



## **MINUTES OF THE SURREY NEU ZOOM MEETING – OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup> 2020**

**18:00 via zoom**

### **1.) The meeting was quorate.**

Before the meeting officially started our 'Black Educators' Officer' announced that she was leaving the Branch and the Committee as she was moving away. We all expressed our sadness at losing her from our Branch but wished her every happiness in her new job. Her departure leaves us with a vacancy for a 'Black Educators' Officer' on the Surrey NEU Committee.

**2.) The Branch Secretary and Past President** gave a brief report on the Special Conference, noting that all the resolutions bar one were passed and the amendments were discussed fully and with much enthusiasm. The resolution that was not passed was the one pertaining to reducing the size of the executive. This failed, so the size of the executive will remain the same. This met with approval from the meeting as we had shared our concerns about this in previous meetings.

**3.) Update on CPD Opportunities in Surrey.** The Branch Secretary updated everyone on the CPD on Mental Health planned of 11<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. If anyone else wants to join us please email [leslie.jackson@neu.org.uk](mailto:leslie.jackson@neu.org.uk) for the zoom link to join. More CPD is planned one on TPS in Independent Schools and on Teach Meet Style Meeting around SEN issues.

**4.) The treasurer gave an update on the budget plan.** This was shared with us and everyone agreed our budget. Clarification was sought about the costs for training; it was agreed that there were sufficient funds to cover all of our training needs. It was agreed that a donation of £100 to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Rescue Charity in honour of Brian Crawford (Chris Crawford's husband, Chris has been on our committee as Health and Safety Rep for many years). The treasurer gave details of our current account and deposit account.

**5.) Update from Membership and Website Organiser.** 9650 members before the summer presently it is 9571 this number is rising as more data is added. We now have 125 reps, this is more than we have ever had. We had a rise in rep density during the COVID some of whom have joined us today. The website is developing more we are adding some of the national updates and our notice board is updated regularly, please send anything you want on the site please forward to [danile.warrington@neu.org.uk](mailto:danile.warrington@neu.org.uk) . Our Surrey page is now one of the better ones on the NEU portal. A question was asked about the rep training this is now being done on line. We were reminded about the 'Show Racism The Red Card' initiative this will be put on the site asap. We were asked to look for good images of the Surrey Branch to change our banner on the front page. We discussed purchasing 1000 of the 'keep your distance' badges, this order was approved, and the Treasurer will dispatch them to schools with a substantial NEU membership.

**6.) Historical NUT Items.** The Treasurer has a large gold braided banner, annual reports, all the old badges and the Surrey review bound books. Do we send it to the Surrey archives or send to the National Education Museum? The treasurer will send round a document for us to decide about these items. At the AGM will need to take a vote on what to do. He also mentioned some portraits that are being held at County Hall and at Hamilton House.

**7.) Annual Conference – Manchester 2021.** Please let Phil know if you would like to go, we have 20 rooms booked. The NEU will pay your expenses. There are also creche facilities available for free at conference. It is in the week that follows Easter Arrive on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April. Email Philip at: [philip.clarke@neu.org.uk](mailto:philip.clarke@neu.org.uk)

**8a.) The President took questions from the floor.** There was a question about what advice can we get as a rep. People were advised to contact [leslie.jackson@neu.org.uk](mailto:leslie.jackson@neu.org.uk) the WhatsApp group was praised and reps encouraged to use it.

**8b.) There was a discussion about Independent Schools leaving the TPS.** There was some discussion about our work with these schools and the action we are taking.

**8c.) There were discussions about Covid procedure** members were asking if the NEU could ask for secondary school pupils to wear masks. The conclusion was that we have had some success in getting staff to wear visors and or masks but the decision about pupils would lie with individual schools and academies. Many schools are allowing students to wear masks if the pupil is anxious and by letting them wear one, they can get them into school. The same should apply to teachers and the NEU will support any staff member who wants to wear a mask or face shield for their own safety / mental health.

## 9) Dates:

**CPD Mental Health** Zoom meeting 6<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm contact Leslie on [leslie.jackson@neu.org.uk](mailto:leslie.jackson@neu.org.uk) for the link.

## Forthcoming NEU General Meetings:

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (via zoom at 6pm)

9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (via zoom at 6pm)

24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (probably via zoom at 6pm)

24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (probably via zoom at 6pm)

6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021 **NEU Conference** in Manchester contact Philip if you want to go. (We have 20 rooms booked) [philip.clarke@neu.org.uk](mailto:philip.clarke@neu.org.uk)

8<sup>th</sup> May 2021 **A.G.M.** (maybe face to face? Holiday Inn Guildford or via zoom at 6pm)

7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 (maybe face to face? Holiday Inn Guildford or via zoom at 6pm)

17<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Presidential Lunch? To be confirmed