Beeley (3 vacancies)
5. Financial Report	RB presented the Financial Report and Statement of Accounts for 2017. Accounts were audited in August 2017 rather than December due to the union merger. The meeting approved the financial report including honoraria and other payments as recommended by the Management Committee. The payments were unchanged from 2016 & 2017 and were as follows: Mileage: 52.2p per mile Conference expenses: £57 per day plus B & B in good accommodation plus 2 nd class rail fare Honoraria: £700 before tax to be paid to the 12 Officer positions: Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Health & Safety Officer, Blog/Media editor, Equal Opportunities officer, Casework officer, Learning Rep, TUC Rep, Recruitment officer, Young Teachers officer.
7. Elections of auditors	Anne Walker & Ian Beasley were elected.
8. Election of Scrutineers	Pam Grainger & Dean Brissett were elected as scrutineers.
9. Election of delegates to Trades Council	George Arthur & Fran Postlethwaite were approved as delegates. Fran was nominated for Treasurer of the BTUC. Members were asked to inform the Secretary if they would also like to be a delegate.
10. Executive Nomination	Daniel Kebede was nominated for the Black constituency seat position.
11. Prioritisation of motions for National Conference	The meeting agreed to prioritise the following motions: 1 – Combatting Corruption in Education; 8 – Academies, MATs, Re-broker, Rebrand or Renationalise; 15 – Orgreave – Death of Justice; 23 – First Time Speakers at Conference; 30 – Building the NEU at the Workplace; 47 – Racism and Migration.
	.Following the business section of the meeting, a delicious meal was enjoyed by all those present. We were joined later by Louise Regan, National President, who gave a brief speech to conclude the event.