**Minutes of GMB W27 Tolpuddle Branch Meeting**

**Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 18:00 hrs**

**Held at Asda Training Room, Weymouth, Dorset**

**Attendees**

Chris Hibberd ( Branch Secretary) CH

Helen Collins (Branch President) HC

Michael Mullins (Branch Auditor) MM

Lesley Bresnan (Branch Auditor) LB

Sandra Reid (Branch Equalities Oficer) SR

**Welcome –** To thisQuarter 4 branch meeting

**Apologies –** None

**Matters Arising –** Promotional leaflet discussed from MM. HC would prefer a physical copy to distribute in the Asda store.

**Branch Q4 Accounts Approval -** Branch Secretary presented accounts for approval. Proposed – CH. Seconded – HC. There is an issue with reduced income imposed by Gen Sec and it is proposed a motion to congress is generated Action CH

**W27 Tolpuddle Branch website –** The branch website is now up and running and approved. Proposed HC Seconded LB

**Proposed content of letter to W27 Branch members -**This is in recognition of the branch website.

* Address of website and purpose.
* Encourage members, and non-members to log in, set up account and ensure their contact details are up to date.
* Primary benefits from accessing the unique W27 Tolpuddle website including events, branch meeting dates and venue etc.
* Encouragement to non-members to log in and become a GMB union member. “Unity is strength”.
* Draft letter to be circulated prior to posting by South Coast office. Action CH

- Proposed - LB Seconded – CH.

**W27 Tolpuddle Branch at Harrogate Conference 2022**- CH, LB and MM attending and branch to stand expenses not otherwise covered by Gen Sec’s office. Eg overnight accommodation for MM at Harrogate, one hotel night for all in split journey to Harrogate to ensure arrival for 3pm general meeting on Saturday 11th June. Car parking. Proposed – HC Seconded – MM

**Tolpuddle festival 2022 -** MM confirms the festival is proceeding and the GMB field site may be shared with other unions. No BBQ proposed as previous years breaking with tradition.

**Branch Secretary’s Report -** W27 Branch Secretary’s report:

* Current branch membership significantly reduced as is the national picture.
* Regional Secretary - Justin Bowden
* General Secretary - Gary Smith
* Letters proposed to all W27 members, including invitation to branch meetings, in 2022 and hope to include the branch website. CH Action
* CH and MM to work on promotional leaflet
* Branch development plan is now extant.

**Any Other Business**

* MM proposed agenda item for June meeting ‘formulating a recruitment campaign’.
* MM Suggested an annual social event to be posted on the website.
* MM suggested local rep for Labour party arrangements in a mess. Action CH
* HC proposed recording hits on the website once running Action CH
* Obtain new branch mobile phone for HC to relieve her of personal bills. Action CH
* HC proposed Dextra is a good target for new membership in Gillingham (BH also involved with staff).
* CH to check with Adrian Baker about Tolpuddle festival arrangements and any changes from tradition.

**Meeting ended 18:50 hrs**

**Date of next meeting –** Tuesday 7th June 2022 at 18:00at ASDA Weymouth training room.